



Information about the subject

Degree: Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminology

Faculty: Faculty of Legal, Economic and Social Sciences

Code: 1302026 **Name:** Research Techniques for Missing Individuals

Credits: 6,00 **ECTS Year:** 4 **Semester:** 2

Module: Elective itineraries

Subject Matter: Technical-legal itinerary **Type:** Elective

Department: Criminology

Type of learning: Classroom-based learning

Languages in which it is taught: Spanish

Lecturer/-s:

130OP03 Elisa Garcia Prosper (**Responsible Lecturer**)

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Module organization

Elective itineraries

Subject Matter	ECTS	Subject	ECTS	Year/semester
Technical-legal itinerary	60,00	Applied Statistics	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Directive and Negotiation Skills	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Economic Crimes	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Environmental Criminology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Human Resources and Occupational Hazards	6,00	4/2
		Judicial Police	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Medical Law and Healthcare Legislation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Research Techniques for Missing Individuals	6,00	4/2



Technical-legal itinerary		-Road Safety. Factors of Accident Rate. Investigation and Prevention of Accidents	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Technological Crimes	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
Medical and calligraphic expertise itinerary	54,00	Arsons and Criminal Investigation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Documentoscopy. Calligraphic Expertise	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Expert Intervention. Criminological Report	6,00	4/1
		Legal Medicine in the Workplace	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Medical and Surgical Physiopathology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Medical and Surgical Physiopathology	6,00	2/2
		Physical damage	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Thanatology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26



Medical and calligraphic expertise itinerary		Toxicology and Drug Dependence	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
Psycho-social and private security itinerary	72,00	Communication and Negotiation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Direction and Management of Security Businesses	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Discrimination and Gender Violence	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Forensic Anthropology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Forensic Paediatrics	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Pedagogy	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Planning and Management of Security. Techniques and Tools	6,00	4/2
		Psychography	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 25/26
		Psychology of Testimony	6,00	4/2
		Risk Analysis. Project of Comprehensive Safety	6,00	4/1



Psycho-social and
private security
itinerary

Social Intervention
Networks and Situational
Prevention

6,00

This elective is not
offered in the
academic year
25/26

Social Work

6,00

This elective is not
offered in the
academic year
25/26

Recommended knowledge

Not required



Learning outcomes

At the end of the course, the student must be able to prove that he/she has acquired the following learning outcomes:

- R1 Acquiring the important measures taken to assist people at risk.
- R2 Knowledge of the key determinants and the most important risk factors.
- R3 Obtaining sources of statistical information on missing people and people at risk.
- R4 Knowing the behavior of the murderers after committing the crime.
- R5 Knowing the "typical" person who steals a newborn or infant.
- R6 Using NCIC tips for entering information on family abduction cases.
- R7 Ask key questions regarding the initial response and regarding potential violations of the law.
- R8 Knowledge of NCIC Offline Search, Records and Additional Resources.
- R9 Asking key questions regarding international abductions.
- R10 Obtaining contact information for key resources at the U.S. Department of State.
- R11 Asking key questions regarding the return.
- R12 Handling the reunification of a person who has been abducted by a family member.
- R13 Knowledge of NCMEC case types, NCMEC Criteria for taking cases.
- R14 Knowledge of the Military World Location Services.
- R15 Assessing an agency's response in cases of missing children.



R16 Knowledge of the potential division of responsibilities in a unit devoted to missing people.





Competencies

Depending on the learning outcomes, the competencies to which the subject contributes are (please score from 1 to 4, being 4 the highest score):

BASIC		Weighting			
		1	2	3	4
CB1	Showing a command and understanding of knowledge in an area of study that is based on the general secondary education and that is usually at a level that implies the support on advanced textbooks but also the inclusion of knowledge from the cutting edge of their field of study.			X	
CB2	Being able to apply their knowledge to their jobs or vocational activities professionally and holding the competences that are demonstrated through the elaboration and defence of arguments as well as the solution of problems within their area of study.			X	
CB3	The ability to gather and interpret relevant data (normally within their area of study) so as to make judgements that include a reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.			X	
CB4	Being able to convey information, ideas, problems and solutions to a specialised or non-specialised public.				X
CB5	Having developed the learning abilities necessary to pursue postgraduate studies with a high degree of autonomy.		X		
GENERAL		Weighting			
		1	2	3	4
CG1	Understanding and integrating the different theories and scientific knowledge developed by Social, Legal and Behavioural Sciences through a critical lens in order to understand the sociocultural and personal context of all the elements that integrate the crime sphere.	X			
CG2	Being able to assess the complexity and diversity of the criminal phenomenon in a global context.	X			
CG4	The capacity for teamwork and efficient collaboration with other professionals from the different areas of criminology through negotiation and consensus.	X			



