

Class: Forensic Science

Teacher: Kasey Arch

Email: kasey.arch@rloacs.org

Course Schedule

M-Th: TIME - 1:45pm-3:15pm Fri: 10:30am-11:30am

Additional instructional support will be offered Mon. - Thurs. from 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM or by email.

Course Description

Forensic science covers a variety of topics related to the science of solving crime. Students will use inquiry and Project Based Learning (PBL) to discover scientific principles of crime scene investigation and evidence analysis

Course Objectives

- The link below will provide you with a list of standards that will be used to guide the coursework for forensic science.

[South Carolina Science Standards PDF](#)

Course Textbook and Other Technology Resources

Schoology: <https://rloa.schoology.com/home>

Our textbook is *Forensic Science: An Introduction, 4th edition* (Saferstein)

Required Course Technologies & Supplies

Laptop, Paper, Folder, & Pencils

Classroom Behavior Expectations

Be Mindful of Communication.

- Exercise Electronic Courtesy
- Use Academic Language or Language that Fosters Learning

Be Present.

- Arrive Promptly and Ready to Learn.
- Actively Participate in Instruction and Assignments
- Avoid Classroom Disruptions and Distractions
- Adhere to CHAMPS Expectations

Collaborate with a Growth Mindset.

- Actively Listen and Respect Everyone's Opinion
- Actively Participate in Group Assignments
- Respect the Diversity of our Classroom/School

Foster a Safe Environment.

- Keep Area Safe From Clutter or Safety Hazards and Wash Hands Frequently
- Wear Facial Covering at All Assigned Times
- Express Any Concerns to Classroom Instructor

The classroom is a **PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT** thus students should act as such:

- Maintain a **professional attitude**. Leave problems at the door; put forth best effort always
- Be **punctual**. Arriving on time demonstrates respect for your teacher, classmates, and self.
- Use **academic language** at all times
- Come to class **prepared** (notebook, pens, pencils, laptop, etc)
- **Participate** in class as it is vital to the learning process
- No electronic devices unless otherwise directed.
- Follow directions **quickly**.

- **Make smart choices!**

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phone usage is **not allowed** during instructional time and must be stored in their lockers/cubbies. This includes the use of headphones and/or earbuds. Personal gaming devices are not allowed on campus.

- Upon entering the school, the student is required to place his/her cell phone in their locker; it is to remain in the locker until the scheduled lunch break. The student can have their phone with them at lunch only. They must return their phone to their locker after lunch, until the end of the school day when they are dismissed for the day to leave campus (3:45 p.m.).
- Should the student be caught violating the rules above the following will occur:
 - First offense: A warning will be given and the phone will be taken till the end of the day.
 - Second offense: Phone confiscation (Student informs their parent and parent needs to pick up from principal)
 - Third offense: (and any offense after): Office referral and disciplinary action as well as phone confiscation.
- Refusal to give up or turn in the cell phone will automatically result in an office referral with possible OSS school violation due to disrespectful behavior and insubordination. Parent meeting will have to occur before the student returns to school.

Backpacks/Bags

Students must keep backpacks/lunch bags/any type of bag (purse) in their locker throughout the school day.

Students are responsible for the contents of their backpack/cubbies.

Food and Drink should NOT be consumed in the classroom in an effort to follow all DHEC and CDC guidelines for mask recommendations. Students may only eat in class during lunch.

Please see the RLOACS Student/Parent handbook for the Discipline Plan.

Classroom Units, Assignments, and Assessments

Students will be responsible for in-class and home practice, classwork and group assignments, unit quizzes, and unit tests.

Classroom Policy for the Use of AI Programs

Purpose: This classroom policy establishes clear guidelines for the responsible and ethical use of AI programs, including ChatGPT, in our learning environment. While these tools can enhance learning when used correctly and with teacher approval, unauthorized or inappropriate use undermines academic integrity and hinders authentic learning.

Guidelines: Prior Teacher Approval

- All usage of AI programs in this class requires prior approval from the teacher. You must clearly state how you plan to use the AI tool and receive permission before incorporating it into any assignment, project, or task.

2. Responsible Use

- AI tools must only be used to support and deepen your learning. They may help brainstorm ideas, clarify instructions, or assist in drafting, but they may not generate full or partial answers without explicit permission.

3. Originality and Attribution

- Any content generated or influenced by AI tools must be original, clearly attributed, and approved by the author. You must explicitly identify which parts of your work were generated or assisted by AI. Failing to disclose the use of AI will be considered academic dishonesty.

4. Academic Integrity

- All assignments must reflect your understanding and effort. Submitting AI-generated work (in whole or in part) without proper disclosure and permission violates our academic integrity standards and will result in disciplinary action.

5. Privacy and Data Security

- You must not input or share any personal, peer, or school information into AI platforms. Doing so may compromise data privacy and violate school policy.

6. Assistance, Not Substitution

- AI tools may not be used to substitute for your independent work. This includes—but is not limited to—using AI to complete reading responses, essay drafts, lab reports, reflections, or test/quiz content. Your understanding must be demonstrated through your own words and reasoning.

7. Verbal Review Requirement

- Any assignment—whether AI was used or not—is subject to a verbal review by the teacher. You must be able to explain your work confidently and in your own words.

Inability to do so will be taken as evidence that AI was misused and may result in the assignment being invalidated.

8. Device Usage and Inspection Policy

- All academic work must be completed using the school-issued device unless the teacher gives explicit written or verbal approval. Using personal devices, unauthorized apps, or private browsers to access AI tools or complete work is strictly prohibited.

- If there is reasonable suspicion of dishonesty, cheating, or misuse, the work and devices involved may be subject to a comprehensive review by the teacher and school administration. This includes inspections of school-issued devices and, when necessary, personal devices used during class or for school assignments. Students should understand that any device used for school-related activities may be subject to search if there is credible evidence of misuse or misconduct.

9. AI Bypass Methods Prohibited

- The following strategies are prohibited and considered a violation of this policy:
- Using AI tools on a personal device and copying the work onto your school device.
- Using AI to brainstorm ideas and then rephrasing without acknowledgment.
- Asking AI to "coach" you through an assignment in real time.
- Using AI to complete outlines, structure, or citations without permission.

Conclusion:

We welcome the thoughtful use of AI tools to enhance your educational experience, provided it is done with integrity, transparency, and accountability. All use of AI must be pre-approved, clearly attributed, and never used as a shortcut for your thinking.

By submitting work in this class and using school-issued technology, students agree to comply with all aspects of this policy. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary consequences, including the invalidation of assignments and referral to the school administration.

Grading Overview**Weighted Structure**

- 50% Major Assessments
- 50% Minor Assessments

Semester Structure

- Q1 40%**
- Q2 40%**
- Exam 20%**

Grading Scale

- 90 - 100% A
- 80 - 89% B
- 70 - 79% C
- 60 - 69% D
- Below 60% F

Class Participation and Attendance

Classes will begin promptly at the assigned time, and attendance will be taken within 5 minutes. Students who are frequently tardy to classes during the day can be subject to disciplinary measures, which can include a parent/family meeting. If a student is more than 45 minutes late on Monday or Thursday, or 27 minutes late on Fridays, they will be marked absent. **This policy is subject to change and may include more information following RLOACS policies and decisions.**

Attendance

State law requires a minimum of 120 hours of seat time for a one-credit class and 60 hours of seat time for half-credit classes. Any student who accumulates more than five (5) absences in a class is in jeopardy of not receiving credit and may instead be assigned a "Failure due to Absence - FA."

To assist our students with unexpected absences, it is the policy of Royal Live Oaks Academy that students be allowed to make up a limited amount of seat time accrued after the state allows five (5) absences.

