### **SAINT MARY HIGH SCHOOL**

### **Forensic Science Syllabus 2014-2015**

**Instructor:** Mr. Lopez

**Room:** 305/104

**E-mail:** alopez@stmaryhs.org

**School Website:** www.stmaryhs.org

**Textbook:**Gaensslen, Harris, Lee*. Introduction to Forensic Science and Criminalistics. McGraw Hill 2008.*

**Course Description**

This course is designed to provide an overview of the basic science concepts and techniques used in a forensic laboratory. The nature and significance of physical evidence and the underlying chemical and biological principles of the scientific techniques employed for analysis and the interpretation will be emphasized. Topics covered include hair, fiber, paint analysis, toxicology and serology, blood spatter, arson and explosives, fingerprinting and forensic DNA analysis techniques, and more.

**Expected Student Learning Outcomes\***

Upon completing the Forensic Science course, students should be able to:

* + Demonstrate understanding of the nature and role of forensic science
  + Recognize and identify the historical development of forensic science;
  + Analyze laboratory operations;
  + Discover the importance of anthropometry and fingerprinting ID;
  + How physical evidence is created during an incident;
  + Different types of laboratory analysis,
  + Shape and form patterns of handwritings

**Required Supplies**

* + 3 ring binder with plenty of paper
  + Black and/or dark blue ink pens and pencils
  + Highlighters
  + 1 folder with pockets
  + 1 composition notebook
  + USB Flashdrive/Jumpdrive

**Types of Assignments**

* + Reading- outside articles, text book
  + Essays- Narrative/Descriptive, Argument, Expository
  + In class timed-writings- Warm ups, text book questions, essays
  + Group Projects- team building, cooperative learning, group presentations
  + Portfolios- synthesize and tie essays and projects for reflection purposes

### **Grading**

### Each marking period will include **3-4 tests**/exams announced at least 5 days in advanced. Daily work may include class work, homework, quizzes, activities, and participation. Quizzes will be given at the end of each section and **could be announced or unannounced (pop quiz).**

***Major Projects*** --research projects may be assigned throughout the year.

Each project will include a handout of details, expectations, and grading.

1. Semester examination--the semester exam in this class is cumulative in
2. content is 100 questions.

**Break down – 40% Test/major projects**

**25% Labs/minimal projects**

**20% Quizzes**

**10% Homework /class work**

**5% Participation**

**Attendance Policy**

It is important to attend class and participate in class discussions and activities. Please make sure you follow the Saint Mary’s attendance policy in order to earn credit for the course. **(Student/parent handbook 2013-2014 p. 23)**

**Tardy Policy**

You must be in class before the bell rings. There will be consequences enforced for all tardiness: 1st Tardy = verbal warning, 2nd Tardy = parent contact, 3rd tardy = 30 mn detention, 4th tardy = office referral, 5th + tardy = administrative action

**Assignment/Make Up Policy**

* + **I AM NOT INCLINED TO ACCEPT LATE WORK**. However, I do understand that emergency situations may prevent a student from turning in an assignment on time. In these emergency situations, a student may submit a daily assignment no more than 1 days late. An assignment turned in one day late may not receive credit higher than a 70%. An assignment turned in two days late may not receive credit higher than a 50. On the third day, the assignment will no longer be accepted. For major assignments, students have ample time to complete and no late work will be accepted. If there are extinuating circumstances, the student must speak to me privately and I will discuss with him/her on a one to one basis.
  + **MISSED ASSIGNMENTS ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**! If you have an excused absence that keeps you from either turning in an assignment or receiving instructions for an assignment, it is your duty to talk to me about the assignment as soon as you return. You may also email.
  + **MAKE UP WORK** is designated for students who have excused absences. If you are absent and it is excused, you must speak to me about any make up work *the day you return*. **You will have only as many days as you were out to submit the assigned work.**  I am available during tutoring hours to discuss assignments missed. Please see me privately to discuss your assignments. Otherwise, there will be no opportunity to make up assignments not turned in on time.

**Plagiarism/Cheating**

Please read carefully and sign, along with your parents, the attached consent form regarding academic integrity. Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated. There are severe consequences for those involved with academic dishonesty.

**Blogs**

All students will have the ability to check assignments, test dates, and projects to be done during the week in my blog.

I AM HERE TO HELP YOU AND BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS CLASS! LET US HAVE A BLESSED AND GREAT YEAR! LET US HAVE FUN.

SAINT MARY!!!!

Pray for us!