



FORZA FORENSICS
Passion. Experience. Diligence.

Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Course Syllabus (40 Hours)

Prerequisite

Completion of an IABPA approved 40-hour Bloodstain Pattern Analysis I (Basic) course.

Course Target Audience

Crime scene investigators, death investigators, officers and detectives with intermediate to advanced skills in camera use and crime scene processing.

Course Objectives

Describe complex pattern recognition and demonstrate the ability to recognize the uncertainties within bloodstain pattern analysis.

Understand the differences between Daubert & Frye standards.

Describe wound pathology and how injuries relate to bloodletting events.

Demonstrate the ability to apply the scientific method to an analysis.

Demonstrate the ability to examine bloodstain patterns on clothing through note taking, photography & charting.

Demonstrate the ability to utilize and photograph blood searching & blood enhancing chemicals.

Demonstrate the ability to recognize the limits of bloodstain pattern analysis in regard to sequencing patterns.

Demonstrate the ability to present pattern conclusions in a report format.

Demonstrate the ability to answer court related questions pertaining to bloodstain pattern analysis.

Pass a competency test to demonstrate successful completion of the field of study.

Required Equipment

Laptop Computer

Camera and camera related equipment to include macro lens, if available

Flashlight

Sturdy clothes and footwear

**Students are encouraged to bring as much evidence processing equipment from their kits as possible. However, equipment is provided, when needed.*

Course Schedule

DAY ONE. (8 hours)

Introductions

Pre-test

Module 1 – Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (BPA) Review

- BPA terminology review
- Recent BPA standards/OSAC changes
- BPA physics & mathematics review
- BPA classification review
- Tangent method review

Practical Exercise 1 – Tangent Method

Module 2 – Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Case Presentations

- Famous/flawed BPA case discussions
- Confirmation and other sources of bias
- Student past case discussions

Day one written quiz

DAY TWO. (8 hours)

Module 3 – Scientific Method for Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

- Conducting a BPA scientific experiment
- Formal experiment vs. Ad Hoc experiment

Practical Exercise 2 – BPA experimental design

Module 4 – Complex Pattern Analysis

- Wound pathology
- Complex pattern analysis & limitations
- Sequencing patterns
- Steno's Law of Superpositioning

Practical Exercise 3 – Sequencing pattern analysis

Practical Exercise 4 – Examinations from Photographs

Module 5 – Court Standards for Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

- Daubert & Frye standard
- Examples of standards
- Preparing for voir dire & court qualification
- Courtroom etiquette

Day two written quiz

DAY THREE. (8 hours)

Module 6 – Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Report Writing

- Data vs. Opinion (Classification vs. conclusion)
- Describing bloodstains within a report
- Logical presentation of findings

Module 7 – Bloodstains and Clothing

- Analysis of BPA on clothing
- Limitations of BPA on clothing
- Note taking, charting and photography of BPA on clothing

Practical Exercise 5 – BPA and clothing

Practical Exercise 6 – Report writing

DAY FOUR. (8 hours)

Report writing review

Module 8 – Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Court Testimony

- Professional qualifications
- Court presentation of BPA
- Common questions and pitfalls
- Testimony examples

Module 9 – Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Mock Court

Day four written quiz

DAY FIVE. (8 hours)

Final Written Test**

Module 10 – Student Final Practical & Class Presentations

Final review

Certificate ceremony

**Quizzes and tests are used for student's self-assessments only. Grades are not recorded by instructor.*

***Under the International Association for Bloodstain Pattern Analysis guidelines, students must pass final test to be able to practice BPA in the field.*