LENF 2505: Criminal Investigations

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 2
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 4
OJT Hours/Week: 0
Prerequisites:
This course requires both of these prerequisites
LENF 1500 - Introduction to Criminal Justice
LENF 1530 - Minnesota Statutes
Corequisites: LENF 2500
MnTC Goals: None

This course examines the fundamentals of crime scene and post-crime scene investigation. Delivery of this instruction involves practical experience in each phase of the criminal investigative procedure. Learners examine the investigative continuum by involving themselves in a case scenario that includes actions taken by the initial officer on the scene, examination of the secured crime scene, and the methods involved in the collection of evidence. Learners continue the scenario in the secondary investigative phase which involves the interview process, drafting and execution of search warrants, interrogation of suspects, and case preparation. This course requires the learner to demonstrate interpersonal skills and hands-on application of evidence collection techniques. Prerequisites: LENF1500 and LENF1530.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 03/19/2019 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Understand what constitutes physical evidence and identify its value.
2. Understand the job tasks of the primary and secondary officers responding to the scene.
3. Understand what physical evidence is and identify its value.
4. Properly secure a possible crime scene.
5. Maintain physical control of a crime scene.
6. Search a crime scene for safety concerns and/or evidentiary items.
7. Document a crime scene, to include photography, sketches, and reports.
8. Cast impression evidence (foot, tire, and tool impressions).
9. Locate, lift and identify patterns of latent finger and palm prints.
10. Use chemical processes to locate latent finger and palm prints.
11. Collect samples of fingerprints, blood, and DNA.
12. Interview victims and witnesses to crimes.
13. Interrogate suspects of crimes.
14. Conduct field interviews during investigatory stops.
15. Prepare search warrants for various crimes.
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
   1. Successfully explain and demonstrate the job tasks of the first responding officer to a crime scene.
   2. Properly demonstrate and explain how a crime scene should be recorded, including sketching/measurements, photographing, collection of fingerprints, interviewing of witnesses/victims, handling of suspects, and written documentation of events.
   3. Properly evaluate and investigate various crime scenes.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies
   None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted