Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security Career Cluster
Criminal Investigations
Course Number: 43.45300

Course Description:
This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore the basic processes and principles of a criminal investigation. Students will learn the legal responsibilities and challenges of the patrol officer, investigator, and crime scene technician at a crime scene. Students will learn the importance of preserving and documenting the crime scene along with the identification, collection, and processing of evidence and the contribution to the criminal investigation. This course is one of two choices that may be selected for the law enforcement pathway. The prerequisites for this course are Introduction to Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security, and Criminal Justice Essentials.

Course Standard 1

LPSCS-CI-1
The following standard is included in all CTAE courses adopted for the Career Cluster/Pathways. Teachers should incorporate the elements of this standard into lesson plans during the course. The topics listed for each element of the standard may be addressed in differentiated instruction matching the content of each course. These elements may also be addressed with specific lessons from a variety of resources. This content is not to be treated as a unit or separate body of knowledge but rather integrated into class activities as applications of the concept.

Standard: Demonstrate employability skills required by business and industry.
The following elements should be integrated throughout the content of this course.

1.1 Communicate effectively through writing, speaking, listening, reading, and interpersonal abilities.

Person-to-Person Etiquette	Telephone and Email Etiquette	Cell Phone and Internet Etiquette	Communicating At Work	Listening
Interacting with Your Boss	Telephone Conversations	Using Blogs	Improving Communication Skills	Reasons, Benefits, and Barriers
Interacting with Subordinates	Barriers to Phone conversations	Using Social Media	Effective Oral Communication	Listening Strategies
Interacting with Co-workers	Making and Returning Calls		Effective Written Communication	Ways We Filter What We Hear
Interacting with Suppliers	Making Cold Calls		Effective Nonverbal Skills	Developing a Listening Attitude
	Handling Conference Calls		Effective Word Use	Show You Are Listening
	Handling Unsolicited Calls		Giving and Receiving Feedback	Asking Questions
				Obtaining Feedback
				Getting Others to Listen

Nonverbal Communication	Written Communication	Speaking	Applications and Effective Résumés
Communicating Nonverbally	Writing Documents	Using Language Carefully	Completing a Job Application
Reading Body Language and mixed Messages	Constructive Criticism in Writing	One-on-One Conversations	Writing a Cover Letter
Matching Verbal and Nonverbal communication		Small Group Communication	Things to Include in a Résumé

Improving Nonverbal Indicators		Large Group Communication	Selling Yourself in a Résumé
Nonverbal Feedback		Making Speeches	Terms to Use in a Résumé
Showing Confidence Nonverbally		Involving the Audience	Describing Your Job Strengths
Showing Assertiveness		Answering Questions	Organizing Your Résumé
		Visual and Media Aids	Writing an Electronic Résumé
		Errors in Presentation	Dressing Up Your Résumé

1.2   Demonstrate creativity by asking challenging questions and applying innovative procedures and methods.

Teamwork and Problem Solving	Meeting Etiquette
Thinking Creatively	Preparation and Participation in Meetings
Taking Risks	Conducting Two-Person or Large Group Meetings
Building Team Communication	Inviting and Introducing Speakers
	Facilitating Discussions and Closing
	Preparing Visual Aids
	Virtual Meetings

1.3   Exhibit critical thinking and problem solving skills to locate, analyze and apply information in career planning and employment situations.

Problem Solving	Customer Service	The Application Process	Interviewing Skills	Finding the Right Job
Transferable Job Skills	Gaining Trust and Interacting with Customers	Providing Information, Accuracy and Double Checking	Preparing for an Interview	Locating Jobs and Networking
Becoming a Problem Solver	Learning and Giving Customers What They Want	Online Application Process	Questions to Ask in an Interview	Job Shopping Online
Identifying a Problem	Keeping Customers Coming Back	Following Up After Submitting an Application	Things to Include in a Career Portfolio	Job Search Websites
Becoming a Critical Thinker	Seeing the Customer's Point	Effective Résumés:	Traits Employers are Seeking	Participation in Job Fairs
Managing	Selling Yourself and the Company	Matching Your Talents to a Job	Considerations Before Taking a Job	Searching the Classified Ads
	Handling Customer Complaints	When a Résumé Should be Used		Using Employment Agencies
	Strategies for Customer Service			Landing an Internship
				Staying Motivated to Search

1.4   Model work readiness traits required for success in the workplace including integrity, honesty, accountability, punctuality, time management, and respect for diversity.

