

SERIAL OFFENDERS: ANALYSIS & INVESTIGATION

This course will examine the different types of serial offenders. Students will study the methods of case analysis and crime linkage. This course will examine factors that influence serious violent criminals and their behavior. Students will learn the investigative process as it applies to serial offenders by examining case linkage analysis, profiling serial offenders, and victimology. This course will focus specifically on serial murder, rape, arson, robbery, burglary, and sex offenders. Case studies are used throughout the course to thoroughly examine the behavioral aspects of serial offenders, the aspects of serial crimes and the investigative process.

Students successfully completing this pass/fail class will develop and/or enhance their skills toolbox. Though this class is not self-paced, students in the class do not meet live at any given time. Rather, assignments, discussion questions/board, a self-grading quiz, PowerPoints, lecture notes, etc. are provided each week covering a given chapter. Students then have a full week to read the weekly course materials, respond on the discussion board, take the quiz, review other materials, links and articles provided, and to submit a weekly assignment.

Students should expect a time commitment of 3-5 hours per week to gain a pass grade.

Course Outline

Week One

- Introduction/Course Overview

Week Two

- Serial Offenders/Chronic Offending

Week Three

- Case Linkage & Linkage Analysis

Week Four

- Serial Arson

Week Five

- Serial Burglary

Week Six

- Serial Robbery

Week Seven

- Sex Crimes/Sexually Motivated Murder

Week Eight

- Serial Rape

Week Nine

- Serial Murder

Week Ten

- Serial Murder continued

Week Eleven

- Criminal Investigative Analysis of Serial Offenders

Week Twelve

- Targeting Serial Offenders: Analysis & Investigative Techniques/Investigative Genetic Genealogy