



GENERAL STUDIES COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Course information:

Copy and paste current course information from Class Search/Course Catalog.

College/School New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Department
Prefix FOR Number 410 Title Professional Practices in Forensic Science
Units: 3
Is this a cross-listed course? No If yes, please identify course(s)
Is this a shared course? No If so, list all academic units offering this course

Note- For courses that are crosslisted and/or shared, a letter of support from the chair/director of each department that offers the course is required for each designation requested.

Is this a permanent numbered course with topics? Yes

If yes, all topics under this permanent numbered course must be taught in a manner that meets the criteria for the approved designation(s). It is the responsibility of the chair/director to ensure that all faculty teaching the course are aware of the General Studies designation(s) and adhere to the above guidelines. Chair/Director Initials (Required)

Course description: Focuses on professional practices as they relate to the forensic scientist or forensics professional working in a modern crime laboratory (public or private). Topics include quality assurance programs and practices; ethics and analytical bias; the audit and accreditation processes; and the relationship with forensic science and the courtroom, to include courtroom testimony procedures. Includes oral mock court scenarios, as well as enhancing writing skills appropriate to the forensic sciences. Prerequisite(s) with C or better: BIO 305 or FOR 286; ENG 102 or 105 or 108.

Requested designation: Literacy and Critical Inquiry-L

Note- a separate proposal is required for each designation requested

Eligibility:

Permanent numbered courses must have completed the university's review and approval process. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact Phyllis.Lucie@asu.edu or Lauren.Leo@asu.edu.

Submission deadlines dates are as follow:

For Fall 2016 Effective Date: October 1, 2015

For Spring 2017 Effective Date: March 10, 2016

Area(s) proposed course will serve:

A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study.

Checklists for general studies designations:

- Complete and attach the appropriate checklist
Literacy and Critical Inquiry core courses (L)
Mathematics core courses (MA)
Computer/statistics/quantitative applications core courses (CS)
Humanities, Arts and Design core courses (HU)
Social-Behavioral Sciences core courses (SB)
Natural Sciences core courses (SO/SG)
Cultural Diversity in the United States courses (C)
Global Awareness courses (G)
Historical Awareness courses (H)

A complete proposal should include:

- Signed course proposal cover form
Criteria checklist for General Studies designation(s) being requested
Course catalog description
Sample syllabus for the course
Copy of table of contents from the textbook and list of required readings/books

It is respectfully requested that proposals are submitted electronically with all files compiled into one PDF.

Contact information:

Name Kimberly Koboжек E-mail kimberly.koboжек@asu.edu Phone 602-543-3913

Department Chair/Director approval: (Required)



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Chair/Director name (Typed): Dr. Lara Ferry, Interim Director-School of  
Mathematical and Natural Sciences Date: 9-28-15

Chair/Director (Signature): *Lara Ferry*

**Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for**  
**LITERACY AND CRITICAL INQUIRY - [L]**

**Rationale and Objectives**

Literacy is here defined broadly as communicative competence—that is, competence in written and oral discourse. **Critical inquiry** involves the gathering, interpretation, and evaluation of evidence. Any field of university study may require unique critical skills that have little to do with language in the usual sense (words), but the analysis of written and spoken evidence pervades university study and everyday life. Thus, the General Studies requirements assume that all undergraduates should develop the ability to reason critically and communicate using the medium of language.

The requirement in Literacy and Critical Inquiry presumes, first, that training in literacy and critical inquiry must be sustained beyond traditional First Year English in order to create a habitual skill in every student; and, second, that the skill levels become more advanced, as well as more secure, as the student learns challenging subject matter. Thus, two courses beyond First Year English are required in order for students to meet the Literacy and Critical Inquiry requirement.

Most lower-level [L] courses are devoted primarily to the further development of critical skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, or analysis of discourse. Upper-division [L] courses generally are courses in a particular discipline into which writing and critical thinking have been fully integrated as means of learning the content and, in most cases, demonstrating that it has been learned.

