



COURSE DATA

Data Subject

Code	35075
Name	Criminal Analysis Techniques
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1302 - Degree in Criminology	Faculty of Law	2	Second term
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	Faculty of Law	2	Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1302 - Degree in Criminology	15 - Forensic techniques	Obligatory
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	3 - Year 2 compulsory subjects	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
GARCIA PEREZ, MIGUEL ANGEL	194 - Genetics
PIQUERAS GARCIA, CARMEN	315 - Physical Chemistry

SUMMARY

The advance of the techniques in physic-chemistry, genetics, biochemistry and molecular biology in the last 60 years have allowed the application and adaptation to the peculiarities presented by the samples collected at the crime scene. , This technology is put to use in laboratories where forensic scientists works to obtain relevant information from biological materials (hair, semen, saliva, blood ...) or chemical (drugs, explosives, poisons, drugs ...). The subject of "Techniques in criminal analysis" aims to bring professional in criminology at the laboratory where these tests are performed. With this subject we aim that students learn about the scientific language employed in criminal analysis and also about the scientific basis of the different techniques used in the laboratory. Additionally we want student to know the applications that this techniques have in criminology.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)

1302 - Degree in Criminology

- Saber discernir la adecuación de solicitar determinadas pruebas forenses. G:1,9 y E: 4, 12,22
- Conocer con propiedad los conceptos empleados en los laboratorios forenses y en los informes periciales. G:1 y E:4, 11, 12 ,14

LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)

The course is designed so students, as a result of the learning, acquire the following competencies:

- Be able to discern about the appropriateness of applying or demanding certain forensic test.
- To properly know the concepts used in forensic laboratories and reports.
- Be able to cooperate with different expert in forensic analysis in the field of chemical, toxicological and molecular biology.
- To learn the methodology and instrumental techniques used in forensic laboratories.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. The DNA, the molecule that carries the genetic material

Definition of gene

Biochemical and Structural Properties of DNA

Genes are located on chromosomes

What gives us DNA? Daubert standard

2. Flow of genetic information

DNA Replication

Central Dogma of molecular biology (one gene, one protein)

Transcription and Translation

Variability in proteins



3. Sources of DNA in forensic applications. Collection and processing of biological samples

Where do we find DNA?

Main sources of DNA in forensic applications
Different types of DNA in forensic applications
Biological samples. Collection and processing
DNA manipulation in the laboratory

4. Basic laws of inheritance

One gene, one locus, multiple alleles
Basic laws of inheritance: Mendel and his peas
Calculating the probability of transmitting a character
Interpretation of a pedigree
Basic patterns of inheritance
Prediction of physical and psychic traits

5. Genetic variability in populations

Where to find genetic variability
Types of DNA markers
Inheritance of genetic markers
mitochondrial DNA
DNA markers and probabilistic analysis.

6. Techniques for the detection and analysis of nucleic acids and proteins

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
Genetic fingerprinting by PCR
Immunological techniques for the detection of proteins and other substances.
Protein Electrophoresis

7. Physical and electrochemical techniques

Physical techniques: mass and volume measurements. Forensic light sources. Microscopies. Detection of radioactive elements. Electrochemical techniques: measurement of pH and conductivity.

8. Identification of toxic chemicals

Atomic spectroscopy techniques: Emission, Atomic Absorption and Fluorescence, for the identification and quantification of toxic chemical elements

**9. Identification of narcotic drugs and toxic substances (I)**

Molecular spectroscopy techniques: Ultraviolet-Visible Absorption, Fluorescence Emission, Infrared Absorption and Raman Dispersion, for the identification and quantification of narcotic drugs and toxic substances.

10. Identification of narcotic drugs and toxic substances (II)

Separation techniques: Electrophoresis, Chromatography, Ionic Mobility Spectrometry and Mass Spectrometry, for identification and quantification of narcotic drugs and toxic substances.

11. Instrumental Techniques Laboratory**12. The Molecular Genetics Laboratory I: Introduction****13. The Laboratory of Molecular Genetics I: biochemical and genetic markers for people identification****WORKLOAD**

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	40,00	100
Laboratory practices	20,00	100
Development of group work	10,00	0
Study and independent work	30,00	0
Preparing lectures	40,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	10,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The development of the course is structured in weekly session of 2 hours and 30 min and 5 laboratory sessions that will be spread throughout the course.

During the weekly sessions in the classroom the most important aspects of each topic will be reviewed. In these sessions students will be encouraged to actively participate through the inclusion during the sessions of short questions related to the topic.



In the laboratory sessions the students will get in contact with the methodology used in forensic laboratories while also consolidating the knowledge acquired in the theoretical sessions.

Finally, the individual study will be used to consolidate the knowledge acquired and will be evaluated through a written test.

Optionally (if the schedule allows it) students will attend conferences and seminars on issues related to the subject.

EVALUATION

Learning assessment will be determined evaluating different aspects. To do this, the final mark of the subject is calculated based on the marks obtained in the following parts:

Part A: 70% of the final score will correspond to a written test to be held at the end of the course.

Part B: 30% of the final score will correspond to the assessment of laboratory practices. This block will be assessed considering the attendance at laboratory sessions and attitude of the student during the same (30% of the block). The knowledge acquired will be assessed (70% of the block) with the presentation of a report to discuss the results obtained during the practical sessions.

It should be noted that attendance at laboratory sessions is essential to pass the course.

Additionally, in the last section of the course and on a voluntary basis, students may prepare a written assignment, a seminar or other activities always proposed by the responsible teachers, on topics related to the subject as established by the responsible teachers (Part C). These works may contribute together up to 1 additional point in total to the final grade. The works will be delivered through the Virtual Classroom in the task created for this purpose. These works may be reviewed with the utilities against plagiarism of the University of Valencia and may be penalized according to the level of plagiarism of the work.

To pass the course, it will be necessary to obtain an overall mark higher than 5/10 between parts A (70%) and B (30%), with a minimum mark of 4.5 / 10 in part A and 5/10 in part B. Students who do not pass the subject in the first call of the course, will keep the grade of the approved part (A or B), if applicable, as well as of part C for the second call.

In case of not passing the subject, only the qualification obtained in part B will be kept, if the student so wishes, up to a maximum of three academic years following the one in which the laboratory practices were carried out.

Students who are not assessed in any of the parts A and B, will appear as NO PRESENTED in the official marks.

**REFERENCES****Basic**

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- Francisco Antón Barberá, Juan Vicente de Luis Turégano (2012). POLICÍA CIENTÍFICA 2 VOLS. 5ª EDICIÓN. Ed. Tirant lo Blanch. Ciencia Policial. ISBN 978-8490046531
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Additional

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- International Society for Forensic Genetics: www.isfg.org
- DNAi.org (DNA interactive): <http://www.dnai.org/index.htm>