Fingerprinting Techniques Laboratory (FSC 340L) – Fall 2017

Instructor: Dean Bertram, Ph.D.
AKH 103
Dean.Bertram@usm.edu
Office Hours: MW: 9:30am-12:30pm; 1pm-2pm
TuTh: 12pm-1pm

Lab Coordinator: Kayce Lowe
AKH 113
Kayce.Lowe@usm.edu
Office Hours: Tu-Th: 9am-12pm

Teaching Assistant: Ashley Aucoin
AKH 113
Ashley.Aucoin@usm.edu
Office Hours:
W: 8am-10am; Fr: 8am-11am
Th: 1pm-4pm

Class: FSC 140L {1 Credit Hour}
Place: Arthell Kelley Hall, Room #107
Time:
Section 1: Friday, 12:00PM – 1:50PM
Section 2: Wednesday, 11:00AM – 12:50PM
Section 3: Friday, 2:00PM – 3:50PM

Important deadline dates:
Aug. 16: Classes begin. Add/drop and late registration begins.
Aug. 23: Last day to drop full semester classes without academic/financial penalty. After this date, no tuition refund whatsoever will be issued, and all approved drops (through October 27) will result in a grade of W.
Sept. 4: Labor Day holiday.
Oct. 19-20: Fall Break.
Oct. 27: Last day to withdraw from the University and receive a grade of W. (After this date, students will earn a letter grade for all enrolled courses).
Nov. 22-24: Thanksgiving holidays.

Course Description and Objective
This course is intended to give students insight into the science of fingerprinting. Upon completion of this course, students should have an understanding in taking known ten print cards, imaging fingerprints, recovering latent print, comparing prints, classifying prints, and ACE-V methodology. Students should not only be able to effectively demonstrate the uses of different physical and chemical developers, but should also know how to use the AFIX Tracker to input and compare latent prints.

Classroom Demeanor Policy
Students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior during class sessions. The barometer for assessing unprofessional behavior is the reasonable anticipation test, defined as anything for which an average student should anticipate as unprofessional. Violation of this policy can result in removal from the class until the department head requests readmission. Examples of such intolerable behavior include disrespect (toward any class member), gossip, and excessive and unnecessary cell phone usage.

Grading Scale
A=90+  B=80-89  C=70-79  D=60-69  F=Below 60

Grading Policy
Quizzes 15% (One drop grade will be allowed)
Lab Reports 25% (One drop grade will be allowed)
Practical #1 = 25%
Practical #2 = 25%
Courtroom Exhibit = 10%
Total Points Possible 100%
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Laboratory Requirements

Labs/Attendance/Class Participation:
Laboratory attendance is mandatory since labs will include substantial material not covered in the lecture course or text. NO MAKE-UP LABS WILL BE GIVEN, except to accommodate a medical emergency for which proper documentation has been provided. If the student knows a laboratory will be missed, it is his/her responsibility to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor to substitute another lab that week. Because ample opportunity is given to students for substituting labs, only one unexcused absence will be allowed per semester without penalty. When a student misses two labs unexcused, he/she will be dropped one letter grade for each absence. If four classes are missed by a student, a grade of F for the semester will be automatically issued.

Required Materials: Students are required to obtain and bring the following materials to lab:

1. Safety Lab Coat
2. Safety Goggles or Glasses
3. Closed Toe Shoes

Should a student not come prepared with the necessary materials for lab, he/she cannot participate in the lab and will be given a “0” for that lab.

Communication with Instructor: A USM Email address is required for course communication between instructor and students. All announcements and notifications about the lab will be sent to your USM Outlook email (e.g. firstname.lastname@usm.edu). For safety and per USM policy, the instructor will not accept e-mails outside of the USM e-mail. If you are having trouble setting up your USM student e-mail, please contact the iTech helpdesk located on the first floor of the Cook Library, or by calling (601) 266-4357.

***Each week’s lab will be e-mailed to your USM e-mail. Each student is required to print out and bring to class the activity for that week. Failure to do so could result in a deduction of points.

Lab Procedure:
1. Lab reports will be turned in at the beginning of class before quizzes are distributed.
2. A timed quiz will be administered by the instructor.
3. The activity will be discussed and any questions should be asked during this time.
4. Conduct the required experiments for that day’s activity.
5. Clean up your workspace when done with the lab assignment(s).
6. Before you leave, make sure the instructor has initialed any data collected or assignments completed (points may be deducted for any data not initialed).

Lab Reports: Students are required to maintain lab reports that must be turned in at the beginning of your assigned lab time (unless alternate plans are made for a different lab time). Lab reports are considered late if they are not turned in at the beginning of normal lab time before quizzes are distributed. Late lab reports will accrue a 10% penalty for each day not turned in to the instructor. Lab report guidelines and rubric will be discussed during the first lab.

Quizzes: A quiz will be given each week at the beginning of the laboratory period. Quizzes will be based on the material covered in the previous lab as well as the activity to be performed on the day of the quiz. NO MAKE-QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. If the student knows that he/she will miss a quiz, it is his/her responsibility to make necessary arrangements with the instructor to meet with another laboratory that week.
Courtroom Exhibit: A courtroom exhibit is used by latent print experts (among others) to justify their testimony on whether a latent print matches the known print. It is displayed using both prints in a side-by-side comparison to show which minutiae points are the same. The match score, or the score given by the AFIX (Automated Fingerprint Identification System), can also be displayed to show how well the latent print matched the known print. The exhibit will be due the week of November 27.

Practicals: Two practicals will be given during the semester during the scheduled lab periods. The first practical will be based on all material covered in lab up until that point in the term, and also will be followed by a written proponent. The second practical will be based on all material covered in lab since (but not including) the completion of the first practical. **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN.** If the student knows he/she will miss an exam, it is his/her responsibility to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor to meet with another laboratory that week.

ADA Syllabus Statement
If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans 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

Voice 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.

Academic Integrity Syllabus Statement
All students at The University of Southern Mississippi are expected to demonstrate the highest levels of academic integrity in all that they do. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):

1. Cheating (including copying from others’ work)
2. Plagiarism (representing another person’s words or ideas as your own; failure to properly cite the source of your information, argument, or concepts)
3. Falsification of documents
4. Disclosure of test or other assignment content to another student
5. Submission of the same paper or other assignment to more than one class without the explicit approval of all faculty members involved
6. Unauthorized academic collaboration with others
7. Conspiracy to engage in academic misconduct

Engaging in any of these behaviors or supporting others who do so will result in academic penalties and/or other sanctions. If a faculty member determines that a student has violated our Academic Integrity Policy, sanctions ranging from resubmission of work to course failure may occur, including the possibility of receiving a grade of “XF” for the course, which will be on the student’s transcript with the notation “Failure due to academic misconduct.” For more details, please see the University’s Academic Integrity Policy. Note that repeated acts of academic misconduct will lead to expulsion from the University.