Notes:

1. ENG 101, 107 or ENG 105 must be prerequisites
2. Honors theses, XXX 493 meet [L] requirements
3. The list of criteria that must be satisfied for designation as a Literacy and Critical Inquiry [L] course is presented on the following page. This list will help you determine whether the current version of your course meets all of these requirements. If you decide to apply, please attach a current syllabus, or handouts, or other documentation that will provide sufficient information for the General Studies Council to make an informed decision regarding the status of your proposal.

Revised April 2014

Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

<b>ASU - [L] CRITERIA</b>		
<b>TO QUALIFY FOR [L] DESIGNATION, THE COURSE DESIGN MUST PLACE A MAJOR EMPHASIS ON COMPLETING CRITICAL DISCOURSE--AS EVIDENCED BY THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:</b>		
YES	NO	Identify Documentation Submitted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>CRITERION 1:</b> At least 50 percent of the grade in the course should depend upon writing assignments (see Criterion 3). Group projects are acceptable only if each student gathers, interprets, and evaluates evidence, and prepares a summary report. <i>In-class essay exams may not be used for [L] designation.</i></p>
		Syllabus and supporting documentation at end of checklist
<p>1. Please describe the assignments that are considered in the computation of course grades--and indicate the proportion of the final grade that is determined by each assignment.</p>		
<p>2. <b>Also:</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 20px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="background-color: yellow;">Please <b>circle, underline, or otherwise mark</b> the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies <b>this description</b> of the grading process--and label this information "<b>C-1</b>".</p> </div> <p style="text-align: left; margin-left: 10px;">C-1</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>CRITERION 2:</b> The writing assignments should involve gathering, interpreting, and evaluating evidence. They should reflect critical inquiry, extending beyond opinion and/or reflection.</p>
		Syllabus and supporting documentation at end of checklist
<p>1. Please describe the way(s) in which this criterion is addressed in the course design.</p>		
<p>2. <b>Also:</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 20px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="background-color: yellow;">Please <b>circle, underline, or otherwise mark</b> the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies <b>this description</b> of the grading process--and label this information "<b>C-2</b>".</p> </div> <p style="text-align: left; margin-left: 10px;">C-2</p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>CRITERION 3:</b> The syllabus should include a minimum of two writing and/or speaking assignments that are substantial in depth, quality, and quantity. Substantial writing assignments entail sustained in-depth engagement with the material. Examples include research papers, reports, articles, essays, or speeches that reflect critical inquiry and evaluation. Assignments such as brief reaction papers, opinion pieces, reflections, discussion posts, and impromptu presentations are not considered substantial writing/speaking assignments.</p>
		Syllabus and supporting documentation at end of checklist
<p>1. Please provide relatively detailed descriptions of two or more substantial writing or speaking tasks that are included in the course requirements</p>		
<p>2. <b>Also:</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 20px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="background-color: yellow;">Please <b>circle, underline, or otherwise mark</b> the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies <b>this description</b> of the grading process--and label this information "<b>C-3</b>".</p> </div> <p style="text-align: left; margin-left: 10px;">C-3</p>		

## ASU - [L] CRITERIA

YES	NO		Identify Documentation Submitted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>CRITERION 4:</b> These substantial writing or speaking assignments should be arranged so that the students will get timely feedback from the instructor on each assignment in time to help them do better on subsequent assignments. <i>Intervention at earlier stages in the writing process is especially welcomed.</i></p>	<p>Syllabus and supporting documentation at end of checklist</p>
<p>1. Please describe the sequence of course assignments--and the nature of the feedback the current (or most recent) course instructor provides to help students do better on subsequent assignments</p>			
<p>2. Also:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 20px; text-align: center; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; padding: 5px;">Please <b>circle, underline, or otherwise mark</b> the information presented in the most recent course syllabus (or other material you have submitted) that verifies <b>this description</b> of the grading process--and label this information "C-4".</p> </div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">C-4</p>			

Course Prefix	Number	Title	General Studies Designation
FOR	410	Professional Practices in Forensic Science	L

Explain in detail which student activities correspond to the **specific** designation criteria.  
Please use the following organizer to explain how the criteria are being met.

