



# Coastal Bend COLLEGE

## Administrative Master Syllabus

### Cover Sheet

**Purpose:** The Administrative Master Syllabus provides a general course description, defines the required elements of the course, and establishes a faculty-driven foundation for course assessment to ensure continuous improvement in student learning, irrespective of the course timeframe, or mode of course delivery.

Course Title:

Course Prefix and Number:

THECB Approval Number (10 digit):

Department:  Division:

Course Type: (check only one)

- Academic General Education Course (From ACGM but not a CBC Core Course)
- Academic CBC Core Course
- WECM Course (Special Topics or Unique Needs Course: Y  or N  )

Weekly Contact Hours (Lecture – Lab – External):  -  -

**Course Catalog Description:**

Concepts, investigations process, scene management, required documentation and case management for incidences of homicide, undetermined causes of death, and sudden infant death. Exploration of various federal, state, and local investigative requirements. Follows the Department of Justice National Guidelines for Death Investigations. Also meets the criteria for academic credit recognition from the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.

**Prerequisites/Co-requisites:**

Pre-Requisite: CRIJ 1307/CJSA 1312, CRIJ 1306/CJSA 1313, CRIJ 2314/CJSA 1342, CJSA 2332, and CJSA 1400, or program director approval  
Co-Requisite: CRIJ 2323/CJSA 2300, or program director approval

**Approval:** The contents of this document have been reviewed and are found to be accurate.

Prepared by (Content Expert):  Digitally signed by Dr. Lisa C. Bowman-Bowen  
Date: 2022.02.16 15:08:22 -06'00'

Reviewed by Director or Coordinator:  Digitally signed by Dr. Lisa C. Bowman-Bowen  
Date: 2022.02.16 15:08:41 -06'00'

Approved by Dean of CTE or NAH or TGE: 



# Coastal Bend COLLEGE

## Master Course Syllabus

### Course Name: CJSA 1401 Death Investigations II – (VWC Capstone)

**Course Description:** Concepts, investigations process, scene management, required documentation, and case management for incidences of natural, accidental, and suicidal deaths. Follows the Department of Justice National Guidelines for Death Investigations and meets the criteria for academic credit recognition from the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.

This course is a Capstone Experience as required by The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, under Guidelines for Instructional Programs in Workforce Education (GIPWE):

The capstone is a learning experience resulting in consolidation of a student's educational experience and certifies mastery of entry-level workplace competencies. The method providing for this experience is:

(3) a discipline-specific project involving the integration of various teams of students performing activities to simulate situations that may occur in the workplace.

**Semester Hour Credit: 4**

**Lecture Hrs. per Week/Lab Hrs. per Week/External Hrs. per Week: 3/3/0**

**Curriculum Capacity:**

**Face-to-Face Lab: 15**  
**Online Lab**  
**Face-to-Face Lecture: 15**  
**Online**  
**Virtual Face-to-Face**  
**Interactive video (multi-locations)**  
**Hybrid**  
**Clinical**

**Recommended enrollment threshold:**

**Face-to-Face Lab: 5**  
**Online Lab**  
**Face-to-Face Lecture: 5**  
**Online**

Virtual Face-to-Face  
Interactive video (multi-locations)  
Hybrid  
Clinical

**Textbook and/or other major required readings:**

**Title:** Practical Homicide Investigation  
**Author:** Geberth  
**Publisher:** CRC Press  
**Edition:** 5th  
**ISBN:** 978-1482235074

**The Student Learning Outcomes for the course are the same regardless of modality or location.**

**Course Outcomes  
(WECM or LDACGM)**

Student Learning Outcomes – Subject Matter Specific (SLOS):

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Exhibit proficiency in scene protection and investigation;
2. Complete written reports related to state regulations;
3. Recognize and synthesize attributes of homicide and undetermined Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS);
4. Provide bereavement solace to victims of loss;
5. Implement the Department of Justice National Guidelines for Death Investigation.

**The following general education course competencies (TGE) or Marketable SCAN Skills (CTE/NAH) are addressed in this course: General education course competencies (TGE) or Marketable SCAN Skills (CTE/NAH) assessed are indicated with an asterisk \*.**

Student Learning Outcomes – Marketable SCAN Skills (SLOM):

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Exhibit proficiency in crime scene protection and investigation using complex problem-solving skills incorporating proper procedures.
2. Present effective written communication within reporting documents aligned with state regulations for a comprehensive case simulation.
3. Demonstrate scientific knowledge of homicide elements, as well as determination of accidental and/or medical events.
4. Exhibit advanced social perceptiveness skills in the understanding of the bereavement process encountered by direct-related and indirect-related persons towards the deceased.
5. Employ learned strategies in the proper methods for interpreted findings, evidence preparation, and reconstruction drawings for presentation.

6. Display advanced active learning skills through the demonstration of physical evidence and related mock testimony.
7. Indicate advanced critical thinking skills during evidence collection, photographic documentation, and scene capture with field equipment utilizing prior learned methods.
8. Determine proper judgement and decision-making strategies reliant on knowledge of legal codes, procedures, rules, and regulation.

