

Forensic Science
Mrs. Smith

Name _____
Date _____

INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC SCIENCE

CLASS NOTES

Forensic science mixes _____ and _____. It applies knowledge and technology of science to help enforce civil and criminal laws.

Forensic Science is an umbrella term that includes many different careers. Some of those careers include Criministics, Digital and Multi Media Sciences, General, Jurisprudence, Odontology, Pathology, Physical Anthropology, Behavioral Sciences, Questioned Documents and Toxicology.

HISTORY OF FORENSIC SCIENCE:

BCE Evidence of fingerprints in early paintings and rock carvings of prehistoric humans

1248 Chinese book, His Duan Yu (the washing away of wrongs), contains a description of how to distinguish drowning from strangulation. This was the first recorded application of medical knowledge to the solution of crime.

1686 Marcello Malpighi, a professor of anatomy at the University of Bologna, noted fingerprint characteristics. However, he made no mention of their value as a tool for individual identification.

1784 In Lancaster, England, John Toms was convicted of murder on the basis of the torn edge of wad of newspaper in a pistol matching a remaining piece in his pocket. This was one of the first documented uses of physical matching.

1835 Henry Goddard, one of Scotland Yard's original Bow Street Runners, first used bullet comparison to catch a murderer. His comparison was based on a visible flaw in the bullet which was traced back to a mold.

1839 H. Bayard published the first reliable procedures for the microscopic detection of sperm. He also noted the different microscopic characteristics of various different substrate fabrics.

1862 The Dutch scientist J. Van Deen developed a presumptive test for blood using guaiac, a West Indian shrub.

1883 Alphonse Bertillon, a French police employee, identified the first recidivist based on his invention of anthropometry.