



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: -

Type of learning: Classroom-based learning

Languages in which it is taught: Spanish

Lecturer/-s:

130OP03 Jose Maria Palacios Hormigo (**Responsible Lecturer**)

jm.palacios@ucv.es

Elisa Garcia Prosper

elisa.garcia@ucv.es



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 23/24
		Directive and Negotiation Skills	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Economic Crimes	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Environmental Criminology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Human Resources and Occupational Hazards	6,00	4/2
		Judicial Police	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Medical Law and Healthcare Legislation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		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 23/24
		Technological Crimes	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
Medical and calligraphic expertise itinerary	54,00	Arsons and Criminal Investigation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Documentoscopy. Calligraphic Expertise	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Expert Intervention. Criminological Report	6,00	4/1
		Legal Medicine in the Workplace	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Medical and Surgical Physiopathology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Physical damage	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Thanatology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Toxicology and Drug Dependence	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24



Psycho-social and private security itinerary	72,00	Communication and Negotiation	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Direction and Management of Security Businesses	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Discrimination and Gender Violence	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Forensic Anthropology	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Forensic Paediatrics	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Pedagogy	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		Planning and Management of Security. Techniques and Tools	6,00	4/2
		Psychography	6,00	This elective is not offered in the academic year 23/24
		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
23/24

Social Work

6,00

This elective is not
offered in the
academic year
23/24

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
CG11	Being able to apply techniques and procedures for the resolution of criminological problems and decision-making in the area of Criminology.			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



SPECIFIC	Weighting			
	1	2	3	4
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
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



Assessment system for the acquisition of competencies and grading system

In-class teaching

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

Observations

Evaluation is continuous. to approve the subject it is essential to have presented in time and form the works and tasks scheduled by the teachers, in addition to obtaining a minimum of 5 in the presence test.

He attendance and participation will be taken into account in those students who have presented the works, actively participated in class and presented to the exam.

An honor enrollment grade may be awarded for every 20 students.

Online teaching

Assessed learning outcomes	Granted percentage	Assessment method
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	20,00%	Final test and/or final work
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	40,00%	Participation in programmed activities
R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	40,00%	Presentation of works and projects



Observations

Evaluation is continuous. to approve the subject it is essential to have presented in time and form the works and tasks scheduled by the teachers, in addition to obtaining a minimum of 5 in the presence test.

An honor enrollment grade may be awarded for every 20 students.

MENTION OF DISTINCTION:

According to Article 22 of the Regulations governing the Evaluation and Qualification of UCV Courses, the mention of "Distinction of Honor" may be awarded by the professor responsible for the course to students who have obtained, at least, the qualification of 9 over 10 ("Sobresaliente"). The number of "Distinction of Honor" mentions that may be awarded may not exceed five percent of the number of students included in the same official record, unless this number is lower than 20, in which case only one "Distinction of Honor" may be awarded.

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.
- M17 Expository Method /Master Class
- M18 Exercise and problem solving
- M19 Case method
- M20 Course works and tasks
- M21 Project-oriented learning
- M22 Guided Practice through debates, resolution of problems and exercises in the virtual classroom.



IN-CLASS LEARNING

IN-CLASS LEARNING ACTIVITIES

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
In-person class M1	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	20,00	0,80
Practical class M2, M6, M8	R1, R3, R6, R9, R11, R12, R15, R16	25,00	1,00
Seminar M5	R15, R16	2,50	0,10
Group work presentation M3, M8	R2, R3, R7, R12	5,00	0,20
Tutorial M6	R6, R7	5,00	0,20
Evaluation M7	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R8, R12, R13, R14, R16	2,50	0,10
TOTAL		60,00	2,40

LEARNING ACTIVITIES OF AUTONOMOUS WORK

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
Group work M3	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	30,00	1,20
Individual work M9	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	60,00	2,40
TOTAL		90,00	3,60



ON-LINE LEARNING

SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING ACTIVITIES

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
Master Class M17	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	15,00	0,60
Practical activity M18	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	25,00	1,00
Tutorial M22	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	10,00	0,40
TOTAL		50,00	2,00

ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING ACTIVITIES

	LEARNING OUTCOMES	HOURS	ECTS
Individual or group work of students M20	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	90,00	3,60
Activities through virtual resources M22	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	2,50	0,10
Access and research on complementary contents M21	R1, R2, R3, R4, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	5,00	0,20
Individual study M19	R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R14, R15, R16	2,50	0,10
TOTAL		100,00	4,00