CG5	The capacity to obtain and manage efficiently the information from the scientific literature, specialised journals, databases and other sources.	X			
CG6	The capacity to establish explanatory hypotheses, using predictive and operative relationships that offer responses to the criminal phenomenon in a criminological context.	X			
CG7	The capacity to take decisions and to design programs and strategies for both prevention and treatment of the criminal phenomenon.	X			
CG9	Knowing the key concepts and theoretical approaches developed about the criminal phenomenon, the victimisation and responses to crime and deviation	X			
CG11	Being able to apply techniques and procedures for the resolution of criminological problems and decision-making in the area of Criminology.			X	
CG12	The capacity to analyse and synthesize relevant data within the area of Criminology in order to make judgements that include a reflection on relevant social, scientific or ethical issues.	X			
CG13	Understanding the basic principles of criminology-applied research: what can be obtained depending on the techniques and methodologies applied, when a methodology is more suitable than another, how the outcomes of a particular study can be evaluated and which are the ethical tenets that inform criminological research.				X
CG14	Knowing and understanding psychological, sociological, legal, and technical language necessary for a good command of criminological concepts.	X			
CG15	The commitment to developing and keeping updated their own competencies, skills and knowledge following the standards of the profession.	X			
CG16	Oral and written communication skills in the native language with regards to Criminological Science in order to present, circulate and validate the outcomes of criminological and criminalistic research both through scientific development and through the proposal of specific policies and lines of action.	X			

SPECIFIC		Weighting			
		1	2	3	4



CE2	Knowing the social basis of norms, fundamental values of Law, their origin, organization, functioning, and application in the recognition of fundamental rights, public liberties and others enshrined in our legal system.	X		
CE3	Critical knowledge of the Legal System sector in charge of studying the crime, the penalties, and of their prosecution and execution of penalties and measures, and its application to case studies.	X		
CE5	Understanding and knowing the functioning of local, regional, national, European and international institutions from their inception and as a whole and identifying the competent institution or administration in each case as well as the sectorial law applicable in each case.	X		
CE6	The capacity to understand the scope of both public and private law as an integrating element and guarantor of fundamental rights in its field of action, adopting a critical vision in the analysis of this system.	X		
CE7	Study and elaboration of reports in the field of minors with regards to risk situations, measures applicable to the minor offender and other types of measures applicable to minors at serious risk.	X		
CE9	The capacity to argue and describe different viewpoints, being able to debate about them in a logical and coherent manner, presenting the conclusions in an adequate academic format on the topics of criminal policy, victimisation, criminalisation, and responses to deviation and crime, as well as their perception and interpretation in the media, by the public and in official reports.	X		
CE10	Explanatory management from a socio-anthropological perspective of the concepts of violence, inequality and difference, delinquency, crime, social control, stigmatisation, and social deviation.	X		
CE11	Understanding, from an integrating perspective, of the scientific nature of Criminology and its objective, as well as of the multidisciplinary complexity of criminological science.	X		
CE12	Understanding of the phenomenon of delinquency in the fields of IT, labour, social security, image and honour, patents and trademarks as well as the strategies for investigating these crimes and knowledge of the regulations.	X		
CE13	The capacity to design an empirical research project that involves the application of quantitative and qualitative techniques, the use of published data sources, statistic analyses and interpretation of results obtained.	X		



