



Wayne
County
Community
College
District

Digital Photography Technology: Forensic Photography

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Forensic Photography College Certificate program is designed to provide students with the technical skills necessary to photographically preserve crime scenes and items of evidence, from both technical and legal standpoints. The Forensic Photography program provides students with the necessary skills needed in the principles of composition, focus, exposure, color theory, and lighting. The program enables students to work in front of the camera, photography studios, and computer based processing labs. The program addresses the need for an alternative career track for students that work in crime scene



investigation, criminal justice, homeland security, fire safety, as well as other evidence gathering related occupations. There is a demand for individuals that have the skills and talents as a photographer or a computer-based digital imaging specialist.

WHAT DO FORENSIC PHOTOGRAPHERS DO?

Forensic photography, sometimes referred to as forensic imaging or crime scene photography, is the art of producing an accurate reproduction of a crime scene or an accident scene using photography for the benefit of a court or to aid in an investigation. It is part of the process of evidence collecting. It provides investigators with photos of victims, places and items involved in the crime.

WHERE DO THEY WORK?

Crime scene investigators may work long hours under distressing conditions. Some forensic photographers travel to crime scenes. Others work in laboratories and use microscopes to photograph subjects.

PAY

The median annual wage for photographers was \$59,150 in May 2019. Forensic photography may have a higher salary depending on experience and training.

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of photographers is projected to decline 6 percent from 2018 to 2028. Employment of forensic science technicians is projected to grow 14 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations. Competition for jobs is expected to be strong.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, April 2020, Forensic Science Technicians, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/forensic-science-technicians.htm>



Recommended Sequence of Courses

Digital Photography Technology:

Forensic Photography College Certificate

CR. No.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
---------	--------------	---------

SEMESTER 1

DPT 110	Introduction to Digital Photography	3
DPT 115	Digital Photography Imaging I . . .	3
CJS 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice . .	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		9

SEMESTER 2

LEA 201	Introduction to Law Enforcement	3
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology	3
DPT 120	Forensic Photography	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		9

SEMESTER 3

LEA 230	Fundamentals of Criminal Investigation	3
DPT 210	Studio Photography I	3
DPT 235	Photojournalism	3
DPT 255	Capstone Portfolio Project	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		12
CERTIFICATE TOTAL		30

Note: Certificate total hours may not include prerequisites