Criteria (from checklist)	How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)	Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)
1	The combination of the mid-term and final exam equals 57% of the students' grade, and both mock court exercises are 28% of their grade.	See "Grading" section in syllabus. Both the mid-term and final exam are worth 200 points each, which accounts for 57% of the total grade. Mock court exercises are worth 100 points each and account for 28% of the total grade. Together, writing and speaking assignments account for 85% of the grade in the course. The remaining 15% of the students' grades are calculated with points earned on lecture-based discussions and assignments and Blackboard discussions throughout the semester.
2	Both the mid-term and final exam are take-home exams that allow the student time to contextualize what they have learned in lecture and apply their own evaluation of the material in the text of their exam answers.	In the heading "Exams" in the syllabus, the mid-term and final exam are discussed. Exam questions are scenario-based and require the student to gather outside information, interpret and evaluate that material (along with material from lecture) to successfully complete the exam questions. See "Course Overview" also.
3	The mid-term and final exam represent two substantial writing assignments. The course also includes two mock court exercises.	Exam questions are scenario-based and require the student to gather outside information, interpret and evaluate that material (along with material from lecture) to successfully complete the exam questions. The mock court exercises are designed so that students will need to think on their feet and respond in a professional manner that is appropriate for the question much like a real-life courtroom experience. Students will be expected to act, dress, and perform as if they were actually testifying in court to be qualified as a scientific expert witness and to answer questions related to a mock case they have been given ahead of time. See headings "Assignments" and "Exams" in the syllabus. See "Course Overview" also.
4	Both the mid-term and final exams, as well as both mock court exercises, are scheduled in such a way that feedback can be given and applied before next exam and/or mock court exercise.	It is stated in the syllabus that there is one mid-term exam and one final exam under the headings "Assignments" and "Exams." The mid-term will be assigned during week 6 and the final will be assigned during week 14 (see "Lecture, Exam & Assignment Schedule"). The mock court exercises are scheduled for week 8 and week 14, respectively. Mock court exercises will be recorded and can be viewed by students. Written feedback will be given to students the next week after the mock court exercises are completed. Mid-term and final exam feedback will also be given

		the next week for each. In the case of the final exam, feedback will be provided via Blackboard. See "Course Overview" also.
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## Course Description\_FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science

**Course description:** Focuses on professional practices as they relate to the forensic scientist or forensics professional working in a modern crime laboratory (public or private). Topics include quality assurance programs and practices; ethics and analytical bias; the audit and accreditation processes; and the relationship with forensic science and the courtroom, to include courtroom testimony procedures. Includes oral mock court scenarios, as well as enhancing writing skills appropriate to the forensic sciences.

**Enrollment requirements:** Prerequisite(s) with C or better: BIO 305 or FOR 286; ENG 102 or 105 or 108



FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science  
Fall 2015



**LECTURE:** MWF, 10:30-11:20 am CLCC L1-74

**INSTRUCTOR:** Professor Kimberly Kobojek

[kimberly.kobojek@asu.edu](mailto:kimberly.kobojek@asu.edu)

Office: FAB N181D

Office hours Tuesdays, 10:00a-12:00p

Wednesdays, 8:00a-10:00a & 1:00p-3:00p

If you find it necessary to leave a note for this instructor, please contact the administrative reception desk of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences located at FAB North Level 1 room N101-1.

### **REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS**

**Texts:** *Ethics and the Practice of Forensic Science*, R.T. Bowen

*Forensic Testimony: Science, Law and Expert Evidence*, C.M. Bowers

**Additional Materials:** additional readings that may be used for the course will be provided by the instructor via Blackboard or in lecture.

