

**University of Rhode Island
College Of Pharmacy
BPS 102, Criminal Investigation:
Scientific Evidence II, Spring 2026**

Office Location: Dennis Hilliard, Fogarty Hall, Room 49
Telephone: 401-874-5056
Email: dhilliard@uri.edu
Class Days/Time: Fridays from noon-6 pm
Classroom: Fogarty Hall, room 28
Primary Instructors: Mark Zabinski: mzabinski@uri.edu
Jimmy Clift: jclift822@verizon.net

Covid Protocols

- If COVID protocols are changed at any time, the course will follow all URI requirements and recommendations.
- Students experiencing symptoms of illness should not come to class. Please stay home and notify URI Health Services by phone at 401-874-2256.
- If you are already on campus and feel ill, go home and self-isolate. Call URI Health Services immediately at 401-874-2256 to notify them.
- If you are unable to attend class, please notify me: dhilliard@uri.edu

Course Description

Specialized crime scene investigation techniques include firearms, arson, sexual assault, and homicide. Examine physical evidence such as firearms, bloodstains, glass, and other trace evidence. Use digital photography, computer software, alternate light sources, fluorescent powders, and other chemical fingerprint techniques. Fingerprint comparisons. Court presentation.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, each student will be able to:

- Understand and demonstrate crime scene documentation and forensic evidence collection concepts.
- Properly identify, collect, and process a variety of forensic crime scene evidence.
- Capably explain each procedure and the results in detail to ensure a thorough and complete understanding.

Required Textbooks

- Crime Scene Photography, 3rd Edition, by Edward Robinson, 2016, Academic Press-Elsevier, Inc. ISBN 13: 978-0-12-802764-6 (for the Hardback)
- Practical Crime Scene Processing and Investigation, 3rd edition, by Ross M. Gardner, 2019, CRC Press. ISBN 13: 978-1138047785 (for the Hardback)

- Fundamentals of Fingerprint Analysis, 2nd Edition, by Hilary Moses Daluz, 2021, CRC Press. ISBN 13: 978-0367778743 (for the Hardback)

Required Equipment/Materials Requirements

Photographic equipment is required for every class except where noted.

Each student MUST individually have available a tripod and camera equipment that meets the following requirements:

1. SLR (single-lens-reflex) digital camera body with the following features:
 - a. Aperture Priority Mode
 - b. Shutter Priority Mode
 - c. Program or Automatic Mode
 - d. Manual Mode
 - e. Self-timer or Shutter release cord
2. Lenses:
 - a. Wide Angle, Normal, and Telephoto Lenses or a Zoom lens that covers all three areas of focal length (For example, 35-70 mm Zoom Lens).
 - b. An attachment that allows at least 1:1 close-up photography. Examples are a 1:1 screw-on adapter (shot glass) or a 1:1 macro lens: 60 mm or 105 mm (highly recommended)
3. TTL Dedicated Flash with sync cord to allow dedicated TTL flash off-camera

Course Format

BPS 102/ Criminal Investigation: Scientific Evidence II,

Spring 2026 Course Schedule

Camera equipment is required for every class unless noted otherwise.

Week & Date	Topic: All classes start at noon, and the location is in Fogarty Hall, room 28, unless otherwise noted.	Readings & Assignments
1 01/09/26	Role of Death Investigator and ME's office. DOH Forensic Science Laboratory: Drug Chemistry, Toxicology, Forensic Biology/DNA.	
2 01/16/26 Workshops are in different locations.	Group 1- Digital Image Processing, Fogarty, rm 28 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 2 - Palm Prints and Major Case Prints, Fogarty, rm 120 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 3 - Blood Spatter, Fogarty, rm 222 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)*	Gardner: Chap. 11 & Handouts Rob: Chap. 9.3 Rob: Chap. 11 & Handouts Daluz: Chap. 5 Weekly Quiz
3 01/23/26 Workshops are in different locations	Group 1- Blood Spatter, Fogarty, rm 222 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 2- Digital Image Processing, Fogarty, rm 28 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 3- Palm Prints and Major Case Prints, Fogarty, rm 120 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)*	SAA Weekly Quizzes

