About the Class
This course revolves around crime and using science to solve crimes. There will be investigations and discussions that involve crimes which may contain graphic/mature subject matter. This will involve classic cases and visual aids which will relate directly to the subject being studied. Understand that the focus of this course will be the science behind solving the crime; not the glorification of the crime.

Forensics Description from WCS High School Course Guide
Course ID: HS3061

This class is an elective, inquiry-oriented science class that will focus on criminal forensics. Through a sequence of lab based activities, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the role of science in solving crimes. These activities may include fingerprinting, simulated drug evidence analysis, ink chromatography, and an introduction to DNA analysis.

Science Standards Addressed:
1.1A Generate new questions that can be investigated in the laboratory or field.
1.1B Evaluate the uncertainties or validity of scientific conclusions using an understanding of sources of measurement error, the challenges of controlling variables, accuracy of data analysis, logic of argument, logic of experimental design, and/or the dependence on underlying assumptions.
1.1C Conduct scientific investigations using appropriate tools and techniques (e.g., selecting an instrument that measures the desired quantity—length, volume, weight, time interval, temperature—with the appropriate level of precision).
1.1D Describe a reason for a given conclusion using evidence from an investigation.
1.1E Identify patterns in data and relate them to theoretical models.
1.2A Critique whether or not specific questions can be answered through scientific investigations.
1.2B Identify and critique arguments about personal or societal issues based on scientific evidence.
1.2C Develop an understanding of a scientific concept by accessing information from multiple sources. Evaluate the scientific accuracy and significance of the information.
1.2D Evaluate scientific explanations in a peer review process or discussion format.
1.2E Evaluate the future career and occupational prospects of science fields.

Required Materials
You are REQUIRED to bring the following things to class every day:
1. 3-ring binder (Forensics Notebook) -or- a folder with your class materials & handouts, notes, etc. (We do not have a textbook, so printed materials will be frequently provided)
2. Pen or pencil and paper
3. Forensics Daily Question Booklet (Bell-ringer/Warm-Ups)

Being prepared for class is part of your overall grade and not having these items daily will affect your studies and of course your grade!

Expectations
1. Everyone is expected to come prepared each day.
2. Everyone is expected to participate in class. This includes turning in homework, volunteering and participating in the lab experiences.
3. All students are to be in their assigned seat when the bell rings; otherwise you may be marked tardy.
4. Homework/Assignments are always due at the beginning of the hour, unless I say otherwise. LATE WORK IS ONLY GUARANTEED TO BE ACCEPTED FOR ½ - ¾ CREDIT THE NEXT CLASS PERIOD.
5. Your ID is needed to leave the room. NO ID=NO PASS. Arriving w/ out ID will result in a tardy to obtain ID.
6. Food is PROHIBITED in this lab class, but you may have bottled water on a case by case basis. This is a privilege and will be taken away if trash is left in the room.
7. All district and school rules are expected to be followed, including attendance policies, cell phone/ECD policies, and general rules of conduct (including use of appropriate language). Your actions cannot take away from other students’ educational experience. Use of ECD is only allowed during specific times. Failure to follow these rules will result in calls/letters going home, confiscation of ECD, detentions, referrals, and possible removal from class.
8. I may make additions or deletions to these rules throughout the semester.
Tardiness
Tardiness is a detriment to the student themselves as well as those that are interrupted by your late arrival. Warren Mott’s Tardy Policy is strictly enforced, including arriving on time with the appropriate materials and according to school dress code.

Missed Homework
If you are absent it is YOUR responsibility to see about missed work. Homework will be posted on the weekly agenda and any worksheets/handouts will be in the Classwork bin according to the day of the week (M-F). You will have the same number of days that you were absent to complete and turn in the work for full credit.

Late Work
Late homework is accepted for ½ - ¾ credit for one day after the due date. Missing homework receives a grade of 49%. After 3 days/attempts to complete missing work, any remaining incomplete/missing homework will earn 0%. Any Assessments will earn ½ credit for one day after the due date. Any exceptions to this policy are made on a case by case basis.

Tests and Quizzes & Labs
If you miss a test or quiz you must make it up the day you return to class. You will be required to take it during class time if possible, or before school (due to various coaching commitments, after school days or times may be limited). Failure to make up the test/quiz/lab in a timely manner or after they are returned to other students, and Unverified absences result in an F (0) being issued.

Grading
Your final grade will be calculated based on the following elements:

- **Homework** 15% 100%-98 = A+ 97-93 = A 92-90 = A-
- **Labs/Activities** 25% 89%-87 = B+ 86-83 = B 82-80 = B-
- **Quizzes** 20% 79%-77 = C+ 76-73 = C 72-70 = C-
- **Tests** 30% 69%-67 = D+ 66-63 = D 62-60 = D-
- **Participation/Skills** 10% 50%-59 = E <50% = F

Assessments not completed or turned in will receive a score of 0.
You cannot afford to not complete and turn in work and do your best on all assessments.
2 A’s and 2 O’s does not average to a C, it averages to an F.

- **Homework** includes: practice tasks designed to help students master new concepts. These assignments are generally based upon completeness, effort, neatness, and attention to detail.
- **Labs** include: Formative assessments and activities that allow students to apply what they have practiced using critical thinking and detailed observation and explanations.
- **Quizzes and Tests** include: Summative assessments to determine the level of mastery that students have achieved.
- **Participation/Skills** include: Observational assessments as to notes, binders, and completion of daily tasks.