Workplace Ethics	Personal Characteristics	Employer Expectations	Business Etiquette	Communicating at Work
Demonstrating Good Work Ethic	Demonstrating a Good Attitude	Behaviors Employers Expect	Language and Behavior	Handling Anger
Behaving Appropriately	Gaining and Showing Respect	Objectionable Behaviors	Keeping Information Confidential	Dealing with Difficult Coworkers
Maintaining Honesty	Demonstrating Responsibility	Establishing Credibility	Avoiding Gossip	Dealing with a Difficult Boss
Playing Fair	Showing Dependability	Demonstrating Your Skills	Appropriate Work Email	Dealing with Difficult Customers

Using Ethical Language	Being Courteous	Building Work Relationships	Cell Phone Etiquette	Dealing with Conflict
Showing Responsibility	Gaining Coworkers' Trust		Appropriate Work Texting	
Reducing Harassment	Persevering		Understanding Copyright	
Respecting Diversity	Handling Criticism		Social Networking	
Making Truthfulness a Habit	Showing Professionalism			
Leaving a Job Ethically				

1.5   Apply the appropriate skill sets to be productive in a changing, technological, diverse workplace to be able to work independently and apply team work skills.

Expected Work Traits	Teamwork	Time Management
Demonstrating Responsibility	Teamwork Skills	Managing Time
Dealing with Information Overload	Reasons Companies Use Teams	Putting First Things First
Transferable Job Skills	Decisions Teams Make	Juggling Many Priorities
Managing Change	Team Responsibilities	Overcoming Procrastination
Adopting a New Technology	Problems That Affect Teams	Organizing Workspace and Tasks
	Expressing Yourself on a Team	Staying Organized
	Giving and Receiving Constructive Criticism	Finding More Time
		Managing Projects
		Prioritizing Personal and Work Life

1.6   Present a professional image through appearance, behavior and language.

On-the-Job Etiquette	Person-to-Person Etiquette	Communication Etiquette	Presenting Yourself
Using Professional Manners	Meeting Business Acquaintances	Creating a Good Impression	Looking Professional
Introducing People	Meeting People for the First Time	Keeping Phone Calls Professional	Dressing for Success
Appropriate Dress	Showing Politeness	Proper Use of Work Email	Showing a Professional Attitude
Business Meal Functions		Proper Use of Cell Phone	Using Good Posture
Behavior at Work Parties		Proper Use in Texting	Presenting Yourself to Associates
Behavior at Conventions			Accepting Criticism
International Etiquette			Demonstrating Leadership
Cross-Cultural Etiquette			
Working in a Cubicle			

Support of CTAE Foundation Course Standards and Georgia Standards of Excellence
L9-10RST 1-10 and L9-10WHST 1-10:
Georgia Standards of Excellence ELA/Literacy standards have been written specifically for technical subjects and have been adopted as part of the official standards for all CTAE courses.

Course Standard 2

LPSCS-CI-2
Explore the roles and responsibilities of criminal investigators.
  2.1 Compare and contrast the roles and responsibilities of the patrol officer, detective (investigator) and crime scene technician.
  2.2 Explore post-secondary opportunities for careers in criminal investigations.
  2.3 Research the development of evidence processing procedures.

Course Standard 3

LPSCS-CI-3
Recognize the fundamental elements of a preliminary investigation and the role it plays in the criminal trial.
  3.1 Identify and explain the primary duties of the responding patrol officer upon arriving at a crime scene.
  3.2 Summarize the correct procedures for securing and preserving the crime scene.
  3.3 Research sources of information available to investigators.
  3.4 Explain the proper method of interviewing witnesses at the crime scene.
  3.5 Distinguish between interviews and interrogations as well as confessions and admissions.

Course Standard 4

LPSCS-CI-4
Analyze the legal complexities related to a criminal investigation and search of a crime scene.
  4.1 Describe the process of obtaining a search warrant prior to conducting a search at a crime scene.
  4.2 Clarify the role of evidence in a criminal investigation.
  4.3 Identify and describe the correct procedures for conducting a systematic search of a crime scene for evidence.
  4.4 Exhibit procedures for locating and identifying evidence at a crime scene.
  4.5 Explain the proper methods of photographing and videoing a crime scene.
  4.6 Demonstrate the proper methods of measuring and diagramming a crime scene.
  4.7 Demonstrate creating base-line and triangulation diagrams of a crime scene.
  4.8 Assess the importance of recreating a crime scene.

