

Forensic Science Course Policies S1 2021-22

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Forensic Science is an investigative course that examines how science helps to solve crimes. Students will learn how different types of evidence are analyzed, the procedures for processing crime scenes, and how scientific principles are applied to legal matters. Topics will include fingerprint analysis, hair and fiber comparison, serology, DNA, and crime scene analysis. The course will revolve around a crime scene investigation project during which teams will work to solve a case using scientific and forensic skills. This course prepares students for careers in law enforcement and criminal justice.

About Mr. Sheehan: I have taught science at Easthampton High School for over 20 years. I went to graduate school at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and earned two master’s degrees, one in chemistry and the other in education. I also worked at Monsanto in the chemical research and development division making a plastic interlayer that makes automobile windshields safer during car accidents.

Requirements:

- The following materials are required for each class: 3-ring binder (or folder & notebook) and pen (or pencil).
- Students are expected to devote some time outside of class completing assignments or studying.

Daily Behavioral Expectations

1. Follow all EHS student handbook rules.
 2. Follow all Health Safety Protocols.
 3. Follow all laboratory safety rules.
 4. Treat others with respect.
 5. Arrive to class on time, sit in assigned seat, and complete assignments.
 6. Wear ear buds or headphones only when permission is granted.
 7. Use cell phones when permission is granted.
 8. Only use hardware, equipment, and chemicals when authorized and according to procedures outlined.
- Infraction of above will result in a private discussion and may involve consequences.

Assessment:

Quarter Grades	Quizzes: 40%	Assignments, Labs, Projects: 60%
Semester Grade	S1: Q1: 45% Q2: 45% Final Exam: 10%	

PowerSchool Portal:

- Can be accessed through the district web site: <https://ps.epsd.us>
- Grades for assignments will be posted within two weeks of the assignment due date.
- If an assignment is late it may take up to two weeks from the time submitted to post it.

Extra Help:

Students needing extra help should make an appointment by notifying me at least one (1) school day in advance to stay after or to come in early.

Re-Take Policy:

1. **Re-takes are given when classes are not in session.**
2. The new grade is determined by taking the higher grade.

Make up Policy:

- Students who have been absent are required to make-up missed assignments.
- Students should e-mail ssheehan@epsd.us for missed assignments **or** contact the counseling administrative assistant to have work brought to the counseling office for pickup by a family member or friend.

Cheating Policy:

Students are expected to do their own work and uphold an academic code of honor, even if working on a team. If there is positive evidence of cheating, consequences will be applied to all students involved according to the policies outlined in the student handbook.



Mission Statement:

The mission of EHS is to educate and nurture our students to grow as active learners. Every student is encouraged and challenged to their full potential in meeting our academic, civic, and social expectations.

21st Century Learning Expectations:

- **Engaged Collaborative, Reflective and Flexible Learner** - Demonstrates collaboration and flexibility and is self-reflective in an inclusive environment.
- **Active and Complex Thinker** - Solves complex problems with multiple steps by accessing prior knowledge, choosing an appropriate method and using higher order thinking.
- **Growth Mindset Learner** - Approaches learning tasks with a growth mindset that emphasizes effort, perseverance and skill over intelligence and innate ability. (e.g. revisions, retakes, staying for help, asking questions, taking risks, strategizing, self-assessing skills, not self-deprecating, using growth mindset language-yet, remediating assignments)
- **Logical, Effective and Creative Communicator** - Communicates with clarity, creativity, and focus with consideration of audience.
- **Empathetic Community Member** - Actively engages in and contributes to the school, virtual and/or local communities. Respects and keeps an open mind about other points of view.
- **Skilled Consumer/Processor of Information** - Uses multiple forms of media, including technology, as a resource to access, analyze, and evaluate information, foster creativity, enhance communication and increase productivity.

Core Value and Beliefs:

Nurture Value: Nurturing a Safe Inclusive and accepting Environment (social) EHS community believes...

- Students learn best when they feel safe, both physically and emotionally, in a supportive, positive and affirming environment.
- Diversity and equality are valued, and all are embraced through collective responsibility.

Encourage Value: Encourage Complex Learning with a Growth Mindset (academic) EHS community believes...

- All students can engage in complex learning when given high expectations, appropriate supports and the opportunity to engage in relevant 21st century learning.
- Perseverance, risk-taking, self-assessment and academic integrity are skills necessary for developing a growth mindset.
- Students learn best when they are in an environment that models, encourages and practices growth mindset and can take an active role in their learning, discipline and future goals.

Support Value: Supporting School and Community Engagement (civic) EHS community believes...

- Students will feel included, safe and valued when they take an active role in the classroom, school, and community.

Together Value: Together we Teach and Learn with Respect and Effective Practices EHS community believes...

- Students learn best when faculty and staff engage in research-based, reflective, inclusive, and collaborative practices around teaching and learning.
- Students learn best when respect is embedded in school culture.

Assignment

Due Date: Friday, September 3, 2021

Please sign this page indicating that you have read the Course Policies and the EHS Laboratory Safety Rules and return it to class. It is recommended that students keep their Course Policy sheet and the EHS Science Safety Rules for future reference.

STUDENT

_____, a student of Mr. Sheehan’s class has read the course policies and the EHS Science Safety Rules. (print first & last name)

I am aware of the standards set forth and I understand the consequences for not meeting the regulations.

Student Signature Date

PARENT/GUARDIAN

I _____, being the parent/guardian of the above student have read the details of (print first & last name)

the course policies and the EHS Science Safety Rules. I am aware of my obligations, and I understand that my student must follow the standards set forth. I also understand that I can get access to my student’s grades through the PowerSchool portal, and I will give the teacher two, (2) weeks to grade and post assignments to the system.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

E-mail address (please print) Daytime Phone Number (7:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.)

Preferred communication ___ e-mail ___ daytime phone number (7:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.)

Lab Safety Questions:

Do you wear contact lenses? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you color blind? ___ Yes ___ No

Do you have allergies? ___ Yes ___ No



If so, list specific allergies _____

Please bring the following supplies to class:

- Pen or Pencil
- 3-Ring binder OR folder containing handouts given in class.

These items should be brought to class every day.