*ALL WORK SHOULD BE KEPT UNTIL THE END OF THE SEMESTER! THIS INCLUDES HW, NOTES, VOCAB, LABS, TESTS/QUIZZES AND ANY REFERENCE SHEETS. THE FINAL EXAM IS CUMULATIVE.*

Mr. May can be reached by email at: MMay@wcskids.net or by phone through Warren Mott High School at (586) 574-3250 ext. 13413. E-mail is the preferred way to contact me, as I can respond quickly to your concerns throughout the day. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the course of the semester.

Class Website: [http://mrmaysclass.weebly.com/](http://mrmaysclass.weebly.com/)
LABORATORY RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

1. You will need to learn and follow all of the safety rules/agreements found in their textbook and according to school guidelines.
2. Failure to follow the safety rules or not follow directions given by the teacher will result in a zero on the lab and a class suspension.
3. Each student will hand in a lab write-up, unless otherwise instructed.
4. All members of the lab group are responsible for the equipment at their lab station and other equipment used during the lab. All equipment must be cleaned properly & put away before the student leaves the room. You will be held responsible for replacing equipment you break.
5. All Students must take and pass a safety test prior to working in the lab, as well as sign a safety contract.

SCIENCE SAFETY RULES AND PROCEDURES

To ensure that science experiments at school are safe, positive learning experiences, students and parents should read, discuss and sign this science safety rules and procedures agreement.

1. Perform the experiments as directed. Do not do anything which is not part of an approved experimental procedure.
2. Be properly prepared to do the experiment. Read the written procedures in advance and understand what you are going to do. Lack of familiarity wastes your time and is a major cause of injury. Know the hazards before you do the experiment.
3. Never work without adult supervision.
4. Wear appropriate protective equipment. A lab coat or apron and ANSI approved eye protection should be worn at all times when applicable. This will usually mean chemical splash goggles. In addition, gloves and face shields should be used as appropriate.
5. Learn the locations and operation of emergency equipment. This includes the eyewash, safety shower, fire extinguisher, fire blanket, sink and first aid supplies. Know what to do in the case of an emergency.
6. Act in a responsible manner at all times. No horseplay or fooling around allowed in the lab experimental area.
7. Wear leather shoes which cover the entire foot. No sandals or canvas shoes. Clothing should not be loose and floppy, especially in the sleeves. Some new fabrics are highly flammable and should not be worn. Arms and legs should be covered.
8. Tie back long hair to keep it away from flames and chemicals.
9. Never taste a chemical. Check odors only if instructed to do so, by gently wafting some of the vapor towards your nose with your hand. Be sure your work area is adequately ventilated for your equipment.
10. Turn off your Bunsen burner or other heat source whenever you are not using it. Never let it operate unattended.
11. Treat burns immediately by putting the burned area under cold water for at least 15 minutes. Cold water markedly reduces the subsequent pain and blisters.
12. Read the chemical labels very carefully. Read them 3 times: when you pick it up, just before you use it, and after you are finished. Many mistakes – some dangerous – result from mixing the wrong chemicals. Review MSDSs if they are available.
13. Eating or drinking in the lab or experimental work area is forbidden.
14. Report all accidents, injuries, and close calls to your teacher / adult supervisor immediately.
15. Dispose of chemicals properly. Nothing goes down the drain unless instructed to do so. Containers should be available for waste chemicals. Broken glass goes in special receptacles.
16. Never return unused reagents to the reagent bottle. Be careful to take only what you actually need. Do not contaminate the reagents.
17. Clean up all spills immediately. This includes water.
18. List your allergies on the bottom of this page. If the experiment deals with something to which you are allergic, consult with your teacher or adult supervisor.
19. Treat all chemicals with the respect they deserve. Know the hazards before you handle the material.
20. Never take chemicals, supplies, or equipment out of the laboratory without the knowledge and consent of the science teacher.
21. Wash off chemicals splashed or spilled on your skin or body immediately and for 15 minutes. Remove contaminated clothing immediately. Notify your teacher / adult supervisor.
22. Clean your lab bench & put away all equipment and reagents and wash your hands at the end of each work session.

Mr. May can be reached by email at MMay@wcskids.net or by phone through Warren Mott High School at (586) 574-3250 ext. 13413. E-mail is the preferred way to contact me, as I can respond quickly to your concerns throughout the day. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have throughout the course of the semester.

Class Website
http://mrmaysclass.weebly.com/
Forensics Rules and Expectations Contract

Return to Mr. May

Student Name [print] _____________________________ Hour ________

Please read over the course rules and expectations carefully. Once you have done so, have your parent or guardian read this as well. Both you and your parent/guardian need to sign below and return this sheet to Mr. May.

*I understand and agree to adhere to the classroom rules and expectations.

____________________________________________________________________
Student Signature Date

____________________________________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Please include any & all information below that you feel will aid in our communication.

Preferred Contact Method

☐ Parent/Guardian's E-mail address _________________________________________________

☐ Parent/Guardian's Home Phone #_______________________________________________

☐ Parent/Guardian's Work Phone #_______________________________________________

☐ Parent/Guardian's Cell Phone #_______________________________________________

Note: Below please list any information I should know about your son or daughter. Special concerns, accommodations and health issues should be listed. Include if student is an English Language Learner, has an approved 504 Plan or IEP, etc.

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

MUST BE RETURNED TO MR. MAY