



Reynolds High School

Building Relationships for Academic Success

Forensic Science 2024-2025

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Room#: 210

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Course Description: Forensic Science is the study of the various scientific processes applied to those criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. AKA: Solving CRIMES!

Grading Policy: Grades and credit for this class are loosely follow a **Proficiency Model** of assessment. Being **Proficient** means that you understand a concept or can accomplish a task at a minimum required level of ability. In other words “You can do it!” Your grade is based upon your ability to **perform** skills, **describe** concepts, and **demonstrate** understanding of the **Learning Targets** for each unit. Learning Targets are based on the State and National standards for this course. Points earned are **weighted** in the following way:

- **70% Summative Assessments (Tests/Labs/Finals)** are worth of your grade: includes weekly tests, unit finals, labs, and final exams.
- **30% Formative Assessments (Classwork/ Homework)** are worth of your grade. **This** includes work Unit Packets, some labs and any other assignments and/or homework.

More on Grading: Scores for all assignments and assessments are “translated” into a 10-point scale. i.e. a 93% is entered as 9.3 points.

Attendance and Class Work: *Listen, you can NOT learn if you are NOT here!*

- You will be required to make up any missed work. You may need to come in after school at times to make up lab work or do a test or retake a quiz.
- Many of your materials will be available on Schoology so you can access them outside of class if needed.
- There will be suggested Due Dates to keep you on pace, but there will also be **Hard Deadlines** at the end of each unit. If you miss a **Hard Deadline**, you will need to talk to Heikes about how and if you can make up this work. Not all work will be available after a **Hard Deadline**!

Class Expectations

- **Cell Phone / Headphone policy:** Cell phones are having an **EXTREMELY DETRIMENTAL** effect on our student’s ability to focus and learn. This is **NO JOKE**. As per school policy, cell phones must be **OFF and AWAY** during class. No exceptions.
- Treat everyone in class respectfully; no bigotry of any kind will be tolerated! Show respect for yourself by showing it to your classmates, your teachers, and all members of our community.
- Be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings or be **TARDY**.
- Use language and tone of voice that is appropriate for the classroom.
- Please, **no food or drinks in class** except for water bottles... with occasional exceptions.
- **Ask questions!** It’s cool to be curious! People who aren’t curious are bored and being bored is boring. Ask questions and demand answers that make sense to you!

Consequences: You can **choose** to abide by these expectations and have a great year or a more difficult path that leads to **verbal reminders, calls home, detention, parent/student/teacher conference, and/or referral**.

Course Calendar (*Order is subject to change!)

Unit	Topics
Introduction to Forensics	Define Forensic science, practice observation skills, logic & reasoning, and crime scene processing
Cause of death	Meaning, manner, mechanism, cause, and time
Evidence Unit	Class vs. individual evidence, probability
Prints and Impressions	Fingerprinting (lift, develop, and identify) shoe prints, tire tracks, bite marks, and lip prints
Forensic Anthropology	Analyze bone evidence
Document Analysis	Determine origin of documents, identify forgery, handwriting analysis
Hair and Fiber	Microscope identification
Blood Evidence	Typing and spatter analysis
Entomology	Use insect evidence to determine time of death
Ballistics & Tool Marks	Firearm identification, bullet identification, bullet trajectories, and tool mark impressions
Glass	Density, composition, and fracture analysis
DNA	DNA structure & fingerprinting
Final Project	Students will apply skills learned throughout the year in a comprehensive project

Reynolds Raider Expectations

All Raiders are.... **POWER**



- **Prepared and Punctual**
 - Raiders come to class on time and with all required materials
- **Organized**
 - Raiders keep their science materials in the science section of their binder.
 - Raiders will write down the daily agenda and important dates in their planner.
- **Writers**
 - Raiders write and put forth their best authentic work daily.
 - Raiders do not plagiarize and copy. Copied work will not receive credit for all parties involved.
- **Engaged**
 - Raiders are focused in class 100% of the time.
 - Raiders put away all electronics and other distracting items during class time.
- **Respectful**
 - Raiders respect each other as well as the space and property they occupy
 - Raiders are always respectful and safe during laboratory work.
 - Raiders will respect the room by helping to keep it clean. No food or open drink containers in the classroom.

Please Read and sign BOTH SIDES of this page!!!!

Please send me an email (jheikes@rsd7.net) to get on an email mailing list and receive emails about when grades are updated online as well as other valuable information! This is available to both students and parents. Thanks!

Parent Contact Information

1. Student Name (print) _____
2. Parent Name (print) _____
3. Phone Number _____
4. Best time to call _____
5. Where can the student access the Internet?
Home ___? School ___? Other _____?

I have read and I understand the attached course syllabus and student expectations.

student signature

parent/guardian signature

WAIT! There is more on the back!!

RHS Science Department - Laboratory Safety Agreement

I, _____ agree to abide by the following safety rules whenever working in the science laboratories.

I will:

1. Use the science laboratory for authorized work only.
2. Remove contact lenses and wear safety goggles when instructed.
3. Study the laboratory investigation before coming to class, if possible. (If in doubt about any procedure, I will ask the teacher.)
4. Know how to use safety equipment and the location of the eyewash station, safety shower and fire blanket.
5. In case of fire, alert the teacher and leave the laboratory.
6. Carefully check for the presence of ignition sources (open flames, etc.) before using flammable materials such as alcohol.
7. Report any accident, injury, spill, unsafe procedure or broken glass to the teacher at once.
8. Never taste, touch or smell any substance unless specifically directed by the teacher to do so.
9. Handle chemicals carefully, check the label of every bottle or jar before removing the contents, and never return chemicals to reagent containers.
10. When heating a substance in a test tube, point the mouth of the tube away from all persons.
11. Use proper equipment to handle hot glassware.
12. Tie back long hair, remove dangling jewelry, roll up loose sleeves, and tuck in loose clothing.
13. At the end of the lab, clean the work area, wash and store all materials and equipment, and turn off all water, gas, and electrical appliances.

We have read the laboratory safety agreement and acknowledge the content.

(Student Signature)

(Parent Signature)

date

date