

NATS 3053 CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

Credit Points 10

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Description A substantial amount of forensic evidence used in the prosecution of criminal cases is derived from crime scenes. It is therefore critical that forensic practitioners understand appropriate crime scene investigation procedures for dealing with forensic evidence at the scene, and that they can apply these procedures in a practical manner during investigations. This subject will explore the practical aspects of crime scene investigation including scene preservation and documentation, scene searching and detection of forensic evidence as well as evidence enhancement and collection. Professional practices for maintaining evidence integrity and continuity will also be implemented. In addition to the practical components of this subject, a range of specialised crime scene investigation sub-disciplines will also be discussed along with crime scene legislation and the role of the crime scene investigator in court.

School Science

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 2 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 3 subject

Pre-requisite(s) NATS 1003

Equivalent Subjects NATS 2010

Incompatible Subjects NATS 2014

Restrictions

100 credit points must be completed before students can enroll in this subject.

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this Subject, students will be able to:

1. Integrate critical decision-making in the crime scene investigation process based on scene circumstances
2. Apply practical techniques for the detection, enhancement and collection of forensic evidence and documentation at crime scenes
3. Apply professional practice for maintaining evidence integrity and continuity at crime scenes
4. Demonstrate a critical understanding of specialised crime scene investigation sub-disciplines, crime scene legislation and the role of the crime scene investigator in court

Subject Content

1. Crime scene investigation in simulated crime scenes
2. Professional decision-making at crime scenes influenced by scene circumstances
3. Professional practices for scene documentation and maintaining evidence integrity and continuity
4. Practical skills in detection, enhancement and collection of forensic evidence at crime scenes
5. Theory of specialised crime scene investigation sub-disciplines

6. Theory of crime scene legislation and the role of the crime scene investigator in court

Special Requirements

Essential equipment

- PPE – crime scene suit, lab coat, safety goggles, enclosed shoes
- Clipboard
- SD card
- Watch

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task
Case Study	1000 words	25	N	Group/ Individual
Quiz	1 hour	30	N	Individual
Simulation	1500 words	45	Y	Individual

Prescribed Texts

Sutton, R & Trueman, K (2016) Crime Scene Management: Scene Specific Methods. 2nd ed. New York: Wiley.

Teaching Periods

Spring (2024)

Hawkesbury

On-site

Subject Contact

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=NATS3053_24-SPR_HW_1#subjects)