Course Standard 5

LPSCS-CI-5
Demonstrate methods of fingerprint development.
  5.1 Identify and describe fingerprint patterns and characteristics.
  5.2 Compare the various methods of fingerprint development.
  5.3 Demonstrate the various methods of fingerprint development.
  5.4 Explain how the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) is used to compare fingerprints found at a crime scene.

Course Standard 6

LPSCS-CI-6
Distinguish how impressions and tool mark evidence are used in a criminal investigation.
  6.1 Examine how impression evidence is used in a criminal investigation.
  6.2 Analyze the various methods of enhancing shoe and tire impressions.
  6.3 Demonstrate the various methods of enhancing shoe and tire impressions.
  6.4 Demonstrate producing casts of footwear and tire impressions.

6.5 Identify and explain the correct procedures for properly collecting and preserving weapons, shell casings and ballistic evidence.
6.6 Explain how weapons, shell casings and ballistic evidence are used in a criminal investigation.
6.7 Describe how ballistic evidence is created and how it is used in an investigation.
6.8 Assess how bite marks can be examined for evidence in a criminal investigation.

Course Standard 7

LPSCS-CI-7
Analyze the significance of trace evidence in a criminal investigation.
7.1 Interpret how hair and fiber evidence is used in a criminal investigation.
7.2 Identify and describe the correct procedures for properly collecting and preserving hair and fiber evidence.
7.3 Assess how paint, glass, and soil evidence is used in a criminal investigation.
7.4 Analyze the correct procedures for properly collecting and preserving paint, glass, and soil evidence.
7.5 Explain how blood and other bodily fluid evidence are used in a criminal investigation.
7.6 Investigate the correct procedures for properly collecting and preserving blood and other bodily fluid evidence.
7.7 Examine the correct procedures for collecting and preserving various types of trace evidence (hair, fibers, paint, glass, soil and bodily fluids).

Course Standard 8

LPSCS-CI-8
Document concise investigative reports.
8.1 Identify and explain the appropriate reports commonly associated with a criminal investigation.
8.2 Create clear, concise, and thorough reports.
8.3 Explain the significance of accurate and complete reports and the complete case file.
8.4 Submit a complete, accurate case file for a mock crime scene investigation.

Course Standard 9

LPSCS-CI-9
Summarize the role of the crime lab in a criminal investigation and subsequent trial.
9.1 Explain the role of the crime lab in a criminal investigation.
9.2 Identify and describe the various tests that may be performed on evidence submitted to the crime lab.

Course Standard 10

LPSCS-CI-10
Analyze the complex nature of a homicide investigation.
10.1 Examine the various manners of death related to a homicide investigation.
10.2 Assess the various methods of identification of the deceased found at a crime scene.
10.3 Distinguish signs that indicate a suspicious manner of death.
10.4 Identify and describe various signs of death.

Course Standard 11

LPSCS-CI-11
Compare the varied investigative techniques utilized when investigating major crime scenes.

11.1 Compare and contrast arson investigations, including elements of specific arson offenses; detecting motives for an arson fire/explosion to be utilized; and assessing indicators that a fire may have been intentionally set.

11.2 Compare and contrast terrorist incident investigations, including analyzing key beliefs of domestic and international terror groups, and investigating various types of weapons of mass destruction and their effects.

11.3 Compare and contrast gangs and organized crime investigations, including examining the provisions of the Georgia Street Gang Terrorism and Prevention Act; comparing characteristics of past and present organized crime and gang activity; describing operations of street gangs; and researching effective techniques used to investigate organized crime or gang activity.

11.4 Compare and contrast cyber-crime investigations, including critiquing crimes commonly committed using cyber technology; classifying most likely people to be victimized by cyber-crime; and identifying investigative techniques used to combat cyber-crimes.

11.5 Compare and contrast serial offender investigations, including examining criminal profiling and the role of the profiler in an investigation; analyzing the basic profile of a serial killer; and summarizing the role of a profiler in a serial investigation and as an expert witness during prosecution.

Course Standard 12

LPSCS-CI-12
Critique various issues concerning the investigation that arise during the criminal trial.

12.1 Demonstrate court room testimony related to the criminal investigation.

12.2 Clarify the issue of qualifying an "expert" witness.

12.3 Explain the issues related to chain of custody and admissibility of evidence.

12.4 Discuss the Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) effect and the resulting problems that may arise during criminal prosecution.

12.5 Evaluate the role of a suppression hearing.