**The following program student learning outcome are assessed for this course:**

Program Level (PLO)(as related to this course)

This course provides instructional elements in partial requirements to the following:

1. Demonstrate the ability to process a crime scene pursuant to evidentiary standards with emphasis on collecting, packaging, chain of custody, and evidence control.
2. Outline inductive/deductive reasoning processes and communication techniques utilized in interviewing of witnesses, interrogation of suspects, and consulting of victims and their families.
3. Provide detailed reporting documents and related legal procedural forms as related to the forensic science of crime scene investigation and analysis.
4. Prepare testimonial evidence and demonstration of physical evidence for criminal and civil court processes.
5. Demonstrate the ability to present technical information, without bias, in a manner suitable for various targeted audiences, in written form and/or oral presentation as related to event reconstruction.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of relevant equipment, policies, procedures, and strategies to promote effective local, state, or national security and safety operations for the protection of people, data, property, and institutions.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of laws, legal codes, court procedures, precedents, government regulations, executive orders, agency rules, and the democratic political process, with emphasis on Federal and State constitutions.

**Evaluation Methods:**

Activity Types	SLOS	SLOM	PLO	Weights (%)
Introductory quiz and/or introductory access to Blackboard or 3 <sup>rd</sup> party platform				3.0
Periodic quizzes and/or Mid-Term assessments	3	3, 8	2, 6, 7	7.0
Technology-Based application and demonstration	1, 4	1, 2,4, 5, 7	4, 5, 6	10.0
Final Course Assessment	3	3, 8	2, 6, 7	30.0
Capstone: Mock Simulation assignment	All	All	All	50.0
Total:				100%

\*\*Instructor should remain in relevant range of stated weights\*\*

**Course Grading:** Please see individualized instructor policies for course evaluation methods. Students will be assessed on the same measure across each discipline as per CBC guidelines.

**Major Course Assignments and/or exams counting for at least 10% of a final course grade:**

- Technology-Based application and demonstration
- Final Course Assessment
- Capstone: Mock Simulation assignment

**Grade Scale:**

Final grades for all CRIJ/CJSA courses will be based in the following manner:  
 A = 90% - 100%  
 B = 80% - 89%  
 C = 70% - 79%  
 D = 60% - 69%  
 F = 59% or Below

**Course Subject Matter Outline:**

<b>Material</b>
<b>Collection of Evidence</b>
Procedures for Collection of Evidence
General Types of Evidence
<b>The Autopsy</b>
The Medical Examiner/Coroner
The Medicolegal Autopsy
<b>The News Media in Homicide Investigations</b>
The Changing Media Dynamic in the New Millennium
<b>Identification of Suspects</b>
ViCAP, and Statewide and Regional Information Systems
<b>Investigative Assessment: Criminal Personality Profiling</b>
Investigative Assessment: The Profiling Process
<b>Equivocal Death Investigation</b>
Initiating the Investigation
<b>Narcotics-Related Homicides</b>
The Three-Phase Strategy
<b>Practical Homicide Investigation: Supervision and Management of the Homicide Investigation</b>
Management Policy
Police Department Policy
Reviews: 1) Course Specific and 2) Program Specific to overall knowledge of prior and co-coordinating courses

**Additional Course Requirements:**

Students shall be provided a supplemental class document containing, but not limited to: instructor contact and availability information, including student guidance hours and class meeting times and locations, as well as, policies related to course grading, class attendance (both in-person and online), classroom policies, assignment/submission detailed due dates, late assignment provisions, and general information on the nature and calculations of required elements for testing and other assessments.

**Class Attendance and Classroom Conduct Policies**

**Attendance Policy:** Please see individualized instructor policies for attendance, which is pursuant to any related policy as outlined by the college handbook, financial aid agreements, or any other college related understanding (e.g. athletics, organizations).

**Telephone Support:** Toll Free: 866-722-2838 or Direct Line: 361-354-2508

**I.T. Support Blackboard**

<http://coastalbend.edu/it/>

IT Help Desk  
1-361-354-2508

[helpdesk@coastalbend.edu](mailto:helpdesk@coastalbend.edu)

**Live Chat:** Fall/Spring Hours: Monday - Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Summer Hours: Monday – Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Tutoring Services:** Coastal Bend College is committed to the academic success of all students enrolled at the college. A variety of services, including academic support, individual tutoring sessions, group tutoring sessions, and online tutoring, are available to students depending on the availability of tutors for the subject matter requested. All tutoring is provided at no cost to current CBC students who are currently enrolled at CBC. On-demand tutoring services are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week through the TutorMe platform, which may be accessed through your Blackboard account. To request a tutor, please complete the online tutor request form found at <http://www.coastalbend.edu/tutoring/> to submit your request. If you have any questions about tutoring programs, you can contact to [tutoring@coastalbend.edu](mailto:tutoring@coastalbend.edu).

Beeville	Alice	Kingsville	Pleasanton
3800 Charco Road Beeville, TX 78102 1-866-722-2838	704 Coyote Trail Alice, TX 78332 1-866-891-2981	1814 Brahma Blvd. Kingsville, TX 78363 1-866-262-1615	1411 Bensdale Pleasanton, TX 78064 1-866-361-4222

**Grady C. Hogue Learning Resource Center (Library):** Located on the Beeville campus, the operation hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

(Summer semesters will observe the CBC campus operation hours) For locations and hours of the CBC library in Alice, Kingsville, and Pleasanton sites please visit the library web page link below.

