

Mrs. Marasas  
Bishop Noll Institute  
Forensics Course Expectations

Course Description

Forensics is the application of science to law. As our society has grown more complex, it has become more dependent on rules of the law. Forensic science applies the knowledge and technology of science to the definition and enforcement of such laws. Students will learn the proper collection and examination of physical evidence, preserve various samples of evidence, and analyze and interpret data. Topics of investigation will include fingerprinting, document examination, glass analysis, drug analysis, bloodstain pattern analysis, examination of hair, fiber, metal, paint and soil, and firearms, tool marks, and other impression investigations.

General Expectations

1. Follow the “Golden Rule” - Do to others as you would have them do to you.
2. Follow all school rules and classroom policies. Please refer to the Student Handbook for the rules.
3. Complete and turn in all assignments on time.
4. Prepare for tests and quizzes.
5. Make up all missing work due to absences.

General Course Goals

1. Ask questions and define problems
2. Develop and use models
3. Plan and carry out investigations
4. Analyze and interpret data
5. Engage in argument from evidence
6. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information

Course Materials - Must bring to class everyday:

- iPad
- Textbook: Forensic Science: An Introduction, 3rd Edition by Richard Saferstein
- Folder, loose leaf paper, post-its
- Pen, pencil, highlighter, crayons or markers
- Composition notebook for the lab report
- Calculator (when needed)

## Grade Determination

BNI Grading Scale:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

In Forensics, quarter grades will be determined by a points system in the following manner:

Tests: 60%

Homework assignments and Quizzes: 15%

Labs/Projects: 25%

\*The end of course assessment exam (Final) will count for a percentage of each student's semester grade. (Each quarter is worth 40%, and the final exam is worth 20% of the overall semester grade.)

## Class Procedures

When students enter the classroom each day, they are expected to take their assigned seat, have their completed homework turned in to google classroom, and read the board for information about the lesson for the day. Students will only use the iPads when instructed to do so. All classroom policies will be listed in the classroom and discussed with the students. All school rules such as cellphone policy, uniform policy, etc. will be enforced in the classroom.

## Homework

Homework and lab reports are significant parts of the grade and should always be completed to the best of the student's ability. They are assigned for the purpose of reinforcing what is taught in class and will allow students to take what they have learned and enhance it by thinking about it in different ways. It is expected that all assignments are taken seriously and completed as proficiently as possible. Regular Homework will not be accepted late and students will be given a grade of zero for the homework assignment. Labs and other projects will be accepted up to one week late but the grade will be dropped a complete letter grade for each day in which it is late. Not only will homework and labs help a student to stay engaged in class, but it will also be valuable outside of school and in future endeavors as students strive to develop a strong work ethic. Failure to do homework not only impacts the homework grade but also ultimately impacts test grades negatively. Homework prepares you for tests.

## RenWeb Google Classroom/BNI Email

RenWeb and Google Classroom will be used as a communication and organization tool for grades for Forensics class. Students and parents should check RenWeb consistently to be aware of grades. Class assignments, reminders, and announcements will be communicated to students via their Google Classroom. Please feel free to email me at [lmarasas@bishoppnoll.org](mailto:lmarasas@bishoppnoll.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

### Attendance and Tardy Policy

Class time is extremely valuable. If for any reason a student is absent, he or she must complete all missed work. It is the student's responsibility to check google classroom and/or ask the teacher what they have missed upon returning to class. Any tests or quizzes in which the student was informed of before their absence, must be taken the day it was originally scheduled when they return, unless it is determined by the teacher that the student did not have all of the information necessary to adequately study for the test or quiz. Being tardy to class is not tolerated. Students will be considered "tardy" if they are not in the classroom when the bell rings. According to the student handbook, detentions will be issued for tardiness.

Please return this portion by Tuesday, August 20, 2019.

**By signing this, students and their parents/guardians acknowledge Mrs. Marasas' expectations.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide at least two ways to reach you below and indicate your preferred method of communication by circling it.

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ Home # \_\_\_\_\_

Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_