Open Disclosure – Dr. Niki Hack

Introduction to Forensic Science

## Course Description

This year long course is designed to create an awareness of career posibilities of the branch of health sciences related to medical forensics. Medical forensics involves many aspects of health science instruction including laboratory skills and safety, microscopy, toxicology, measurement, physical evidence identification, pathology, anthropology, entomology, psychology, blood splatter analysis, and career exploration.

## Course Goals and Objectives

In this course students will:

* Identify, analyze, and process logically using deductive reasoning
* Use lab equipment correctly and safely
* Process and preserve the evidentiary value of a crime scene
* Identify and analyze trace evidence
* Investigate various aspects of death
* Explore aspects of the criminal mind
* Develop an understanding of the adverse effects of drugs and common poisons
* Describe the importance of DNA evidence

Parents can make an appointment to come to the school/classroom to view the instructional materials being used in the class. Please contact Dr. Hack to set up a time if you would like to view materials we are using in class.

## Format and Procedures

Students will interact with the content through reading, writing, group projects, labs, guest speakers, and field trips. Much of the course content will be published through the Canvas learning platform and assignments will be submitted through Canvas, therefore it is essential that students come with their computers every day

Class Expectations

**Participate**: Ask questions. Give and receive feedback. Stay curious and explore. Come to school every day and be on time for class. Be prepared to work hard. Complete all assignments and do your best. Adopt a growth mindset. Support our learning community.

**Homework**: Students should expect to spend a total of two hours per week studying for quizzess and/or collaborating with peers on group projects.

**Absences**: It is your responsibility to ask for and make up any missed work. Students have two days for each day they are absent to make up work.

## Grading Procedures

Grades are based on class participation, projects and quizzes.

I individualize assignments as needed as well as take into consideration student strengths and weaknesses. I have high expectations for all my students and my goal is to help them find their personal best.

I **do not accept late work** however students may retake any quiz, or redo any assignment for a reduced grade

Grades will be updated on PowerSchool every two weeks and parents can access their students’ grade via the district website <https://powerschool.slcschools.org/public/home.html>.

I look forward to getting to know you and your student this year. I check my email and phone messages at the end of the day. I am available on Wednesdays and Fridays after school if you need to meet with me.

## Cell Phone Policy

While cell phones have become an integral part of our lives, I presently have no plans to integrate them into my classroom. Students should keep their phones in their backpacks If I see a student using a cell phone, I will confiscate it and it will need to be collected from the office at the end of the day.

**Guest Speakers**

**I am looking for a wide array of guest speakers to raise awareness of the myriad of careers that exist in the forensics field. If you work in this area and would be willing to give a 20 minute presentation or you know someone who might be convinced, please contact me! We can set up live presentations or appearances via Zoom.**

**I understand the above disclosure and agree to the terms**

Student name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent name(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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I would like you to know the following about my student

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