

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course you will examine the requirements of a continuing investigation. You will learn the rules of evidence and develop the ability to apply these rules in the collection and presentation of evidence in court. Forensic requirements, statute law and other related issues will be emphasized. You will be introduced to various forms of physical evidence and the evidentiary value of physical evidence.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, you will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. **Identify the provisions of the Charter of Rights applicable to the gathering and admission of evidence into the court.**
 - 1.1 Explain the rights of suspects and the obligations of peace officers as contained in section 10 of the Charter regarding the gathering of evidence.
 - 1.2 Explain the requirements that must be met to comply with the rights and obligations set out in section 8 of the Charter regarding the search for and seizure of evidence.
 - 1.3 Explain the legal rights and obligations set out in section 9 of the Charter regarding the evidence obtained during detention.
 - 1.4 Explain, in the context of section 24 of the Charter, the remedies available to the court regarding evidence obtained in violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.
2. **Identify and explain the types of evidence available.**
 - 2.1 Explain the standard of proof and burden of proof required to prove a Criminal/ Provincial offence.
 - 2.2 Identify the types of evidence that may be used to prove an offence
 - 2.3 Explain the basic rules that govern the admissibility of evidence.
 - 2.4 Identify how evidence is used to prove the “facts in issue” required to prove identified criminal offences.
3. **Explain how evidence is ‘weighed’ by the courts.**
 - 3.1 Explain relevant and material evidence within the context of a Criminal / Provincial prosecution.
 - 3.2 Explain the probative verses prejudicial value of evidence.
 - 3.3 Identify direct and circumstantial evidence.
 - 3.4 Identify situations where corroborative evidence is required or not required.

4. **Identify factors that determine the weight and admissibility of evidence.**
 - 4.1 Define hearsay evidence.
 - 4.2 Identify the exceptions to the admissibility of hearsay evidence.
 - 4.3 Explain opinion evidence.
 - 4.4 Identify the exceptions to the opinion evidence rule.
 - 4.5 Explain expert opinion evidence.
 - 4.6 Explain the conditions under which expert opinion evidence may be admissible.
 - 4.7 Explain character evidence and the rules governing the admission of character evidence.

5. **Recognize crime scenes and containment areas.**
 - 6.1 Describe how a crime scene should be secured.
 - 6.2 Identify potential hazards that may be found at crime scenes.
 - 6.3 Explain and apply the concept of continuity of evidence.

6. **Identify Potential Sources of Physical Evidence**
 - 7.1 Fingerprint evidence
 - 7.2 DNA evidence
 - 7.3 Blood spatter
 - 7.4 Impression evidence
 - 7.5 Firearm evidence
 - 7.6 Trace evidence

III. TOPICS:

1. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms
2. Types of Evidence
3. Rules Governing Testimonial Evidence
4. Competence and Compellability
5. Crime Scene Preservation
6. Physical Evidence

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Martin's Criminal Code (2015 or 2016)

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Mid-Term Exam	30%
Assignments (6x5%)	30%
Final Exam	40%

Note: The evaluation process may be subject to change.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

Note: For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

If a faculty member determines that a student is at risk of not being academically successful, the faculty member may confidentially provide that student's name to Student Services in an effort to help with the student's success. Students wishing to restrict the sharing of such information should make their wishes known to the coordinator or faculty member.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum are located on the portal and form part of this course outline.