Students will be able to recover up to an additional ten (10) absences by attending seat time recovery sessions before or after school. This means that students are able, when necessary, to miss up to fifteen (15) days, so long as, they recover the time for any absences over the initial five (5).

Failure to recover all seat time beyond five (5) absences will result in students not receiving credit for the class. Additionally, students who miss more than fifteen (15) days of any class will not be eligible to receive credit for that class and will be required to retake that course.

Make Up/Late Work Policy

Make Up Work Policy for Absences Only:

Students are allowed to make up all work regardless of the reasons for their absences within a reasonable amount of time. A driving factor should be how many days the student was absent and how much work was missed.

Seat Time Policy - High School Credit

- To receive credit for a high school course, a student must attend 85 days for a 90-day semester course or 170 days for an 180-day year-long course. At the discretion of the school attendance team, students may be eligible to recover seat time during attendance recovery periods. All make-up time and work must be completed within 30 days from the last day of the course or the time allotted by the school attendance team.
- High school students must meet academic and attendance requirements. State law requires a minimum of 120 hours of seat time for a one-credit class and 60 hours of seat time for half-credit classes. Any student who accumulates more than five (5) absences in a class is in jeopardy of not receiving credit and may instead be assigned a "Failure due to Absence - FA."
- Students will have an opportunity to "recover" missed class time by participating in our Attendance Recovery. Students are expected to complete schoolwork during this time. Students will be required to attend for an hour of seat time for every class they miss. Attendance Recovery will be offered Monday - Thursday after school. Dates will be forthcoming

Late Work Policy:

At Royal Live Oaks Academy, our collective late work policy is as follows: A zero "0" will go into PowerSchool on the due date for missing work or assignments. Students will have three (3) school days to complete missing work or assignments without communicating with the teacher. Beyond three (3) school days, students will need to establish communication with the teacher to adjust these grades and make up work **After-School. Any work completed after the 3-day late period.** Teachers will make a parent contact after three(3) zeros have been placed in the grade book. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-29-250(A)–(C), a student **must complete all requisite assignments** for the relevant course or course subset to be eligible to participate in a credit recovery or content recovery program, respectively. Additionally, Royal Live Oaks Academy will not require teachers to assign artificial adjustments, minimum floors, or automatic grade bumps

Communication Policy

Teachers are required to maintain constant contact with students and parents throughout the year, utilizing school-provided services such as PowerSchool. Additionally, teachers will utilize phone contact or email contact as needed to reach stakeholders.

Communication Regarding Attendance:

Parents of students who fail to attend class during the established time with the teacher **THREE (3) Days in a row** will be contacted via **Powerschool** or via alternative methods (phone call, email, etc.). If this behavior becomes consistent, leading to disruptions in the student's performance, leadership will be notified (Barr, Hunt, etc.). Students who miss **3 consecutive days** will be reported to Ms. Barr and Ms. Hunt **via email** to file a truancy report. The teacher will then place a formal phone call to the parent/guardian. Students who miss **10 consecutive days of attendance** are automatically dropped from PowerSchool and unenrolled.

Structure of Communication with RLOACS:

RLOACS works hard to serve the needs of all students and families. At times, another layer of assistance is needed to meet the needs of the student. We ask families to please follow a line of communication to address their concerns. The structure of communication is as follows:

- Communicate the concern with the teacher
- Communicate the concern with an administrator/principal
- Communicate the concern with a Board Member

Parent-Teacher Conferences Policy:

Parent-teacher conferences are held according to the school calendar for students in grades K-12. Parents are encouraged to attend a conference with their child's teacher(s) during parent-teacher conference nights. Additional individual conferences may be held to communicate information about a child's progress and behavior. Parents who wish to schedule a conference with their child's teacher should contact the teacher to schedule an appointment.

The syllabus is subject to change; the instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus when deemed necessary with the approval of the High School Principal.

STUDENTS: I have read this syllabus and understand it.

Signature _____ Date _____

PARENTS: My child has discussed the syllabus with me. I understand it and will support it.

Signature _____ Date _____