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This lecture course will focus on professional practices as they relate to the Forensic Scientist or Forensics professional working in a modern crime laboratory (public or private). Topics of the course will include Quality Assurance programs and practices; ethics and analytical bias; the audit and accreditation processes; and the relationship with Forensic Science and the courtroom, to include courtroom testimony procedures.

Students will be required to gather, interpret, and evaluate evidence for both the oral (mock court testimony) and written assignments (exams and lecture assignments).

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### **ASSIGNMENTS**

**Mock court exercises:** There will be two substantial speaking assignments in this course in the form of mock court testimony. In the mock court exercises, students will present information to a "court" as if they were the Forensic Scientist testifying on a case. The first exercise will consist of *voir dire* (i.e. qualification as an expert) and direct examination based upon mock case information with which the student has been provided. The second exercise, held later in the semester in order for students to utilize feedback from the first exercise, will focus on the cross-examination testimony. Each exercise will be recorded and feedback provided to the student. The student will act as the "expert witness", with the rest of the class acting as jury and court spectators. The student will be expected to independently develop his or her own testimony based upon the facts of the case provided by the instructor and from what information they have gathered in class, as well as outside sources such as previous class materials or independent research.

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C-4

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Lecture and participation: These activities will focus on in-class discussions and evaluation of case histories and Blackboard discussions. Written Blackboard discussion forum entries will require the student to gather and evaluate information before posting a response to the discussion board. The instructor will also be an active participant in the Blackboard discussions, and thus, student will receive feedback within the timeframe of the forum discussion. Parameters for Blackboard discussion forums will be provided to the students before the first forum assignment.

**Late assignments will not be accepted.**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is essential to doing well in this or any class. Attend lectures, arrive on time, and keep current with assignments. If you must miss a class, it is **your** responsibility to obtain the missed information from classmates and/or the class Blackboard site.

### **CELL PHONE USE**

Cell phones must be turned off during class time, especially exams. Please be considerate of those around you during lecture. Students seen using a cell phone in any way during lecture and/or laboratory may be asked to leave the classroom for the remainder of class time. In cases of family-related issues that are foreseeable and must be dealt with on class time (pregnant spouse, family member in hospital, etc.), arrangements should be made with the instructor in advance.

### **CLASS CONDUCT**

All students are expected to conduct themselves with the maturity expected of adults in any University classroom. Disruptive, disrespectful, harassing, offensive, and/or threatening behavior, even via e-mail, toward any other students and/or an instructor in this class will not be tolerated. Students who are disrupting the class will be made to leave the classroom. Students who continually disrupt class and/or harass other students and/or instructors may be dropped from the class by the instructor. Students are expected to pay attention during lecture. See the *Student Services Manual* for the specific policy against threatening behavior, [SSM 104-02](#), "Handling Disruptive, Threatening, or Violent Individuals on Campus".

### **CLASS MATERIALS AND READING**

The planned textbook readings are listed in the schedule grid. The textbook readings will help you prepare for lecture. Students must have at least heavily skimmed the assigned reading before the lecture. Additional class materials may be posted on the class Blackboard site. Computer and printer access are available in the library through Technopolis in the basement of the Library.

### **CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Official attendance will not be taken in this course; however, a number of important assignments and other pieces of information will be disseminated during the lecture periods. Do not rely solely on Blackboard for lecture information. Your presence or absence in lecture can have a direct effect on the quality of work produced in this course.

### **COMPUTER ACCESS**

Class announcements and many course materials will be posted on the class Blackboard website. Therefore, students must have a myASU account and use a computer to access this site on a regular basis. Computers for student use are available at Technopolis in the basement of the library. Access to Blackboard is at [my.asu.edu](http://my.asu.edu) (no www.). The instructor will use the student's asu.edu email account for electronic communication, if necessary.