CE14	Understanding the basic principles of the criminal phenomenon, its spatial, cultural, social, economic, legal, political, labour, and anthropological dimensions.	x		
CE18	Attention to victims of hatred, be it at individual, group or community levels, with particular sensibility towards those collective groups that are particularly victimised or at grave risk such as gender violence victims, minors or people with a disability.	x		
CE20	A command of the research methodology in social science, design of social integration plans, preventive urbanistic actions and comprehensive training of individuals, with special sensitivity to those groups at greatest risk of social exclusion, immigration, drug addiction and others.			x
CE21	Legislative, organizational and functional knowledge of the different public and private security bodies.	x		
CE23	Knowledge and application of scientific research techniques in the medical-legal and criminalistic field, as well as the basis and preparation of various expert reports.			x
CE24	Training in the elaboration of criminologist expert reports as well as in expert intervention in the different phases of the procedures.	x		



Assessment system for the acquisition of competencies and grading system

Assessed learning outcomes	Granted percentage	Assessment method
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	40,00%	Analysis and resolution of case studies.
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	40,00%	Attendance and participation in class.
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	20,00%	Exam or objective test to measure obtained competences.

Observations

For both the continuous assessment system and the single assessment system to pass the course, it is essential to have submitted the work and tasks programmed by the teacher in a timely manner, in addition to obtaining a minimum of **5** in the face-to-face exam.

CRITERIA FOR GRANTING THE MATRICULATION WITH HONOR: According to Article 14.4 of the General Regulations for the Evaluation and Grading of Official Studies and UCV's Own Degrees, the "Matrícula de Honor" distinction may be awarded to students who have obtained a grade equal to or higher than 9.0. Their number may not exceed five percent of the students enrolled in a group in the corresponding academic year, unless the number of students enrolled is less than 20, in which case only one "Matrícula de Honor" may be awarded.

CRITERIA FOR SINGLE ASSESSMENT

According to Article 9 of the General Regulations for the Assessment and Grading of Official Studies and UCV-Specific Degrees, the single assessment is linked to the inability of students enrolled in a face-to-face degree program to attend. It is, therefore, an extraordinary and exceptional assessment system available to students who, with justified and accredited documentation, are unable to submit to the continuous assessment system. They may request this from the professor responsible for the subject, who will expressly decide whether to accept the student's request for a single assessment and will inform them of the acceptance/denial. Regarding the subject of Procedural Law I, the minimum attendance requirement is 70%. This is the limit to be considered for any potential request for a single assessment:



- If granted, the 40% required for attendance, active participation, and a favorable attitude in the subject will be increased by the percentage of the final theoretical (by 20%) and practical (by 20%) exams taken during the official exam period.

- In the second sitting, the same assessment criteria will apply as for students who do not have a single assessment (since attendance, active participation, and a favorable attitude in the subject are not taken into account).

Use of AI in the course:

- Students may use AI for any course-related questions and may even provide it with statements, exercises, or assessment tests to obtain automated answers, as long as these are verified and validated by the students themselves. For this purpose, faculty may perform the appropriate checks.

- Students may not use AI:

- To record or transcribe, in whole or in part, any classroom activity, in order to obtain summaries or notes created by AI.

- To enter notes or any other material created by the faculty who provided it into AI tools such as ChatGPT or other non-institutional tools whose information is not stored in controlled environments.

- Citation and attribution criteria:

- Any use of AI tools must be explicitly stated in the submitted document (e.g., in a footnote or appendix).

- The name of the tool, the purpose of use (e.g., grammar check, organization of ideas, writing sample), and the part of the work where it was used must be indicated.

- Responsible use of AI will be evaluated as part of the criteria for originality and academic honesty.

CLASS ATTENDANCE IN FACE-TO-FACE DEGREES

In accordance with the development guidelines of the General Regulations for the Evaluation and Qualification of Official Teachings and Own Degrees of the UCV, in face-to-face degrees, class attendance with a minimum of 80% of the sessions of each subject will be required as a requirement to be evaluated. This means that, if a student does not attend the sessions of each subject, in a percentage greater than 20%, he/she will not be able to be evaluated, neither in the first nor in the second call, unless the person responsible for the subject, with the approval of the person responsible for degree, in view of duly justified exceptional circumstances, exempt from the minimum attendance percentage. The same criterion will be applicable for hybrid or virtual degrees in which teachers must maintain the same percentage in the requirement of "presence" in the different training activities, if any, even if these are carried out in virtual environments.

