

Ventura College Sabbatical Leave Evaluation

On-site research project: CE program development for Forensic Science, including course content creation and laboratory manual development

Submitted by **Cari Lange**, Fall 2023

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Below is an accountability of the goals achieved during the Fall 2023 sabbatical leave.

Goal 1: Develop the official degree program in Forensic Science.

Component: Based on consultation with industry experts and working with local universities (CSUCI is in the early development stages of a BS degree in Forensic Science), a plan for what courses should be included in our degree and supporting curriculum has already been developed. Therefore, this stage will focus on deepening the working relationship with local universities and writing the official program for local and state approval which must include analysis of employment trends, transferability, etc.

Accountability: Close working relationships were developed between industry partners and the faculty leads at CSUCI. A total of seven (7) new courses were written and approved and two (2) existing CJ courses were modified and updated to meet the changing demands within the field. **These courses are ready to be offered as soon as the appropriately qualified instructors can be hired. The Forensic Science AS program and COA has been approved at the local and regional levels, and will appear in the VC catalogue beginning Fall 2025.**

Goal 2: Update our self-written laboratory manual for Introduction to Forensic Science Lab.

Component: To keep up with changing trends, technologies, and safety protocols in the forensic sciences, our lab activities manual for this core course needs an update. As the foundation of the program, this course is of top priority.

Accountability: Achieved, as about half of the activities for the basis course in our forensic science program were rewritten, modified, and tested during the subsequent semester.

Goal 3: Content development and creation of supporting laboratory activities for new courses.

Component: The initial focus will be content and activity development for courses with the highest prioritization within the degree program. The goal is to create full lesson plans for all seven new courses within the program and put together a group of cohesive activities in a lab manual format for the courses with a laboratory component.

Accountability: Due to delays in the curriculum process at both the regional level and CSUCI, changing certification requirements within the industry, and lack of appropriately qualified existing faculty for forensic science this portion of the project has been necessarily delayed until later in 2024.



May 13, 2024