*The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed.*

### **E-MAIL**

I highly encourage students to ask questions, especially if you need clarification on something said in lecture; on assignments, or participation activities. Emails will generally be answered during the business/school day Monday-Friday. The instructor's email is: [Kimberly.kobojek@asu.edu](mailto:Kimberly.kobojek@asu.edu)  
Occasionally, emails may be answered on weekends and/or school holidays. *While you may occasionally receive an immediate reply, expect most replies from any instructor to take some time.*

### **EXAMS**

There will be two exams, a mid-term exam and a final exam, each worth 200 points. Exams will consist of a series of scenario-based questions which the students must answer, in writing, to the best of their ability based upon the information learned in class and from information gathered and evaluated outside of the class.

The exams will require a substantial amount of composition. Each exam will have no more than 8 questions with a maximum page limit for the entire exam. Each essay question will have defined, specific point values and parameters (i.e. some questions may require a paragraph-long answer, while other questions may require a two page answer). Exams will be "take-home" (due to the extensive writing required) and the students will have 10 full days to complete. Feedback on their midterm exam will be provided to students in a timely manner in order to incorporate feedback suggestions into their final exam submittal.

#### Exam Make-Up Policy

In general, written documentation is required for ALL exam absences. Reasonable accommodations will be made in cases of religious holidays/obligations, documented military responsibilities, or documented emergency situations.

#### **Religious holidays/documented responsibilities/documented emergencies**

It is your responsibility to provide instructors with *written documentation* of religious holidays and obligations at least **2 weeks in advance** [for emergencies, as soon as possible] and a plan to cover the missed course material, including obtaining missed lecture notes from a classmate. Failure of the student to provide *written documentation* in any of the cases above may result in an inability for accommodations to be made and points to be lost.

See the following Academic Affairs Manual policies for specific information:

- [ACD 304-04](#), "Accommodation for Religious Practices"
- [ACD 304-02](#), "Missed Classes Due to University-Sanctioned Activities"

Final Exam Make-Up Policy (see page 7 for the University's policy)

### **GRADING**

Students will be graded on a combination of:

- Exams (57% of total grade)
- Mock court exercises (28% of total grade)
- Lecture and participation activities involving case studies on courtroom testimony; quality assurance issues; and ethics issues. (~15% of total grade)

**Due dates for assignments and mock court exercises are firm; late assignments will NOT be accepted.**

**Late exams will lose 10% of the total grade for each calendar day late.**

Commented [KK3]: C-1  
C-2  
C-3

Commented [KK4]: C-1  
C-3

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u># of times</u>	<u>Total points</u>
Exams	200	2	400
Lecture & Participation	20	5	100
Mock court exercise #1	100	1	100
Mock court exercise #2	100	1	<u>100</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>700 points</b>

Final grades will be based on the following scale:

A+: 97% or above	B+: 87% - 89.9%	C+: 77% - 79.9%	D: 60% - 69.9%
A: 93% - 96.9%	B: 83% - 86.9%	C: 70% - 76.9%	E: Less than 60%
A- : 90% - 92.9%	B- : 80% - 82.9%		

#### **REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) provides information and services to students with any documented disability who are attending ASU West. Individualized program strategies and recommendations are available for each student as well as current information regarding community resources. Students also may have access to specialized equipment and supportive services and should contact the instructor for accommodations that are necessary for course completion.

#### **COURSE/INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION**

The course/instructor evaluation for this course will be conducted online 7-10 days before the last official day of classes of each semester or summer session. Your response(s) to the course/instructor are anonymous and will not be returned to your instructor until after grades have been submitted. The use of a course/instructor evaluation is an important process that allows our college to (1) help faculty improve their instruction, (2) help administrators evaluate instructional quality, (3) ensure high standards of teaching, and (4) ultimately improve instruction and student learning over time. Completion of the evaluation is not required for you to pass this class and will not affect your grade, but your cooperation and participation in this process is critical. About two weeks before the class finishes, watch for an e-mail with "NCIAS Course/Instructor Evaluation" in the subject heading. The email will be sent to your official ASU e-mail address.