MENTION OF DISTINCTION:

The mention of "Honors" may be awarded to students who have obtained a grade equal to or greater than 9.0. Their number may not exceed five percent of the students enrolled in a group in the corresponding academic year, unless the number of students enrolled is lower.



Learning activities

The following methodologies will be used so that the students can achieve the learning outcomes of the subject:

- M1 Presentation of contents by the teacher, analysis of competencies, explanation and demonstration of abilities, skills and knowledge in the classroom.
- M2 Specific instructions about group and individual assignments for each topic.
- M3 Group work sessions supervised by the teacher. Study of legal cases, both real and fictitious, analysis, diagnosis, problems, field study, computer room, visits, data search, libraries, network, Internet, etc. Significant construction of knowledge through student interaction and activity. Critical analysis on values and social commitment.
- M4 Application of interdisciplinary knowledge.
- M5 Supervised monographic sessions with shared participation
- M6 Personalized attention and in small groups. Period of instruction and/or orientation carried out by a tutor with the objective of reviewing and discussing the materials and topics presented in the classes, seminars, readings, completion of assignments, etc.
- M7 Set of oral and/or written tests used in the initial, formative or summative evaluation of the student.
- M8 Group preparation of readings, assumptions and problem -olving to present, discuss or deliver in class or tutorial.
- M9 Student's study: Individual reading preparation, case studies, jurisprudence. Writings and papers to be presented or delivered in the classes or tutorials.



IN-CLASS LEARNING

IN-CLASS LEARNING ACTIVITIES

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
In-person class M1, M2, M3, M4, M5, M8	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	20,00	0,80
Practical class M1, M2, M3, M4, M5, M8, M9	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	25,00	1,00
Seminar M1, M2, M3, M4, M5, M8	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	4,00	0,16
Group work presentation M2	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	4,00	0,16
Tutorial M4	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	4,00	0,16
Evaluation M7	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	4,00	0,16
TOTAL		61,00	2,44

LEARNING ACTIVITIES OF AUTONOMOUS WORK

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
Group work M3, M4, M8	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	35,00	1,40
Individual work M2, M3, M4, M5, M8	R1, R2, R3, R5, R15	54,00	2,16
TOTAL		89,00	3,56



Description of the contents

Description of the necessary contents to acquire the learning outcomes.

Theoretical contents:

Content block	Contents
INTRODUCTION.	Concept of missing person and others. Study of the phenomenon from a criminological and practical perspective. Legislation and other resources regarding missing persons
TYPES OF DISAPPEARANCES	Risky disappearances and disappearances in strange circumstances. Detection techniques and simulators. Kidnappings. Forced and voluntary disappearances. Recidivism.
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT	Management of relations with relatives during the investigation. Relations with the media.
DISAPPEARANCE OF MINORS.	Abduction of minors.
FIGURES AND STATISTICAL DATA	Sizing up the current problem. Preparation of disappearance maps.
SPECIFIC POLICE INVESTIGATION.	Knowledge of investigation techniques. Analysis of previous days and predictors. Investigation by proximity circles. Analysis and study of data extracted from mobile devices and computers. The PDyRH system.
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK	Protocols for action and teams in humanitarian investigations
HUMANITARIAN FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY: SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF MISSING PERSONS	Field methodology: prospecting, excavation, and exhumation techniques.
IN THE FIELD: SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF MISSING PERSONS	Prior documentary research: interviews, historiography, bibliographical consultations. Field methodology: prospecting, excavation and exhumation techniques.



IN THE FIELD LABORATORY:

Processing of skeletal remains (human vs. animal), personal objects.

IN THE LABORATORY: PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION.

FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION OF MISSING PERSONS

Species differentiation: fauna vs. human bone. Minimum number of individuals. Processing and conservation of objects from the periworld.

Investigation techniques for missing persons in forensic anthropology (biological profile). Identification and pathology. Complexity in assignments and identification: presentation of methodologies and presentation of practical cases.