Grady C. Hogue Learning Resource Center (Library): <http://lrc.coastalbend.edu/about>

**Financial Aid:** Resources are available for students for financial aid, work study, and veteran benefits. For additional information, visit our website at <http://coastalbend.edu/finaid> or contact us at 361-354-2238. Office hours: Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**ADA Statement:** No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of the College District, or be subjected to discrimination by the College District. Nor shall the College District exclude or otherwise deny equal services, programs, or activities to an individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the individual is known to have a relationship or association. 42 U.S.C. 12132; 28 CFR 35.130(g). See at: [GA \(Legal\)](#)

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student would like to request class accommodations, please complete the online request form by logging onto [www.coastalbend.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.coastalbend.edu/disabilityservices/). Students who wish to request accommodations should submit documentation that: establishes a disability, details the current functional impact of that disability, confirms the need for each accommodation requested, establishes a direct link between the underlying disability and the requested accommodation. For more information, please contact the Office of Disability Services at [disabilityservices@coastalbend.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@coastalbend.edu).

**Scholastic Dishonesty:** Each student is charged with notice and knowledge of the contents and provisions of Coastal Bend College's rules and regulations concerning student conduct. All students shall obey the law, show respect for properly constituted authority, and observe correct standards of conduct. Scholastic dishonesty shall constitute a violation of these rules and regulations and is punishable as prescribed by Coastal Bend College Policies FLB (Local) and FM (Local). Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. See at: [FLB \(Local\)](#) and [FM \(Local\)](#).

**Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students:** All students should be familiar with the college's official email student notification policy. Students are expected to check their CBC email on a frequent and regular basis to stay current with college-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical.

**Copyright Law and Intellectual Property Rights Policy:** Copyright is the right of an author, artist, composer or other creator of a work of authorship to control the use of his or her work by others. Protection extends to literary works, musical works, dramatic works, pantomimes and choreographic works, pictorial and graphic works, sculpture, motion pictures and other audiovisual works, sound recordings and architectural works. Generally speaking, a copyrighted work may not be reproduced by others without the copyright owner's permission. The public display or performance of copyrighted works is similarly restricted. Generally, the unauthorized reproduction, performance or distribution of a copyrighted work is copyright infringement and may subject the infringer to civil and criminal penalties. The Fair Use Doctrine outlines exceptions to this Law and is outlined in Coastal Bend College Policy, [CT \(Legal\)](#).



Coastal Bend College, its faculty, students and employees must comply with Copyright Law. Detailed information on Copyright Law and Intellectual Property Rights is available in Coastal Bend College Policy [CT \(Legal\)](#) and [CT \(Local\)](#).

Questions regarding this information should be directed to the Director of Library Services at: [library@coastalbend.edu](mailto:library@coastalbend.edu) or the Office of Marketing and Public Relations at: [socialmedia@coastalbend.edu](mailto:socialmedia@coastalbend.edu).

**Intellectual Property:** Student /Third Party Works: Rights to copyrightable or patentable works created by a student or a third party, that is, not a College District employee, shall reside with the author/ creator. Detailed information on Copyright Law and Intellectual Property Rights is available in Coastal Bend College Policy [CT \(Legal\)](#) and [CT \(Local\)](#).

Questions regarding this information should be directed to the Director of Library Services at: [library@coastalbend.edu](mailto:library@coastalbend.edu) or the Office of Marketing and Public Relations at: [socialmedia@coastalbend.edu](mailto:socialmedia@coastalbend.edu).

**NOTE:** The College website (<http://coastalbend.edu>) serves as the main source with the most current version of the Coastal Bend College Board Policies and the Coastal Bend College Catalog.

Student success is our number one priority at Coastal Bend College and we realize that prompt, effective communication (such as emails, assignment feedback, discussion boards and announcements) plays a significant role in achieving that goal. It is vitally important that you have the proper contact information for your instructor. This should include their phone number, email address, and if applicable, their office number, and office hours. **Faculty schedules can be located online at <http://coastalbend.edu/hb2504/>** If you have any problems contacting your instructor, or do not receive a prompt response to your inquiries, please contact the Dean or Division Coordinator/Program Director as soon as possible. Their contact information is provided below:

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Jarod Bleibdrey</i> <i>Dean of Career and Technical Education</i> <i>361-354-2339</i> <i>jbleibdrey@coastalbend.edu</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lisa C. Bowman-Bowen</i> <i>Public and Professional Services</i> <i>Coordinator</i> <i>(361) 664-2981 ext. 3005</i> <i>lbowman-bowen@coastalbend.edu</i></p>
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We wish you all the best in your education and encourage you to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Keeping student success in sight, faculty in each of the courses will review the course information, including specific reading schedules, assignments, and testing information, with students during the first week of class.

Additionally, the course information will be posted to Blackboard.



**This master syllabus is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.**