4 01/30/26 Workshops are in different locations	Group 1- Palm Prints and Major Case Prints, Fogarty , rm 120 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 2- Blood Spatter, Fogarty , rm 222 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)* Group 3- Digital Image Processing. Fogarty , rm 28 *(Camera equipment is unnecessary)*	SAA Weekly Quizzes
5 02/06/26	Surveillance Photography and Video OSCR 360 Software Review of crime scene expectations for CS Day	Gardner: pp. 394-410, Chap. 14 Weekly Quiz
6 02/13/26	Trauma Services , Biohazardous cleaning & Fentanyl Safety RISP: Forensic Services and Computer/Internet Crimes Camera equipment is NOT needed EXAM 1, Information from weeks 1-5	Handouts Rob: Chap. 9.6 EXAM 1
02/20/26	Vacation Day, no class	
7 02/27/26 Workshops are in different locations. Address below	Group 1 — Trace Evidence & Critical Comparison Photography *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* rm 28 Group 2 —Practical Latent Print Collection/Development & Photography. The class begins at URI EMS at the address below. *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* , then rm 120 Group 3 - ACE-V Methodology (Camera equipment is unnecessary), rm 103	Gardner: Chap. 10 & Handouts Rob: Chap. 9.6 Gardner: Chap. 9 Daluz: Chap. 16 & Handouts Weekly Quizzes
8 03/06/26 Workshops are in different locations. Address below	Group 1 - ACE-V Methodology (Camera equipment is unnecessary), rm 103 Group 2 —Trace Evidence & Critical Comparison Photography *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* rm 28 Group 3 - Practical Latent Print Collection/Development & Photography. The class begins at URI EMS at the address below. *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* rm 120	SAA Weekly Quizzes
9 03/13/26 Workshops are in different locations. Address below	Group 1 — Practical Latent Print Collection/Development & Photography. The class begins at URI EMS at the address below. *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* , then rm 120 Group 2 - ACE-V Methodology (Camera equipment is unnecessary), rm 103. Group 3 —Trace Evidence & Critical Comparison Photography *NEED CAMERA EQUIP* rm 28.	SAA Weekly Quizzes
10 03/20/26	Practical Exercises: The class starts at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., or 12 p.m. It will be group-dependent, and the start time is SHARP. Bring your camera equipment and kits. SPRING PHOTO NOTEBOOK DUE	PHOTO NOTEBOOK DUE

11 03/27/26	RISFM: Arson, Explosives, and Post-Blast Investigation Moot Court with Defense Attorney, Prosecutor, and Judge: Expert Witness Testimony (Camera equipment/kits are unnecessary) Exam 2 Information from weeks 6-10	Gardner: pp. 383-394 EXAM 2
12 04/03/26	Group Practical Case Presentations	
13 04/10/26	Group Practical Case Presentations All students are required to attend both presentation classes, even if they have already presented their Practical Case. If they do not, 5 points will be deducted from their final grade.	

URI EMS Building, the building with large glass doors

565 Plains Rd.

Kingston, RI 02881

Class starts at this location and then moves to Fogarty (rm 120) after a few hours.

Parking is in the large Ryan Center lot directly across the street.

Course Requirements and Assessments

Assignments and Grading Policy

Quizzes, Worksheets, and Video: 25%

Photo Notebook: 25%

Final Practical Presentation: 25%

Exam 1 and Exam 2: 25%

Quizzes/assignments/notebooks are due on the date specified. Late work will be graded accordingly.

93-100= A 90-92= A- 87-89= B+ 83-86= B 80-82= B-
77-79= C+ 73-76= C 70-72= C- 67-69= D+ 63-66= D

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS. “Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires the University of Rhode Island to provide academic adjustments or accommodations for students with documented disabilities. The student with a disability shall be responsible for self-identification to the Disability Services for Students in the Office of Student Life, providing appropriate documentation of disability, requesting accommodation promptly, and follow-through regarding accommodations requested.” It is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements for any special needs and the instructor’s responsibility to accommodate them with the assistance of the Office of Disability Services for Students.

ACADEMIC HONESTY & INTEGRITY. All submitted work must be your own. Students are expected to be honest in all academic work. A student's name on any written work, quiz, or exam shall be regarded as assurance that the work results from the student's independent thought and study. If honesty and integrity are compromised, this may result in failure of the course.

ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENT CENTER. This is a challenging course. Success requires attending class regularly, keeping pace with the work, understanding course concepts, and studying effectively. Students are advised to seek assistance from course instructors or the course coordinator when they need help with concepts and assignments. The work in this course is complex and intensive.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR. Students are expected to treat faculty and classmates with dignity and respect. Students are responsible for being familiar with and adhering to the published "Student Code of Conduct," which can be accessed in the [University Student Handbook](https://web.uri.edu/studentconduct/student-handbook/) (<https://web.uri.edu/studentconduct/student-handbook/>). If you must come in late, please do not disrupt the class. Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, or any electronic devices.

CLASS ATTENDANCE. Students are expected to attend all classes and classroom activities. Occasionally, students may miss class activities due to illness, severe weather, or a previously discussed sanctioned event. In the event of severe weather and URI cancels Kingston Campus classes, the Director will decide to hold class on the day of class. Since all classes must be made up, regardless of cancellations, students must attend another day. If the class may be held on the original date, all attempts will be made to have the class on the original day. Students will be notified by email of any changes to the schedule. Also, it is the policy of the University of Rhode Island to accord students, on an individual basis, the opportunity to observe their traditional religious holidays. Students desiring to observe a holiday of particular importance must inform each instructor and discuss options for missed classes or examinations. See [Sections 8.51.11 – 8.51.14 of the University Manual](#) for policy regarding the make-up of missed classes or examinations.