

Forensics Syllabus
2021 - 2022
Mr. Witkowski; mark.witkowski@hcps.org

Course Description:

Forensic Science is the application of science (chemistry, physics, and biology) to the criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. It includes the investigation of fingerprinting, fiber analysis, ballistics, arson, trace **evidence** analysis, poisons, drugs, blood spatters, and blood samples. Students are taught the proper collection, preservation, and laboratory analysis of various samples.

Materials:

Student: Three-ring notebook, Black or Blue pen, Pencil and eraser, Paper, Highlighters

Created in Classroom Sets for your use: Colored pencils, Crayons, Glue or Glue Sticks, Scissors, Rulers (English/metric)

Written Assignments:

Assignments are to be typed. If it is not possible the assignment must be written in black or blue ink. All assignments must have the following heading on the **TOP RIGHT OF THE PAGE**: If the heading is not complete points will be deducted.

Last name, First name
Date Period
Assignment: (Page / Section)

Notebook:

Your notebook, three-ring binder, is for you to be organized and have access to hand outs, assignments completed, and those that have been graded and returned. It is **YOUR** responsibility to keep organized and have any and all papers in the event any grades were miss recorded.

Labs/Class Activities:

Although students will often work in pairs or groups, each student will work independently on their write-up. Specific write ups for labs may/will be provided at a later date. Students are encouraged to diagram and sketch with colored pencils or markers. Work should be labeled in ink.

Homework:

Homework will be evaluated on a credit/no credit basis. A stamp on returned papers indicates full credit. Assignments will receive half credit if answers are incomplete or missing. The teacher is available before school, or by appointment to help students if questions arise on homework or labs. Late homework will not be accepted!

Tests:

Tests will be in the form of projects and activities. Therefore it is important that your best efforts be applied in the completion of all projects and activities.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

Cell Phone Policy:

Students will place their electronic devices (including, but not limited to, cell phones, listening devices, smart watches, laptops, and iPads), either on silent or off, in a teacher designated area as they enter each classroom. Teachers will review with students the specific location for each room. The devices will remain in the teacher designated areas unless teachers explicitly tell students to use them as a part of classroom instruction.

- Devices will remain in the teacher designated area during bathroom visits.
- Devices will be retrieved from the teacher designated area at the end of the class at the direction of the teacher.
- School-appropriate cellphone use is permitted during class changes and lunch. Students are not permitted to make phone calls during school hours.

· Students will NOT be permitted to carry their electronic devices in a book bag throughout the school day.

If the electronic device policy is violated, the student shall then be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, confiscation of the device as well as an office referral

Absent Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. Students will be given the number of class periods equal to the number of lawful class periods absent to turn in completed make up assignments without penalty. If a student is unlawfully absent, work will be accepted with a penalty of one letter grade off the assessed value. Work not submitted by following class then falls under the Late Work Policy.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time in order to earn full credit. Any assignment, (*product, process, or practice*) will be allowed to be turned in late for one letter grade deduction from the grade a student earns on the assignment. In order to earn credit for late assignments, students must submit assignments by the end of the day on Wednesday (except for the last week of the quarter) following the designated HAC update. Students are only able to submit assignments that have an established due date within the grading window before the designated HAC update. Assignment that are turned in for late credit will be identified by a footnote in HAC to include a statement about the deduction of a letter grade due to the lateness of the assignment.

Grading Window	Designated HAC Update	Late Work Due Date
September 8- September 24	September 24	September 29
September 27- October 13	October 13	October 20
October 14- October 29	October 29	November 5 (Friday)
November 8- November 19	November 19	November 24
November 22- December 10	December 10	December 15
December 13- January 13	January 13	January 21 (Friday)
January 24- February 11	February 11	February 16
February 14- February 25	February 25	March 2
February 28- March 11	March 11	March 16
March 14- March 25	March 25	March 31 (Thursday)
April 1- April 22	April 22	April 27
April 25- May 6	May 6	May 11
May 11- May 20	May 20	May 25

HCPS Grading Policy:

Examples of Product, Process, and Practice

PRODUCT (50%)

Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge

Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?

- ❖ Cumulative tests
- ❖ Unit tests
- ❖ Vocabulary and other quizzes

PROCESS (30%)

Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes

Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards, and competencies?

- ❖ In class activities and labs
- ❖ Graded Classwork
- ❖ Assignments

Practice (20%)

Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills

Does it all students to practice skill and/or reinforce content?

- ❖ Homework
- ❖ Vocabulary practice
- ❖ Various classwork practice for completion.

Special Note:

NOT ALL HOMEWORK OR CLASS WORK WILL BE GRADED! This work is an extension of the class and/or supports the concepts studied. This work assists students in the understanding and application of concepts so as to demonstrate comprehension and understanding. Though this work is not graded, it must be completed as it directly supports and enhances classroom experiences not allowed by time constraints of the class.

Office Hours and Contact Information:

Office hours are from 7:00 AM to 7:20 AM M – F