

# Forensic Science Syllabus 2017-2018

## What you need to know...

Instructor: Mrs. Fillingham

Email (contact): [tanya.fillingham@asd20.org](mailto:tanya.fillingham@asd20.org)

Website: <http://fillingham.weebly.com/>

Email is the quickest way to contact me. However, I am available most mornings before school starting at 6:45 and most days after school until 3:30.

## Classroom Expectations

1. Be responsible.
  - a. Remember to bring your supplies, do your homework (and bring it back☺), and be on time and in your seat when class starts.
2. Be respectful.
  - a. Treat everyone/everything with respect, come to class ready to learn, be on time and in your seat when class starts.
3. No Cell Phone usage during class.
  - a. Cell phones are a distraction in the classroom and should not be used. Your phone should be on silent and kept in your bag.

### If the class expectations are not met, expect;

First offense - Verbal warning

Second offense - After school/Lunch detention in my room

Third offense - Parent phone call and school detention

Fourth offense - Official write-up and parent conference

## Tardies...

The tardy policy for class will follow Rampart's guidelines for tardies. If you do not have a pass and are not in your seat and ready to learn when the bell rings, this is considered a tardy.

## Plagiarism/Cheating

In the unlikely event, you choose to copy someone else's work or ideas **you and the person who provided the work**, will receive a zero for that assignment, (this includes homework, class work, tests/quizzes, projects, and labs). Cheating on an assignment is never worth compromising your integrity and reputation.

\*Cheating consists of turning in work that is not your own. This includes copying homework, sharing of homework answers, sharing of quiz and/or test questions with those students who are absent, using an electronic device during quiz/test or anything else that is falsely presenting your work.

## Late Work

Timeliness is essential in everything you do. **Late work is only accepted during the unit it was assigned, no credit will be given for the assignment after the unit test.** All late work will be subject to a reduction of 50% off the score earned.

## Absences

1. *Excused* absences: According to Rampart's absence policy, you have the same number of days you were absent to make up your work.
  - a. **It is the student's responsibility to get the missing assignment and make up any work that was missed.** Due to the nature of labs most cannot be made up. An alternative assignment will be offered to make up points that were missed.
2. *Unexcused* Absences: Any assignments that were due the day of the absence will be given a grade of zero, (this includes tests and quizzes on the day you miss).

## And now for the fun stuff...LABS and CRIME SCENES!

Labs and crime scenes are crucial to learn concepts and they're just plain fun. However, it is imperative that labs/scenes are safe. All students are expected to know and follow the lab safety guidelines presented in class. Each student and their parents are also expected to read over and sign a lab safety contract. If at any time students are not exhibiting safe lab practices, they will be asked to stop the lab and may receive a zero for the lab or complete an alternative (and most likely boring) paper assignment.

## Grades

Grades will be updated on a weekly basis through infinite campus. Parents and students can check the status of their grades at <https://mycampus.asd20.org/campus/portal/academy20.jsp>. The following percentages represent the agreed upon standard for chemistry at RHS:

### Grades: In Progress Grade: 80% of final grade

Tests:	30%
Reports:	20%
Quizzes:	15%
Labs:	20%
Practice/Classwork:	15%

### Final Exam Grade: 20% of final grade

### Tests & Quizzes

You will never be tested on something that we have not discussed in class. We do not believe in surprising you on tests and will give you the main concepts that are on the test ahead of time.

Retakes: What is most important is that you learn the material.

- **Tests**: Students can retake only **one test per semester (so choose wisely!)**. The **second** score will be recorded regardless of improvement (so study!!).
  - Retakes will be schedule for 1 week after grade has been posted in IC. Students must take the retake on the schedule date, no exceptions!!!
- **Quizzes** may not be retake, make sure to study and come to class prepared everyday.

### Class Materials

1. Binder (three-ring) with for general note-taking-this will also be a place to keep hand-outs and graded work.
2. Writing utensil!!!! (Please don't forget this)

# FORENSIC SCIENCE PARENT INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your teen's Forensic Science teachers, we want to make certain that you are informed about the topics he or she will be learning. Forensic Science class will be exposing him or her to several controversial subjects. These **may** include the following:

- crime scene situations and evidence
- serial killer videos, facts, methods, and psychology
- fingerprinting, hair and fiber analysis
- firearm and bullet analysis
- the effects of a fired bullet on objects and people
- use and detection of blood/spatter
- time of death determinations, autopsy procedures, photos, and videos

Not only will the student learn about these topics, he or she will have guest speakers and labs to gain hands-on experience. Several graphic demonstrations, pictures, videos, and illustrations are included in the class so as to further the understanding of certain topics. It is important to note that to convict criminals one must first understand the circumstances of criminals, the crimes they commit, and the tools that are used to commit them. This must be done at the crime scenes, in laboratories, jailhouse, and courts.

Your teen received a hard copy of the course outline and requirements. All documents are available for your review before the start of the unit by email or through the website: [marvelousmsmscience.weebly.com](http://marvelousmsmscience.weebly.com)

If you have any questions or concerns, contact us at work at 719 234-2000 or email us (fastest route) at [tanya.fillingham@asd20.org](mailto:tanya.fillingham@asd20.org)

Sincerely,

Tanya Fillingham

I, \_\_\_\_\_, concur that I have read the above and understand that my teen, \_\_\_\_\_, will be exposed the aforementioned material and that we have read and understand the Forensic Science class policies. I have no objections to my teen attending and participating in Forensic Science class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Class/Period

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please circle one: I **do** or **do not** have access to the internet at home

Please see other side →→→

## FINGERPRINT PERMISSION FORM (Unit 3, first semester)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

During the 3<sup>rd</sup> unit for Forensic Science first semester, we will be studying fingerprints. Your student will be asked to create a set of fingerprints, lift latent prints from various surfaces, and use physical and chemical techniques to develop latent prints. Several identification systems will be used to compare fingerprints.

The fingerprints will be kept in the students' notebooks. I will not keep or reproduce any of the prints for my record. Due to state privacy laws, your permission is needed for your son/daughter to participate. Please sign the bottom of this letter if you approve of his/her participation.

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Parent signature

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Date

## BLOOD UNIT PERMISSION PARTICIPATION LEVEL (Unit 5, second semester)

Dear Parent/Guardian (please choose one option below),

We want to make certain that you are informed about the topics your student will be learning. Unit 5 is about blood and blood spatter patterns. To create the most accurate and realistic experience, we must use real animal blood in 2-3 demonstrations/labs.

Students will be required to use goggles and gloves when handling and observing blood labs even though the blood used has very low probability for danger. The animal blood will be obtained from the Royal Gorge Packing Co. and from a local veterinarian and are from animals approved for human consumption or tested pet blood for transfusions.

Option 1: If you will **permit** your student to **participate in all labs** in this unit, please sign below:

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Parent approval signature for all lab participation

Option 2: If you will **not** permit your student **handle** any blood (always with gloves) but still would **permit** him/her to participate in the labs as a **recorder and observer**, please sign below:

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Parent approval for observation only

Option 3: If you will **not** permit your student to participate in **any labs** involving blood or blood-like material and want an alternative assignment(s) for this unit, please sign below:

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Parent desiring alternative unit activities