El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Approved

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Subject and Number: Administration of Justice 142
Descriptive Title: Introduction to Digital Evidence
Course Disciplines: Administration of Justice
Division: Industry and Technology

Catalog Description:
This course provides students with an understanding of digital crime scene investigation. Topics include court presentation of evidence requirements involving digital forensic evidence, digital imaging and metadata. Recognized legal and professional standards will be reviewed. Students will be exposed to contemporary digital forensic tools and processes used in collecting digital evidence from seizure to the admission as evidence in a criminal trial. Procedural and legal issues in the handling, processing and examination of digital evidence will be studied. Students will learn about methods of handling the chain of custody regarding some digital evidence and discovery procedures.

Conditions of Enrollment:
Recommended Preparation: Administration of Justice 100 and English A

Course Length: X Full Term   Other (Specify number of weeks):
Hours Lecture: 3.00 hours per week TBA
Hours Laboratory: 0 hours per week TBA
Course Units: 3.00

Grading Method: Letter
Credit Status: Associate Degree Credit

Transfer CSU: X   **Effective Date: 10/19/2015**
Transfer UC: No

General Education:
 El Camino College:

CSU GE:

IGETC:

II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)

1. Students will achieve an understanding of metadata, and a proficiency in recognizing, locating, recovering, and collecting the data from a digital forensic file.
2. Students will describe the uses of metadata, and its digital forensic evidentiary value.
3. Students will be able to recognize, locate, process, and examine digital forensic evidence from initial crime scene investigations, and continuing investigations, as the items proceed through the criminal justice system, from seizure to testing to the full scrutiny of the courts.

The above SLOs were the most recent available SLOs at the time of course review. For the most current SLO statements, visit the El Camino College SLO webpage at http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/slo/.

B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)

1. Compare and contrast digital evidence collection methods at crime scenes/incident scenes.
   Objective Exams

2. Analyze rules of evidence that apply to digital evidence, both federal and California examples.
   Essay exams

3. Describe the various computer document formats and evidentiary issues with those formats.
   Essay exams

4. Categorize the effects of the discovery process as it relates to documents, writings, audio, electronic, official records, and photography.
   Multiple Choice

5. Evaluate the role of courtroom electronics and their relationship to the presentation of audio and visual evidence, and determine the appropriate technology to utilize to present the facts/evidence in a criminal trial.
   Class Performance

III. **OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)**

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	3	I	OVERVIEW OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE Digital evidence, legal background and purpose Prevalence and synopsis of landmark advances in digital evidence
Lecture	5	II	FORENSICS The use of science and technology to investigate and establish facts in crimes The history of digital imaging, digital resolution, and the Scientific Working Group for Imaging Technologies (SWGIT)
Lecture	3	III	CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT Digital procedures Special requirements First responder responsibilities
Lecture	6	IV	CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION AND THE APPLICATION OF DIGITAL FORENSICS Rules which apply to digital evidence Metadata Digital evidence handling, seizure requirements, documentation Chain of custody requirements
Lecture	3	V	APPLICATIONS OF DIGITAL FORENSICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE Digital still imaging Digital video SWGIT
Lecture	4	VI	DIGITAL EVIDENCE SEIZURES Potential sources of evidence Devices of evidentiary value Investigation methods
Lecture	6	VII	DIGITAL EVIDENCE VERSUS ANALOG METHODS Advantages and disadvantages Digital records Equipment requirements
Lecture	4	VIII	DIGITAL EVIDENCE FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS The role of the forensic examiner The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Regional Forensics Laboratory Handling digital evidence Metadata examinations
Lecture	3	IX	DIGITAL EVIDENCE Legal issues and challenges Equipment preparation

			Data acquisition Documentation requirements
Lecture	6	X	DIGITAL EVIDENCE ADMISSIBILITY IN COURT Rules covering digital evidence History of digital evidence What is "Original" in terms of digital evidence
Lecture	6	XI	PRESENTATION METHODS OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE Documentation/discovery procedures The digital courtroom Meeting the legal burden of discovery on criminal cases
Lecture	2	XII	SPECIAL RULES FOR DIGITAL EVIDENCE Guidelines from the SWGIT Standard operating procedures
Lecture	3	XIII	CRIMINAL COURT DIGITAL EVIDENCE EXERCISE Mock court demonstration Exercise with student participation
Total Lecture Hours	54		
Total Laboratory Hours	0		
Total Hours	54		

IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Substantial writing assignments

B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Examine a simulated piece of digital evidence, and locate and capture the Meta data forensic evidence. Prepare a one-page report describing the results and submit report to the instructor.

C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Given a photographic and word description of a potential digital forensic crime scene, analyze and document the appropriate possible sources of digital forensic evidence for collection and advanced examination. Prepare a one to two page report with the results and submit report to the instructor.

2. Given evidence to present in a criminal trial, identify the most effective method to present various items of evidence in court, determining the technology to utilize from a list of available items. Prepare a one to two page report outlining the results and submit report to the instructor.

D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:

Essay exams
Objective Exams
Embedded questions
Class Performance
Homework Problems
Term or other papers
Multiple Choice
Matching Items

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Demonstration
Discussion
Group Activities
Guest Speakers
Internet Presentation/Resources
Lecture
Multimedia presentations
Simulation

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS

Study
Answer questions
Required reading
Problem solving activities
Written work

Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 6

VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A. **UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS**
Randal Davis. Evidence Collection and Presentation. 2nd ed.   Law Tech Custom Publishing, 2016

B. **ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS**

C. **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS**

D. **OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS**
Access to personal computer: Windows or MAC

VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT

    A.   Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)

Requisites	Category and Justification

    B.   Requisite Skills

Requisite Skills

    C.   Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
Course Recommended Preparation AND Administration of Justice-100	
Course Recommended Preparation English-A	

    D.   Recommended Skills

Recommended Skills
Ability to compose a college essay. ENGL A - Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques.
ENGL A - Plan, write, and revise 500-word multi-paragraph expository essays including an introduction and conclusion, exhibiting coherence and unity, avoiding major grammatical and mechanical errors that interfere with meaning, and demonstrating awareness of audience, purpose, and language choice.
Describe future developments in the area of forensic evidence. AJ 100 - Identify and describe special issues in the criminal justice system involving juvenile delinquency, drugs, and the future development.
Discuss the concept of "chain of custody." AJ 100 - Convey an understanding of the process of adjudication

    E.   Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact

Course created by Craig Neumann on 07/15/2014.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 10/19/2015

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 11/19/2018

Last Reviewed and/or Revised by: ANDREW GULCHER   Date: September 28, 2018