Course Approval Form

For instructions see:
http://registrar.gmu.edu/facultystaff/catalog-revisions/course/

Action Requested:

- [X] Create new course
- [ ] Inactivate existing course
- [ ] Modify existing course (check all that apply)
  - [ ] Title
  - [ ] Prereq/coreq
  - [ ] Other:
  - [3] Credits
  - [ ] Schedule Type
  - [ ] Repeat Status
  - [ ] Restrictions
  - [ ] Grade Type

Course Level:

- [ ] Undergraduate
- [X] Graduate

College/School: College of Science
Department: Forensic Science Program
Submitted by: Joseph A. DiZinno
Ext: 4985
Email: Jdizinn2@gmu.edu

Subject Code: FRSC
Number: 630
(Do not list multiple codes or numbers. Each course proposal must have a separate form.)

Effective Term:

- [X] Fall
- [ ] Spring
- [ ] Summer

Year 2016

Title:
Current
Banner (30 characters max w/ spaces): Fingerprint Identification
New: Fingerprint Identification

Fulfills Mason Core Req? (undergrad only)

- [ ] Currently fulfills requirement
- [ ] Submission in progress

Credits: (check one)

- [3] Fixed
- [ ] Variable

or
to

Repeat Status: (check one)

- [X] Not Repeatable (NR)
- [ ] Repeatable within degree (RD)
- [ ] Repeatable within term (RT)

Maximum credits allowed: 3

Grade Mode: (check one)

- [X] Regular (A, B, C, etc.)
- [ ] Satisfactory/No Credit
- [ ] Special (A, B C, etc. +IP)

Schedule Type: (check one)
LEC can include LAB or RCT

- [X] Lecture (LEC)
- [ ] Lab (LAB)
- [ ] Recitation (RCT)
- [ ] Internship (INT)
- [ ] Independent Study (IND)
- [ ] Seminar (SEM)
- [ ] Studio (STU)

Prerequisite(s):
None

Corequisite(s):
None

Instructional Mode:

- [X] 100% face-to-face
- [ ] Hybrid: ≤ 50% electronically delivered
- [ ] 100% electronically delivered

Restrictions Enforced by System: Major, College, Degree, Program, etc. (include code)
None

Equivalencies: (check only as applicable)

- [ ] YES, course is 100% equivalent to: _____
- [ ] YES, course is being renumbered to/will replace the following: _____

Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only (Consult University Catalog for models)

Description (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)	**Notes** (List additional information for the course)
This course will cover the exploration of the techniques and methods of identification, capture and analysis of fingerprint evidence, including consideration of the fundamentals of fingerprint patterns, classification formulas and extensions, techniques for taking good fingerprints, problems in fingerprinting, preparation of fingerprint charts for court testimony, and practical exercises for capturing fingerprints.	

Indicate number of contact hours: Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3 Hours of Lab or Studio:
When Offered: (check all that apply) [X] Fall [ ] Summer [X] Spring

Approval Signatures

Department Approval Date

College/School Approval Date

If this course includes subject matter currently dealt with by any other units, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

For Graduate Courses Only

Graduate Council Member

Provost Office

Graduate Council Approval Date

For Registrar Office's Use Only: Banner_____Catalog_____

revised 6/22/15

Course Proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee (COSCC)

The form above is processed by the Office of the University Registrar. This second page is for the COSCC's reference. Please complete the applicable portions of this page to clearly communicate what the form above is requesting.

FOR ALL COURSES (required)

Course Number and Title: FRSC 630-000/Fingerprint Identification

Date of Departmental Approval: 11/23/15

FOR INACTIVATED/REINSTATED COURSES (required if inactivating/reinstating a course)

- Reason for Inactivating/Reinstating:

FOR MODIFIED COURSES (required if modifying a course)

- Summary of the Modification:
- Text before Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):
- Text after Modification (title, repeat status, catalog description, etc.):
- Reason for the Modification:

FOR NEW COURSES (required if creating a new course)

- Reason for the New Course: Fingerprint Identification plays an important role in criminal and intelligence investigation. GMU Forensic Science Program graduate students are currently lacking instruction in this area and this course will provide valuable instruction/experience for GMU Forensic Science Program graduate students.
- Relationship to Existing Programs: The Fingerprint Identification Course will be a core course requirement for the GMU Forensic Science Program graduate Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis Concentration and will also be offered as an elective course for the three other GMU Forensic Science Program graduate concentrations.
- Relationship to Existing Courses: : The Fingerprint Identification Course is a new course which significantly enhances the GMU Forensic Science Program graduate Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis Concentration as a core course and offers an elective course choice for students enrolled in the three other GMU Forensic Science Program graduate concentrations.
- Semester of Initial Offering: Fall 2016
- Proposed Instructors: Professor Mindi Ramage - Adjunct Professor of Forensic Science
- Insert Tentative Syllabus Below

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Fingerprint Identification – FRSC 630-000
Fall 2016

Instructor: Mindi Ramage - Adjunct Professor of Forensic Science

Office: Exploratory Hall Suite 3400

Email: fscience@gmu.edu

Phone #: 703-993-5071 (main desk)

Text: Fundamentals of Fingerprint Analysis; Hillary Moses Deluz

Course Description: Due to the introductory nature of this course, it will follow a lecture format interspersed with class demonstrations, group discussions, midterm exam, case study analysis & presentation, and a final exam. Only by combining knowledge of the principles and techniques of forensic science, with logic and common sense, will students gain comprehensive insight into the meaning and significance of fingerprint evidence and its role in criminal investigations. This course will cover the exploration of the techniques and methods of identification, capture and analysis of fingerprint evidence, including consideration of the fundamentals of fingerprint patterns, classification formulas and extensions, scarred patterns, amputations and missing fingers, filing sequence, searching and referencing, Henry Classification, techniques for taking good fingerprints, problems in fingerprinting, preparation of fingerprint charts for court testimony, and practical exercises for capturing fingerprints on a ten print card and live scan fingerprint machines.

