COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Theory and practice of crime scene investigation. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to relate the application of scientific and technical procedures to criminal investigation. Topics include: protection of the crime scene; crime scene sketching; developing and lifting latent prints; casts and molds; document examination; glass as evidence; firearms identification; and the use of the microscope. The focus of this course will include report writing and documentation of evidence, processing of evidence by the lab personnel, and the use of physical evidence in court to secure a conviction. Students should expect to get dirty, and be outside. Appropriate clothing should be worn to class. Anticipate the subject matter and the weather conditions.

This course is not designed to transfer to four year colleges and universities. Schools offering degrees in criminal justice or related disciplines may, at their discretion, accept this course in transfer, but transferability is neither implied nor guaranteed.

This is an academic course at Midland College, and is not to be construed as a continuing education course. This course is required for completion of the AAS - Law Enforcement Degree option.

TEXT AND SUPPLIES:
Supplies: the list of supplies required by students is provided on a separate handout.

COURSE GOALS / OBJECTIVES:
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
- discuss the importance of processing crime scenes according to set procedures;
- describe crime scene search methods and demonstrate the ability to conduct a search;
- discuss crime scene photography and techniques of incorporating photographs into a crime scene sketch;
- identify basic fingerprint patterns and correctly identify patterns on a set of rolled impressions;
- develop latent prints using various techniques and tools;
- prepare casts and/or molds, and explain their use in forensic science;
- discuss the importance of proper report writing and documentation to successful investigations;
- demonstrate the ability to work as a member of a team;
- demonstrate competence with the metric system.

Participation Statement: For Online courses, students MUST actively participate by
completing an academic assignment by the official census date. Students who do not do so, will be dropped from the course.

Each student should anticipate at least one hour out of class preparation for each lecture hour, plus study time preparing for examinations. Attendance is important in this class.

Portable cellular phones, beepers, and similar paging devices may be disruptive to the class, and you are encouraged NOT to bring them into the classroom. If you do bring them to class, please make sure they are turned off. Should they become a nuisance, you may be asked to remove them from the classroom. The wearing of hats and the consumption of food are not allowed in the classroom, and, pursuant to Midland College Policy 5:14:02, the use of tobacco products (smoking, dipping, chewing, etc.) is prohibited in the building, including the classroom.

Students missing a major examination must make the exam before the next class period unless special arrangements are made. Make-up examinations may be the same as, or different from, the examination given in class. Make-up examinations will cover the same material as the scheduled examination. Failure to make up an examination will result in a grade of zero for the missed exam. No make-up opportunity is available for the final exam. Final exams are not given early or late. The instructor reserves the right to give quizzes, announced or unannounced, at any time. There is no opportunity to make up quizzes that are missed.

The instructor cannot drop students from courses. It is your responsibility to drop a class if you no longer plan to attend and complete the semester. Check the Midland College catalog for the last day to drop a course. You may be limited in the number of courses you can drop, and you may not be entitled to a tuition refund if you drop a course.

(1) You must participate in this exercise to pass this course. Failure to participate, including showing up late for class, is an automatic F for the course.

NOTE: - To successfully complete this course, you must pass (70% score) a written test on the metric system. This is a pass/fail component of the course. The scientific nature of criminalistics demands an understanding of the metric system. It will be covered in class and you will be tested. Students may take a metric test multiple times; however, this course requirement must be completed by Tuesday of the 13th week of the semester. This exam will not be given during class time; you must make arrangements to take it during the instructor’s office hours.

There is no opportunity to make up graded exercises in this course. An absence when the exercise is conducted will be graded as a zero. In extreme situations, students may be given alternative assignments to complete for grading.

NOTE: Part of the grade for each graded exercise is whether you bring to class the required supplies and materials form the list on page two of the syllabus. Deductions will be made from the grade when required supplies are not brought. It is essential that investigators show up at scenes with the proper equipment and tools to complete their job.

COURSE SCHEDULE:
The class meets for three hours per week, some of which is lecture, some practical application.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:
Instructor  Brian Kneisley
Office  174 Technical Building
Telephone  (432) 685-4685
E-mail 
Division  Social/Behavioral Science and Business Studies (685-6830)
Office Hours  announced in class and posted on the instructor's door and Canvas site

ADA Statement: Any student who because of a disabiling condition may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the Counselor/Disability Specialist at 432-685-5598 as soon as possible. The Counselor/Disability Specialist is located in the Scharbauer Student Center Building. These conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation

12/15/16