

**CJ 3613**  
**Criminal Investigations and Evidence**

Instructor: Dr. Adam McKee  
Time: TT 9:40 to 11:00  
Room: MCB 316

Instructor Contact Information:

Office: MCB 210  
Office Phone: 460-1279  
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Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 to 11:00 & 2:00 to 3:00  
Tuesday: 1:00 to 3:00  
Wednesday: 9:00 to 11:00 & 2:00 to 3:00  
Thursday: 1:00 to 3:00  
Other Times: By Appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will examine the process of investigating crimes and the proper collection, identification, storage, and presentation of evidence at trial.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, the students will:

1. Be familiar with the laws, procedures, and policies involved in processing a crime scene.
2. Understand the roles and responsibilities of various personnel involved in a criminal investigation.
3. Understand the police role the judicial system function in bringing evidence to a finder of fact.
4. Be familiar with the fundamentals of forensic science.

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

*Criminal Investigations* (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.)  
Authors: Bennett and Hess

**Supplemental Website:** <http://www.iejs.com>

This course is "web enhanced." This means that many of the required readings will be found on the website at the URL above. To access material for this class, go to that site and click on the green "UAM Students" link near the bottom of the page, then select "Criminal Investigation"

## COURSE GRADE

Your grade will come in the form of four (4) examinations, a project, and participation. Each exam will consist of approximately 50 points in any possible combination of formats, including essay. Your project will consist of a portfolio of evidence (sketches, photographs, reports, etc.) gathered from mock crime scenes and class presentations. The grading scale is as follows:

90% - 100%	A
80% - 89%	B
70% - 79%	C
60% - 69%	D
Below 60%	F

### Grade Components:

4 Exams @ 20% each	80%
Project	15%
Participation / Attendance	5%
	<hr/>
	100%

UAM will no longer mail grade reports to all students. You may access your grades through Campus Connect on the UAM homepage, <http://www.uamont.edu/>. To have your grades mailed to you, complete the grade request form available in the Registrar's Office in Monticello or the Student Services offices in Crossett and McGehee.

### Class Decorum:

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Seeking, obtaining, or accessing information in any form or by any method other than the unprompted knowledge of the student constitutes cheating. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work or ideas of another as one's own. Cheating on tests or plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course and be referred to the Dean of Students for additional review (see the *UAM Catalog* for a description of the University's disciplinary procedure).

Unless specifically stated by the instructor, all assignments are to be completed by you alone. Do not work in groups unless specifically authorized to do so. Two or more students collaborating on an assignment will be considered **plagiarism**. *This does not preclude the use of study groups and mutual aid—these are highly encouraged.*

**ATTENDANCE, PARTICIPATION AND TARDINESS:** Students are expected to participate in class discussions. If you are more than 10 minutes late for class, don't come at all. Entering class late is disruptive and discourteous to other students.

Mandatory attendance will not be demanded within the scope of this class. I understand that there are going to be instances where you are not going to be able to make it, there may be a time when I am unable to attend class. However missing class will adversely affect your grade in that information that I present within the scope of lecture and discussion may not be covered in the book. I have found that there is a direct correlation between the number of times that a student misses class and the grade that they earn. **THIS COURSE, DUE TO ITS NATURE, BUILDS ON ITSELF. MISSING CLASS WILL HURT YOU OVER THE ENTIRE SCOPE OF THE CLASS.** If you miss a class, talk to one of the students in the class to get a copy of the day's notes.

***Any missed material is the responsibility of the student.***

## MAKE UP EXAMINATIONS AND LATE WORK:

Failure to take an exam during the scheduled time period will result in a failing grade for the exam. However, upon the occurrence of *serious* illness or other extremely compelling circumstances, supported by incontrovertible evidence, **one** make-up exam **may** be given. Missed exams will be taken on the last regularly scheduled day of class. Such exams will always be in a long essay format. *Late work will be assessed a 10% penalty for every 24 hour period that lapses past the time the assignment is due.* Deadlines are just that; early work is always accepted. If you think there is the slightest possibility that your computer will fail, your printer will malfunction, or a feral goat will eat your paper, plan to turn it in with a few days safety margin.

**Special Note:** The instructor reserves the right to administratively withdraw students from the class who cause a disruption to the learning environment or otherwise fail to conduct themselves in a manner befitting a student at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. Any behaviors expressly forbidden in the University *Catalog* are grounds for such withdrawal. Do not converse with other students and do not bring noisemaking electronic devices to class. This includes cell phones, beepers, and so forth. (Public safety professionals are exempt from this requirement while on duty).

You are expected to act in a professional manner in this course. You are required to act in accordance with University regulations and maintain a respectful demeanor toward your classmates. Any violation of University policy will result in your administrative withdrawal from the course. Consider your interactions with this course as a *professional* environment.

### A Note from the Provost's Office

"The following action is prohibited under the Student Conduct Code: Disorderly Conduct: Any behavior which disrupts the regular or normal functions of the University community, including behavior which breaches the peace or violates the rights of others."

### Students with Disabilities:

It is the policy of the University of Arkansas-Monticello to accommodate individuals with disabilities pursuant to federal law and the University's commitment to equal educational opportunities. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any necessary accommodations at the beginning of the course. Any student requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Special Student Services located in Harris Hall, Room 219, phone 870-460-1154; TDD 870-460-1251; or fax 870-460-1810.

### Important Dates

Wednesday, August 23:	First Day of Classes. Schedule Changes.
Tuesday, August 29:	Last Day to Make Schedule Changes
Monday, September 4:	Labor Day Holiday—No Classes
Thursday, September 21:	<b>Exam I</b> (Tentative)
Friday, October 6:	Deadline to Apply for May Graduation
Thursday, October 19:	<b>Exam II</b> (Tentative)
Monday, November 6:	Spring Registration Begins
Wednesday, November 8:	Last Day to Withdraw with a 'W'
Tuesday, November 21:	<b>Exam III</b> (Tentative)
Wednesday, November 22:	Thanksgiving Holiday Begins
Tuesday, December 5:	Last Day to Withdraw
Monday, December 11:	<b>Final Exam</b> (1:30)

## Course Outline

<b>1. Criminal Investigations – an Overview</b>	<b>Chapter 1</b>	<b>(Week 1)</b>
<b>2. Crime Scene Documentation</b>	<b>Chapter 2</b>	<b>(Weeks 2 &amp; 3)</b>
<b>3. Searches</b>	<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>(Week 4 &amp; 5)</b>
<b>4. Forensic / Physical Evidence</b>	<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>(Week 6 &amp; 7)</b>
<b>5. Obtaining Information</b>	<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>(Week 8)</b>
<b>6. Death Investigations</b>	<b>Chapter 8</b>	<b>(Week 9)</b>
<b>7. Sex Crimes</b>	<b>Chapter 10</b>	<b>(Week 10)</b>
<b>8. Robbery</b>	<b>Chapter 12</b>	<b>(Week 11)</b>
<b>9. Burglary</b>	<b>Chapter 13</b>	<b>(Week 12)</b>
<b>10. Arson and Explosives</b>	<b>Chapter 16</b>	<b>(Week 13)</b>
<b>11. Presenting Cases in Court</b>	<b>Chapter 21</b>	<b>(Weeks 14 &amp; 15)</b>