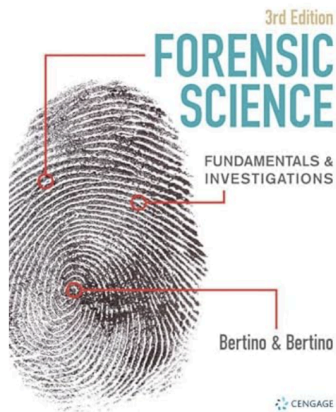


Honors Forensic Science 2026.27



Instructor: Julie Lawson
Email: julie.lawson@scholarsguild.net
Extended Sessions: May 13, 2027
Supply Fee: \$100 (Due May 5, 2026)
Extra Help Sessions: None
Prerequisites: Biology
Minimum class size: 6

Monthly Tuition - \$60 / month
(9 equal payments August - April)
Total Yearly Tuition - \$540

Course Description

This college-prep, honors-level course will serve as an option for a fourth upper-level science course for students in 11-12th grades and is a course of rigor for the HOPE Scholarship qualification. Advanced and mature 10th grade students will be considered on an individual basis and require instructor/administrative approval. This course encourages students to solve scientific problems, use mathematics appropriately, engage in scientific questioning, plan and implement appropriate data collection strategies, and perform data analysis. Student materials combine math, some chemistry, biology, physics, and earth science. Students will develop the ability to think critically, creatively, and analytically through interesting, real-world case studies.

Note: The nature and topics in this course are well written by the author and written in a professional and appropriate language, but parents need to be mindful that the subject of forensics is crime-related and may not be suitable for all students.

Primary Course Texts

Forensic Science: Fundamentals and Investigation, by Anthony Bertino and Patricia Bertino, **3rd Edition, August 2020**. ISBN:0357124987; ISBN-13:9780357124987. Students can buy, rent, or use the Kindle version of the textbook.

Additional Resources

Weekly reliable internet computer access is required for students to submit assignments and access online resources as assigned by the instructor.

Course Expectations

This course provides students only one class day a week for instructor classroom time and hands-on labs. It is critical that students come prepared with assignments and reading completed in order for class time to be successful. All students are expected to keep up with the assignments each week.

Homework

All homework will be submitted electronically via Google Classroom.

Assessments

30% Tests

25% Lab/Investigative Activities

25% Projects/Midterm/Final

20% Homework/Quizzes

Tests & Quizzes

All tests will be proctored at home by a parent with a few exceptions each semester to allow teacher-proctored tests. Vast grade discrepancies between home testing and classroom testing grades are suspicious and usually indicate a problem with home testing. All quizzes will be taken in class. They could be announced or pop quiz to test for student preparedness.

Summer Assignments

There will be an assignment that will be due the first day of class.

Teacher Responsibility

Class time will be spent on reviewing key concepts, hands-on labs, mock crime scenes, and class discussion. The instructor will provide answer keys to all tests and supplemental information. Assignments will be posted weekly on FACTS and Google Classroom and quizzes and tests will be graded and posted in a timely manner (usually within one week).

Student Responsibility

It is the student's responsibility to keep up with assignments on FACTS and Google Classroom, come to class prepared, participate in class discussions, ask questions, and seek help if needed. If a student does not understand the material, he/she should come to class prepared with a list of questions for the instructor so questions can be addressed in class. Students will be assigned a lab partner and it is expected that each student actively participates and takes equal responsibility and initiative in the lab as well as safely and respectfully handle all equipment and supplies. *Students must keep up with assignments in order to be successful in this course.*

Parent Responsibility

Parent oversight is very important in this class as many are upperclassmen and often students still need accountability at home as well as to the instructor in the courses. Parents are responsible for overseeing assignments at home and being sure that your student is understanding the material as the course progresses. Parents are expected to review assignments as posted on FACTS and Google Classroom each week, proctor tests at home as instructed, and review homework assignments as needed. Parents are the first and primary instructor and must oversee all work scheduled at home to ensure students are well-prepared for class days.