

Course Objectives: The course is designed to familiarize students with:

1. The history of forensic serology.
2. The techniques that are used to determine the body fluid types.
3. A detailed description of the serological methods and their significance.
4. The composition of the stains such as neat and mixtures and their significance.

Intended Student Audience: This course is primarily directed towards students who will be pursuing a career in forensic sciences. Undergraduate students who have completed their degree with a biology background are eligible to take this course.

Learning outcome: Upon completion of this course, the students will understand the history and development of the forensic serology test markers. They will learn the theory and the principle behind the tests for some of the commonly encountered body fluids like blood, semen and saliva. The students will familiarize with some of the tests and interpretations that are carried out by the technical investigators and/or the crime scene investigators on site.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a serious offense. Any written or oral presentation in which the writer or speaker does not distinguish clearly between original and borrowed material constitutes plagiarism. An act of plagiarism may lead to failing grade on the work involved and in the course. Please refer to the USM student hand book for more details.

ADA Syllabus Statement: If a student has a disability under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Address: The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Telephone: (601)266-5024 or (228)214-3232

FAX: (601) 266-6035

Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay Service at 1-800-582-2233 (TTY) or email Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@USM.edu.

Suggested Text book:

James, Stuart H. and Nordby, Jon J. Forensic Science: An Introduction to Scientific and Investigative Techniques, Second Edition, Taylor and Francis CRC Press 2005.