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 aspects. Study of the phenomenon from a criminological and practical perspective. Legislation and other resources on missing persons.
TYPES OF DISAPPEARANCES.	Disappearances of risk and in strange circumstances. Detection techniques and simulators. Kidnappings. Enforced and voluntary disappearances. Recurrences.
SPECIFIC POLICE INVESTIGATION.	Knowledge of research techniques. Analysis of previous days and predictors. Research by proximity circles. Analysis and study of data extracted from mobile devices and computers. The PDyRH system.
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT	Management of relations with relatives during the investigation. Relationships with communication media.
DISAPPEARANCE OF MINORS	Child abduction
STATISTICAL FIGURES AND DATA.	Sizing of the current problem. Elaboration of disappearance maps.
STUDY OF EQUALS.	Exposure of investigation systems of other countries on missing persons and opposition to the Spanish system.
LEGAL FRAMEWORK, PROTOCOLOS AND INTERNATIONAL TEAMS FOR THE SEARCH OF THE MISSING.	Contexts, action protocols, national and international legal framework, the different work teams, their organization chart and work methodology.
FIELDWORKS; SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF THE MISSING.	Previous documentary research: interviews, historiography, bibliographic consultations. Field methodology: prospecting, excavation and exhumation techniques.



IN THE LABORATORY; PHYSICAL
ANTHROPOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION.

Species differentiation: fauna vs human bone. Techniques for investigating the disappeared in forensic anthropology (the biological profile). Identification and pathology. Complexity in assignments and identification: exposition of methodologies and presentation of practical cases.

FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION OF THE
MISSING.

Current disappeared, major catastrophes, war contexts, and others. Taking biological samples. Genetic databases.



Temporary organization of learning:

Block of content	Number of sessions	Hours
INTRODUCTION.	1,00	2,00
TYPES OF DISAPPEARANCES.	2,00	4,00
SPECIFIC POLICE INVESTIGATION.	5,00	10,00
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT	1,00	2,00
DISAPPEARANCE OF MINORS	5,00	10,00
STATISTICAL FIGURES AND DATA.	1,00	2,00
STUDY OF EQUALS.	1,00	2,00
LEGAL FRAMEWORK, PROTOCOLOS AND INTERNATIONAL TEAMS FOR THE SEARCH OF THE MISSING.	5,00	10,00
FIELDWORKS; SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF THE MISSING.	2,00	4,00
IN THE LABORATORY; PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION.	2,00	4,00
FORENSIC IDENTIFICATION OF THE MISSING.	5,00	10,00



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.; ROBLEDO 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.
- VILLALÁIN J.D.; PUCHALT F.J. (2000): Identificación antropológica policial y forense. Valencia: Editorial Tirant Lo Blanch.

FURTHER READING:

- 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 Archaeoethanatology. Oxbow books. Oxford.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED READING:

- 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 AND WEBSITES 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



Addendum to the Course Guide of the Subject

Due to the exceptional situation caused by the health crisis of the COVID-19 and taking into account the security measures related to the development of the educational activity in the Higher Education Institution teaching area, the following changes have been made in the guide of the subject to ensure that Students achieve their learning outcomes of the Subject.

Situation 1: Teaching without limited capacity (when the number of enrolled students is lower than the allowed capacity in classroom, according to the security measures taken).

In this case, no changes are made in the guide of the subject.

Situation 2: Teaching with limited capacity (when the number of enrolled students is higher than the allowed capacity in classroom, according to the security measures taken).

In this case, the following changes are made:

1. Educational Activities of Onsite Work:

All the foreseen activities to be developed in the classroom as indicated in this field of the guide of the subject will be made through a simultaneous teaching method combining onsite teaching in the classroom and synchronous online teaching. Students will be able to attend classes onsite or to attend them online through the telematic tools provided by the university (videoconferences). In any case, students who attend classes onsite and who attend them by videoconference will rotate periodically.

In the particular case of this subject, these videoconferences will be made through:

☒

Microsoft Teams

☐

Kaltura



Situation 3: Confinement due to a new State of Alarm.

In this case, the following changes are made:

1. Educational Activities of Onsite Work:

All the foreseen activities to be developed in the classroom as indicated in this field of the guide of the subject, as well as the group and personalized tutoring, will be done with the telematic tools provided by the University, through:

☒ Microsoft Teams

☐ Kaltura

Explanation about the practical sessions:



2. System for Assessing the Acquisition of the competences and Assessment System

ONSITE WORK

Regarding the Assessment Tools:

☒

The Assessment Tools will not be modified. If onsite assessment is not possible, it will be done online through the UCVnet Campus.

☐

The following changes will be made to adapt the subject's assessment to the online teaching.

Course guide		Adaptation	
Assessment tool	Allocated percentage	Description of the suggested changes	Platform to be used

The other Assessment Tools will not be modified with regards to what is indicated in the Course Guide.

Comments to the Assessment System:



And how will online participation be valued? In many different ways, such as the following:

- 1) Taking into account the interventions of the students in the online classes themselves, with the corresponding records or notes.
- 2) Considering virtual tutorials through the UCVnet virtual Campus or online sessions through Teams developed as a group or individual tutorial.
- 3) Taking into account the interventions in the forum created on the UCVnet platform to raise and answer questions on the agenda.
- 4) Considering the emails or messages received raising questions about the subject's agenda.