

Approved Innovative Course

Course: Forensic Art
PEIMS Code: N1170190
Abbreviation: FORART
Grade Level(s): 10-12
Number of Credits: 1.0

Course description:

Forensic Art is a career used to provide visual evidence in legal proceedings and/or to assist law enforcement. This course will provide the student with an opportunity to pursue a career as a forensic artist by acquiring skills such as composite drawings, postmortem and facial approximation aids, and the ability to communicate these effectively.

Essential knowledge and skills:

- (a) Introduction
 - (1) Required prerequisite for this course is Drawing I. Anatomy & Physiology is highly recommended.
- (b) Knowledge and Skills
 - (1) The student develops an understanding of the definition and historical foundations of forensic art and its importance to society. The student is expected to:
 - (A) evaluate the impact of forensic art;
 - (B) recognize historical foundations of forensic art such as illustrations, wanted posters, and how the introduction of photography impacted art;



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- (E) compare and contrast skeletal markers that may indicate the ancestry of a subject;
- (F) estimate the age of a subject based on skeletal markers and facial features:
- (G) discuss the skeletal and facial features that indicate the sex of a subject;and
- (H) discuss the specific choices the student makes in completing an illustration.
- (7) The student applies drawing skills and strategies to assist law enforcement in the identification of unrecognizable or missing persons. The student is expected to:
 - (A) develop techniques for age progression in adults and children including variations in weight;
 - (B) create overlays that exhibit variations such as facial hair, weight, eye glasses, and hairstyles;
 - (C) demonstrate superimposition techniques such as postmortem drawings and facial reconstruction using photos of skulls to produce a composite drawing of a lifelike human face.
 - (D) illustrate scars, tattoos, piercings and jewelry;
 - (E) incorporate factors that produce atypical sketches such as physical abuse, malnourishment, and birth defects; and
 - (F) compare and critique finished composite drawing with photos of unidentified missing persons cases that have been solved.
- (8) The student applies sculpting techniques using oil-based clay and knowledge of anatomy to produce an anatomically correct human head. The student is expected to:
 - (A) demonstrate proficient use of sculpting techniques, including additive and subtractive methods and creating realistic textures;
 - (B) reconstruct a three-dimensional human skull complete with dental attributes and muscular form; and
 - (C) locate facial depth marker placements and age identifying characteristics in order to produce an identifiable human face.
- (9) The student models ethical behavior standards and appropriate interviewing techniques. The student is expected to:
 - (A) determine and exhibit ethical practices such as confidentiality standards, professional standards, and industry best practices;
 - (B) apply skills required to support the witness during the interview process



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Major resources and materials:

Gibson, L. (2008). Forensic art essentials: A manual of law enforcement artists. Burlington,

MA: Academic Press.

Steinberg, S. (2005). Facial Identification Catalog.

Steinberg, S. (2006). Facial identification ethnicities catalog.

Bailey, L. (2014). Ask a Forensic Artist: Skulls, Suspects, and the Art of Solving Crime. Colorado Springs, CO: C52r06(r)-ea2(t)-6.701 S-5.pa6(c)-2(g.)]TJ /TT0 1 Tf 0 Tc 0 Tw 9.96 -0 0 9.9292