Student Responsibilities: The lectures will cover the same topics as found in the assigned reading. It is expected that the student will read the assigned sections of the text prior to class so as to facilitate discussion and participation in the lecture and demonstrations. Students can expect homework assignments and unannounced quizzes throughout the semester; no make-up quizzes will be given, quizzes are graded as part of attendance/participation. Students are responsible for acquiring all lectures and handouts on Blackboard prior to attending class each week; the instructor will not bring copies of these documents to class. If you miss a class it is the students responsibility to ask a peer for missed notes; you may only contact your instructor if you have questions regarding the missed material.

Fingerprint Evidence Case Study Paper & Presentation: All students will pick one real case study in which at fingerprint evidence highly impacted the case to examine and to use for the basis of their presentation.

The case study must include at least one piece of fingerprint evidence which highly impacted the reconstruction of the crime scene or identification of a perpetrator (forensic linkage triangle). The fingerprint evidence, as well as, the analysis/comparison of this physical evidence must be described in detail including how it impacted the case.

This will result in an oral presentation of the case study in class highlighting the prominent points. PowerPoint presentations may be saved on a CD, thumb drive, and/or your email (presentation must be saved to at least two of these sources for backup purposes). A minimum of 8 references are required from credible resources i.e. journal articles, texts, newspapers, etc., websites may be used on a limited basis (Snap-TV is NOT a credible resource

HOMEWORK:
Case study selection deadline; all students will turn in a printed page containing the following:

- student's name
- name of case study (i.e. DC Sniper Case)
- what fingerprint evidence will be discussed (i.e. fingerprint recovered from Atlas left at the Sunoco murder of Dean Meyers)
- what analysis/comparison was conducted on this physical evidence (i.e. Atlas was processed with Ninhydrin and entered into the IAFIS)
- how did the fingerprint evidence impact the case (i.e. linked suspect to location and ultimately convicted of the murders and sentenced to death)
- a list of a minimum of 4 references

Please do not contact your instructor regarding possible case study topics until you have conducted preliminary research and can provide the above information. Each student will have an opportunity during this class time to verbally review their topic with the instructor in which at least 4 references must be presented during this time; please print out or photocopy articles, newspapers, court documents, and/or bring in books if possible.

Student presentations will take place over a two week period; however all students must turn in a printout of the PowerPoint presentation (thumbnails of slides is preferred) on the first week of the class presentations. Due to limited time each presentation will be strictly limited to 15 minutes each; deductions will be given for presentations that are under or over the 15 minute time limit.

A grade will be determined for the presentation by the following factors:
- overview of case
- description of fingerprint evidence
- description of analysis/comparison of fingerprint evidence
- explanation of how the evidence impacted the case (reconstruction/identification of perpetrator)
- organization and overall presentation score
- overall presentation score

Grading: Not only am I interested in your analytical development and how you apply critical thinking to the issues presented, I must also evaluate your intellectual efforts. To accomplish this, class participation, attendance, pop quizzes, homework, paper/presentation, a midterm exam, and a final exam will determine your grade in the course.

Specifically, your final grade will be calculated based upon the following formula:
- Class Participation, Pop Quizzes, Homework, and Attendance- 10%
- Paper/Presentation- 30 %
- Midterm Exam- 30 %
- Final Exam- 30 %

Grading Scale:

100	A+	89-87	B+	79-70	C
99-95	A	86-83	B	69 and below	F
94-90	A-	82-80	B-		

Note: Additional reading assignments may be added throughout the semester.

Note: The schedule is subject to change, please listen for announcements during class for changes; if you are late/absent from class please ask a peer for any missed announcements.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

GMU Honor Code:
Standards of academic integrity as set forth by the University are strictly observed and rigorously enforced in this class. The complete Honor Code is as follows: *To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness*

among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code: **Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.**

GMU Email: http://masonlive.gmu.edu
Each student is responsible for activating their GMU email account and checking their account on a regular basis for University and class announcements**. All masonlive accounts must be activated.**

GMU Police Policy: 703-993-2810
If you are currently employed with a law enforcement agency as a sworn officer and would like to carry a firearm on campus and into class, you must contact GMU Police Department as a courtesy.

GMU Students with Disabilities: http://ods.gmu.edu
If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703-993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office, your instructor is not obligated to provide accommodations without documentation from ODS.

Writing Center: http://writingcenter.gmu.edu
For general questions and comments please contact wcenter@gmu.edu or call:
703-993-1200 (Robinson Hall A114, Fairfax Campus)
703-993-1824 (Enterprise Hall 076, Fairfax Campus)
All appointments are made through the online scheduling system so please do not email or call to schedule appointments. If you would like to cancel an appointment you may do so via the online scheduler, simply select your appointment and click the "Cancel appointment" box at the bottom of the reservation form and then "save.

University Libraries: "Ask a Librarian" http://library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html
Margaret Lam, Physical Sciences Liaison Librarian; http://infoguides.gmu.edu/forensics
Fenwick Library, A244 (703)993-2212 mlam3@gmu.edu

Counseling and Psychology Services (CAPS): (703) 993-2380; http://caps.gmu.edu

University Policies:
The University Catalog, http://catalog.gmu.edu, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.