Current missing persons, major catastrophes, war contexts, and others. Taking biological samples. Genetic investigation



Temporary organization of learning:

Block of content	Number of sessions	Hours
INTRODUCTION.	3,00	6,00
TYPES OF DISAPPEARANCES	3,00	6,00
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT	2,00	4,00
DISAPPEARANCE OF MINORS.	2,00	4,00
FIGURES AND STATISTICAL DATA	1,50	3,00
SPECIFIC POLICE INVESTIGATION.	2,00	4,00
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK	2,00	4,00
HUMANITARIAN FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY: SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF MISSING PERSONS	2,00	4,00
IN THE FIELD: SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF MISSING PERSONS	4,00	8,00
IN THE FIELD LABORATORY: Processing of skeletal remains (human vs. animal), personal objects.	3,00	6,00
IN THE LABORATORY: PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION.	3,00	6,00
FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION OF MISSING PERSONS	3,00	6,00



References

Basic bibliography:

·García-Pablos de Molina, Antonio, Criminología. Una introducción a sus fundamentos teóricos,(7ª ed. Corregida y aumentada) Ed. Tirant lo Blanch. Valencia 2013. ·ANADÓN M.J.; ROBLEDÓ M.M. (Coords) (2010): Manual de Criminalística y Ciencias Forenses. Técnicas forenses aplicadas a la investigación criminal. Madrid: Editorial Tébar. ·AAVV (2017): Guía práctica para la recuperación y análisis de restos humanos. En contextos de violaciones a los derechos humanos e infracciones contra el Derecho Internacional Humanitario. Ministerio público. Fiscalía de la Nación. Cruz Roja Internacional (CICR). ·AAVV (2013): Recomendaciones en Antropología Forense. Serrulla, F (Coord). Asociación Española de Antropología y odontología forense (AEAOF). ·HUNTER, J, ROBERTS, CH y MARTIN, A (1996): Studies in Crime: An introduction to Forensic Archaeology. Ed. Routledge. London. ·POLO, M.; GARCÍA-PRÓSPER, E.; CRESPO, S; GALTÉS I, MÁRQUEZ-GRANT N, GARCÍA-RUBIO A, ARMENTANO N, MUÑOZ HERNÁNDEZ V (2018): Protocolo de búsqueda, levantamiento y exhumación de restos humanos. Revista Internacional de Antropología y Odontología Forense (RIAOF), Volumen. 1, Nº1, PP. 7-23. ·VILLALBA J.D.; PUCHALT F.J. (2000): Identificación antropológica policial y forense. Valencia: Editorial Tirant Lo Blanch.

Complementary Bibliography:

·Lobatón, P.: Te buscaré mientras viva, Barcelona, 2018. Penguin Random House Grupo Editorial. ·BORGOGNINI, S y PACCIANI, E (1993): I resti umani nello scavo archeologico. Bulzoni Editore. ·HUNTER, J y COX, M (2005): Forensic Archaeology. Advances in theory and practice. Ed. Routledge. London. ·MALLEGNI, F y RUBINI, M (1994): Recupero dei materiali escheletrici umani in Archeologia. Roma. ·DUDAY, H (2004): The Archaeology of the dead. Lectures in Archaeothanatology. Oxbowbooks. Oxford.

Recommended readings:

- BURNS K.R. (2008): Manual de Antropología Forense. Barcelona: Edicions Bellaterra. - SANABRIA, C (2004): Antropología forense y la investigación médico-legal de las muertes. Policía Nacional. Dirección general de Escuelas. Vicerrectoría académica. Facultad de investigación criminal. Colombia.

Links of interest:

·Sociedad Española de Criminología y Ciencias Forenses. <http://seccif.es/> ·Colegio Oficial de Criminólogos de la Comunidad Valenciana <http://www.icoc.es/> ·Ministerio del Interior. www.interior.gob.es.
·Ministerio de Justicia. www.mjusticia.gob.es ·Proyecto Missing Children Europe. <http://missingchildreneurope.eu/> ·Fundación por las personas desaparecidas. www.qsdglobal.com ·Asociación Antropología y Odontología Forense <http://aeaof.com> ·Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja <https://www.icrc.org/es>. ·Fundación ANAR www.anar.org