

## CHMY 489 Forensic Science Seminar

**Instructor:** Dr. Chris Palmer, Chem 203A, 243-4079  
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**Purpose and Goals:** The primary purpose of this course is to give students in the Chemistry Forensic Science option an overview of methods, techniques and issues in the forensic science field. After completing the course the student should have a good idea of the techniques and methods used in forensic science, and of some ethical and legal issues involved in the field.

**Format:** The course will be an open discussion and forum, and will include lectures/discussions by experts in the field as well as visits and tours of the Montana State Crime Lab in Missoula.

**Grading:** Students will be graded on participation and understanding of the presentations. Participation is 20% of the grade and will be based on attendance and participation in class discussions. After each presentation by an expert or visitor, students must write a one page summary of the lecture and discussion which includes a discussion of the topic and its importance in forensic science. These reports are due at the beginning of the next class meeting and will make up the remaining 80% of the grade. Late reports will be penalized by 10% per week.

### Tentative Schedule:

September 2	No Class
September 9	Scientific Results, Expert Witnesses, Testimony (Palmer)
September 16	Analytical Techniques in Forensic Analysis (Palmer)
September 23	Analytical Techniques in Forensic Analysis (Palmer)
September 30	Analytical Techniques in Forensic Analysis (Palmer)
October 7	Dr. Walter Kemp, Coroner
October 14	Crime Lab Visit (11:50-12:45) (Harris)
October 21	Crime Lab Visit (11:50-12:45) (Harris)
October 28	Crime Lab Visit (11:50-12:45) (Schlueter)
November 4	TBA
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 18	TBA
November 25	Thanksgiving
December 2	Wrap-up (Palmer)
December 9	No Class