

Forensic Science: Crime Novel Project

Project Due Date: _____

This will count as 1 TEST grade!!

How to Submit: Paper copy turn in to the box.

I. Select a novel--Due Monday, January 7

- A. 200+ pages
- B. Focus on a crime (any type), the investigation of said crime and evidence.
NOTE: novels that focus on supernatural events or novels that focus on the social/emotional effects of a crime will not work for this project.
- C. You may select any novel that fits the above criteria. What follows are a list of popular authors who most, if not all, of their work can be used for this assignments.
 - Patricia Cornwell (murders)
 - Kathy Reichs (murders)
 - Max Allan Collins (murders)
 - Jonathan Kellerman (spy and murders)
 - Diane Mott Davidson (food mysteries)
 - Anne Perry (period crimes)
 - John Grisham (lawyer)
 - Tony Hellerman (Native American mysteries, AZ)
 - Arthur Conan Doyle (English, S. Holmes)
 - Robin Cook (medical murders)
 - David Baldacci (spy)
 - J. A. Jance (mystery and horror)
 - Agatha Christie (Classic English Mystery)
 - Lisa Gardner (crime novels...some "romantic crimes")
 - Sue Grafton (mysteries and crime)
 - Lilian Jackson Braun (mysteries)
 - James Patterson (murder mysteries)
- D. You must bring your novel (hard or digital copy) to class daily.

II. Read the novel-- You will be provided class time for this. (30min per day)

A. Take notes as you read. Keep track of page numbers. Focus on the following

What	Notes	Page #s
The crime (who, what, when, where, why and how)		
The victim (who were/are they, why were they selected and so on)		
The suspects (who, what, when, where, why and how) Note if they were ruled out and why.		
The investigator(s): (who, what, when, where, why and how) What agency do they work for?		
Evidence: What is it, who found it, where, how was it collected, handled, processed, and what does it mean.		

Forensic terms (you need to find at least 12 of them and the page they appear on)

Term	What does it mean & how does it relate to the story	Page #

III. Write up the project-- You will be provided 2 class period for this after 10 days of reading time.

Preliminary Requirements: (12 points)

- Cover must have name, date, period, name of book and author of book, your name
- Create a booklet (hard copy will be submitted) or electronic all one document.
- Use color (in your crime scene sketch)
- Type it
- Label the sections
- Sections are to be placed in the order directed by instructor and each section must start on a separate page.
- The page must be titled with the entry number and the title of the entry
- Make it neat
- You must have at least 7 pages (1 page for each entry)
- Booklet may be any size you want
- Must use proper english writing conventions.

Entry 1: Characters (21 points)

- Description of victim
- Description of suspects including Means, Motive and Opportunity for each
- Description of other main characters

Entry 2: Crime Scene (21 points)

- Written description of the crime scene
- Crime scene sketch (from your perspective)

Entry 3: Overview/Summary (15 points)

- Novel (case) synopsis (1 "page" or less)

Entry 4: Forensic Vocabulary (18 points)

- List forensic vocabulary used in novel. Include explanation of terminology and page number
- Does the forensic terminology make sense in regards to the story? (Do they fit?)
- A minimum of 12 words required

Entry 5: Analysis (30 points)

- Case Analysis (Book Review) Be sure to complete this entry in paragraph form. (4-6 complete sentences)
- Was the story believable? **Justify your position with evidence from text.**
- Did the case flow well? Justify your position
- How well was the story written? Justify your position
- What is the point of view of the author? Why do you think the author chose to write the story from this perspective?
- Do you think the novel was easy to read? Justify your position

Entry 6: Timeline (18 points)

- Develop a timeline of events that occurred in the story (this can be in bullet points or timeline)

Entry 7: Personal Evaluation (15 points)

- Personal Reflective summary—What did you learn? What did you like? What did you dislike? How does the book apply to this class? Are you planning to read more books by this author? What additional questions do you have about the story? Any other additional thoughts you have...

Forensic Science Novel Project

Grading Rubric

Your grade will be determined based on the following criteria.

Item	Advanced	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Deficient	Not done
<u>Entry 1: Characters</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of victim • Description of suspects including Means, Motive and Opportunity • Description of other main characters 	4	3	2	1	0
<u>Entry 2: Crime Scene</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written description of the crime scene • Crime scene sketch (from your perspective) 	4	3	2	1	0
<u>Entry 3: Overview/Summary</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novel (case) synopsis 	4	3	2	1	0
<u>Entry 4: Terminology</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List forensic terminology used in novel. Include explanation of terminology and page number • Does the forensic terminology make sense in regards to the story? (Do they fit?) • A minimum of 12 words required...if your book does not have 12 forensic terms 	4	3	2	1	0

<p><u>Entry 5: Analysis (30 points)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Analysis (Book Review) Be sure to complete this entry in paragraph form. • Was the story believable? Justify your position • Did the case flow well? Justify your position • How well was the story written? Justify your position • What is the point of view of the author? Why do you think the author chose to write the story from this perspective? • Do you think the novel was easy to read? Justify your position 	4	3	2	1	0
<p><u>Entry 6: Timeline</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a timeline of events that occurred in the story (this can be in bullet points) 	4	3	2	1	0
<p><u>Entry 7: Personal Evaluation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Reflective summary—What did you learn? What did you like? What did you dislike? How does the book apply to this class? Are you planning to read more books by this author? What additional questions do you have about the story? Any other additional thoughts you have... 	4	3	2	1	0