Forensic Science

Inspiring Greatness
INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The following learning targets represent the major concepts studied and assessed in this course.

Semester 1:

Unit 1: Evidence

- Accurately measure evidence in either the metric or imperial system.
- Identify what kind of evidence a sample falls under.

Unit 2: Fingerprints

- Determine fingerprint core type and classification.
- Match fingerprints using special ridge analysis.
- Explain and describe how to take fingerprints.

Unit 3: Shoe Prints

- Analyze shore prints at a crime scene to determine events and characteristics of individuals involved.
- Use shoe and height data to determine characteristics of a suspect.

Unit 4: Documents

- Use distinguishing characteristics to evaluate and analyze handwriting.
- Identify written forgery using handwriting analysis techniques.
- Identify paper types using 6 characteristics of paper.
- Calculate Rf values.

Unit 5: Fiber and Hair Forensics

- Analyze characteristics of hair and fibers under a microscope.
- Describe class characteristics and individual characteristics of hair and fibers.
- Explain the differences between animal and human hair.

Unit 6: Blood and DNA

• Analyze the use of blood and DNA in forensic investigations.

Semester 2:

Unit 7: Blood Spatter

- Calculate the angle of impact based on the measurements of a single drop.
- Use graphed data to determine the height of a single drop.

Unit 8: Ballistics

- Identify the different parts of a bullet.
- Match striation patterns.
- Determine the trajectory of a bullet.

Unit 9: Impressions

• Identify different tools impression patterns in different materials.

Unit 10: Odontology

- Identify each type of tooth structure, location, and function in the jaw.
- Explain the benefits and drawbacks of bite mark analysis.

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Unit 11: Skeletal Evidence

- Locate and distinguish the major bones in the human skeleton.
- Use mathematical formulas and graphs to estimates a human's height based on bone lengths.
- Use clues and observations to determine the skeleton's sex and age.

Unit 12: Post Mortem

• Estimate the time of death based on rigor mortis, algor mortis, livor mortis, entomology, stomach contents, and decomposition.

Unit 13: Eyewitness

- Determine the credibility of eyewitness accounts.
- Use eyewitness accounts to identify evidence in crimes.