#### **WITHDRAWALS**

**The instructor will NOT withdraw students for any reason.** Specifically, students should be aware that non-attendance will **NOT** automatically result in their being dropped from the course. Therefore, if a student does not attend class during the first week or for any extended period of time during the semester, they should not presume that they are no longer registered. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of their registration status.

**Any withdrawal transaction must be completed by the deadline date in accordance to the appropriate session at the registrar's office. If not, you will still be officially enrolled and you will receive a grade based on your work completed.** \*As part of a complete session withdrawal a student must withdraw from all classes in a session. Beginning the first day of classes, undergraduate students are required to work with a Student Retention Coordinator to facilitate the withdrawal process. Please refer to <http://students.asu.edu/StudentRetention>

*The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed.*

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For additional information about ASU's withdrawal policy and the possible consequences of withdrawing from a class, contact Registration Services or your academic counselor.

**Students are responsible for their registration status!**

**THE GRADE OF "INCOMPLETE"**

A grade of incomplete will be awarded only in the event that a documented emergency or illness prevents a student who is doing acceptable work from completing a small percentage of the course requirements at the end of the semester. The guidelines in the current general ASU catalog regarding a grade of incomplete will be strictly followed. **A grade of incomplete will NOT be awarded unless there is documented evidence of extreme personal or immediate family hardship.** Changes in work hours, child-care emergencies, or other similar personal problems will not be approved as reasons for awarding incompletes. The Director of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences must approve all incomplete grade requests.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Session Date & Deadlines	Session A (7 Week Session) Aug 20 – Oct. 9, 2015	Session B (7.5 Week Session) Oct 14 – Dec 4, 2015	Session C (15 Week Session) Aug 20 – Dec 4, 2015 (Final Exams Dec 7 -12, 2015)
Classes Begin	August 20, 2015	October 14, 2015	August 20, 2015
Drop/Add Deadline (w/out College approval)	August 21, 2015	October 15, 2015	August 26, 2015
Tuition & Fees 100% Refund Deadline	TBD	TBD	TBD
Labor Day Holiday Observed – University Closed	September 7, 2015		
University 21 <sup>st</sup> Day	September 9, 2015	November 3, 2015	September 9, 2015
Course Withdrawal Deadline	September 9, 2015	November 3, 2015	November 4, 2015
Complete Session Withdrawal Deadline	October 9, 2015	December 4, 2015	December 4, 2015
Veteran's Day Observed – University Closed	November 11, 2013		
Thanksgiving Observed – University Closed	November 26 – 27, 2015		
Deadline to Apply for Graduation	October 1, 2015		
Classes End/Last Day to Process transactions	October 9, 2015	December 4, 2015	December 4, 2015
Final Exams	Last day of classes	Last day of classes	Last day of classes
Final Grades Due	October 12, 2015	Dec 7 – 14, 2015	Dec 7 – 14, 2015
Degree Conferral Date	December 14, 2015		

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

As defined in the ASU Student Academic Integrity Policy: <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>. Each student has an obligation to act with honesty and integrity, and to respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. A student may be found to have violated this obligation and to have engaged in academic dishonesty if during or in connection with any academic evaluation, he or she:

- Engages in any form of academic deceit;

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- Refers to materials or sources or employs devices (e.g., audio recorders, crib sheets, calculators, solution manuals, or commercial research services) not authorized by the instructor for use during the academic evaluation;
- Possesses, buys, sells, obtains, or uses, without appropriate authorization, a copy of any materials intended to be used for academic evaluation in advance of its administration;
- Acts as a substitute for another person in any academic evaluation;
- Uses a substitute in any academic evaluation;
- Depends on the aid of others to the extent that the work is not representative of the student's abilities, knowing or having good reason to believe that this aid is not authorized by the instructor;
- Provides inappropriate aid to another person, knowing or having good reason to believe the aid is not authorized by the instructor;
- Engages in plagiarism;
- Permits his or her work to be submitted by another person without the instructor's authorization; or
- Attempts to influence or change any academic evaluation or record for reasons having no relevance to class achievement.

FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science follows the ASU Academic Integrity Policy in the administration of all course examinations and assignments. Violations of the University Academic Integrity policy will not be ignored. Penalties include reduced or no credit for submitted work, a failing grade in the class, a note on your official transcript that shows you were punished for cheating, suspension, expulsion and revocation of already awarded degrees. The university requires that the implementation of any of these penalties for violations of the academic integrity policy be reported to the Dean's office. The Integrity Policy defines the process to be used if the student wishes to appeal this action.

In FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science you are expected to follow the *ASU Student Code of Conduct* (<http://students.asu.edu/srr/code>) especially when communicating with your peers, instructors, and teaching assistants. Violations of the student code of conduct may result in withdrawal from the class.

### **CHEATING & PLAGIARISM**

Cheating in ANY form will not be tolerated. [See Academic Integrity section above]

You learn by doing your own work yourself. Plagiarism includes copying the work of anyone else, whether it's the work of a published scholar or the work of another student. If part or all of your assignment is assessed to be identical or similar to a published work [including work found online] or that of another student, you will receive a zero on the assignment. Plagiarism IS cheating. You are welcomed and encouraged to use research materials – acknowledge these sources and put their information into your own words.

**IMPORTANT: If two or more assignments or exams are assessed to be identical or very similar, ALL students involved will receive a zero on the assignment.**

Keep your work to yourself. You are responsible if you lend your work to another student and if they copy it, you will receive a zero as well. **Students caught cheating may be reported to student advising and/or to the Dean's office** [see Academic Integrity section above.] Students are expected to follow all university policies on academic integrity, including those in the Academic Integrity section.

#### **Additional Resources:**

University's Integrity policy:

[www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic\\_integrity.htm](http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/studentlife/judicial/academic_integrity.htm)

University's Student Code of Conduct [see Section C, Policies 5-301 through 5-308.]:

[http://www.abor.asu.edu/1\\_the\\_regents/policymanual/chap5/index.html](http://www.abor.asu.edu/1_the_regents/policymanual/chap5/index.html)

*The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed.*

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The University's Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications Policy:  
<http://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd125.html>

### **FINAL EXAM MAKE-UP POLCY**

The final exam schedule listed in the Schedule of Classes will be strictly followed. Exceptions to the schedule and requests for make-up examinations can be granted only by the director of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences for one of the following reasons:

- 1) religious observances
- 2) the student has more than three exams scheduled on the same day
- 3) two finals are scheduled to occur at the same time

Make-up exams will NOT be given for reasons of non-refundable airline tickets, vacation plans, work schedules, weddings, family reunions, or other such activities. Students should consult the final exam schedule before making end-of-semester travel plans.

If there is a last-minute personal or medical emergency, the student may receive a grade of Incomplete and makeup the final within one calendar month. The student must provide written documentation and be passing the class at the time to receive an Incomplete. A signed "Request for Grade of Incomplete" must be submitted by the student and approved by the student's instructor and the Director of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences.

***The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed.***

If you find it necessary to leave a note for this instructor, please contact the administrative reception desk of the School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences located at FAB North Level 1 room N101-1.

### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN**

Students should be aware of the evacuation route posted on the exit door of each classroom. Students who cannot walk down stairs should notify the instructor as early in the course as possible so the instructor can provide information regarding the location of the designated meeting area on each upper floor of the building (marked with a blue sign that states Emergency Evacuation Response Area).

### **ASU WRITING CENTER**

Getting feedback-it's what writers do. ASU Writing Centers offer in-person and online feedback at any stage of the writing process. Trained tutors can help writers to brainstorm; plan papers; organize content; use and document sources; and revise for clarity, correctness, and flow

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Fall 2015

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**LECTURE, EXAM, & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE** (NOTE: SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Commented [KK5]: C-3  
C-4

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading/Assignments
Week 1	What are “professional practices”? <i>What is Ethics?</i> <i>The Ethics of the Criminal Justice Culture</i>	<i>Bowen pp. 1-31</i>
Week 2	<b>Ethics and the Forensic Scientist</b> <i>Ethics in the Courtroom: The Scientist’s Perspective</i> <i>Ethics in Forensic Science</i>	Bowen pp.33-42 & 57-71 <b>Lecture Assignment #1-case study (ethics)</b>
Week 3	<b>Ethics and the Forensic Scientist</b> <i>Codes of Ethics</i> <i>An Ethical Approach to Forensic Professionalism</i>	<i>Bowen pp. 107-129</i>
Week 4	<b>Ethics, Forensic Science, and Evidence Handling</b> Chain of Custody, Work Product, Notes <b>Forensic Science and the Legal System</b> <i>Brief history of forensic science and the law</i>	<i>Bowers, Chp.1</i> <b>Lecture Assignment #2-discussion board (ethics)</b>
Week 5	<b>Forensic Science and the Legal System</b> <i>Admissibility of Forensic Expert Evidence</i> <i>Character Traits of the Expert Witness</i>	<i>Bowers, Chp. 3</i> <i>Bowers, Chp. 6</i>
Week 6	<b>Forensic Science and the Legal System</b> <i>Voir Dire and Direct Examination</i> <i>Cross Examination</i>	<i>Bowers, Chp. 7</i> <i>Bowers, Chp. 8</i> <b>Mid-term exam assigned</b>
Week 7	<b>Forensic Science and the Legal System</b> <i>Managing Your Forensic Case from Beginning to End</i> <b>Mock court prep</b>	<i>Bowers, Chp. 5</i> <b>Lecture Assignment #3-case study (testimony)</b>
Week 8	<b>Mock court exercise #1</b>	<b>Mid-term exam due</b>
Week 9	<b>Quality Assurance and Accreditation</b> Quality Assurance Programs in Forensic Science-What and Why? Accreditation and Audit Process Scientific Working Groups (SWG’s) <b>Mock court feedback to students</b>	
Week 10	<b>Quality Assurance and Accreditation</b>	<b>Lecture Assignment #4-</b>

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed.



FOR 410 Professional Practices in Forensic Science  
Fall 2015

	ASCLD/LAB & ISO 17025 FBI QAS Standards-Why is DNA Separate?	discussion board (accreditation)
Week 11	<b>Quality Assurance and Accreditation</b> 2009 NAS report and results Current NIST restructuring: Away with the SWGs	
Week 12	<b>Quality Assurance and Accreditation</b> Handling QA in "Real Life": Reality Check	Lecture Assignment #5- discussion board (case scenario/QA)
Week 13	<b>Quality Assurance and Accreditation</b> How QA can Effect Testimony <b>Mock court prep</b>	
Week 14	Mock court exercise #2	Final exam assigned
Week 15	Mock court feedback to students Guest Speakers: real stories from "the trenches" Course wrap-up	
Finals Week	<b>FINAL EXAM due Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> in person</b> <b>FAB N181D no later than 11:40 am*</b>	<i>*Scheduled exam time:</i> <b>9:50-11:40</b>

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*Ethics and the Practice of Forensic Science*, R.T. Bowen

*Forensic Testimony: Science, Law and Expert Evidence*, C.M. Bowers

INTERNATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE  
AND INVESTIGATION SERIES

# Ethics and the Practice of Forensic Science

**Robin T. Bowen**



**CRC Press**  
Taylor & Francis Group  
Boca Raton London New York

CRC Press is an imprint of the  
Taylor & Francis Group, an **informa** business

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# Forensic Testimony

## Science, Law and Expert Evidence

**C. Michael Bowers**



AMSTERDAM • BOSTON • HEIDELBERG • LONDON  
NEW YORK • OXFORD • PARIS • SAN DIEGO  
SAN FRANCISCO • SINGAPORE • SYDNEY • TOKYO

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