

FORENSIC SCIENCE

What you need to know...

Instructors: Mrs. Fillingham & Ms. M (Milhollan) (room 203)

Email (contact): tanya.fillingham@asd20.org & Jessica.milhollan@asd20.org

Website: <http://marvelousmsmscience.weebly.com/>

Email is typically the best way to contact us, but Mrs. Fillingham is nearly always available *before* school and Ms. M is nearly always available *after* school. Forensic Science can be tricky from time to time, so feel free to stop by and ask questions or to discuss topics so we can help you to reach your full potential.

Classroom Expectations

There are only two rules in this class;

1. Be responsible.
 - a. Remember to bring your supplies, do your homework (and bring it back☺), and be on time and in your seat when class starts.
2. Be respectful.
 - a. Treat everyone/everything with respect, come to class ready to learn, be on time and in your seat when class starts.

If the class expectations are not met, expect;

First offense - Verbal warning

Second offense - After school/Lunch detention in my room

Third offense - Parent phone call and school detention

Fourth offense - Official write-up and parent conference

Tardies...

The tardy policy for class will follow Rampart's guidelines for tardies. If you do not have a pass and are not in your seat and ready to learn when the bell rings, this is considered a tardy.

Plagiarism/Cheating

In the unlikely event you choose to copy someone else's work or ideas you will receive a zero for that assignment, (this includes homework, class work, tests/quizzes, projects, and labs). Cheating on an assignment is never worth compromising your integrity and reputation.

Late Work

Timeliness is essential in everything you do. **Late work is only accepted during the unit it was assigned, no credit will be given for the assignment after the unit quiz/test.**

Absences

1. *Excused* absences: According to Rampart's absence policy, you have the same number of days you were absent to make up your work.
 - a. **It is the student's responsibility to get the missing assignment and make up any work that was missed.** Due to the nature of labs most cannot be made up. An alternative assignment will be offered to make up points that were missed.
2. *Unexcused* Absences: Any assignments that were due the day of the absence will be given a grade of zero, (this includes tests and quizzes on the day you miss).

And now for the fun stuff...LABS and CRIME SCENES!

Labs and crime scenes are crucial to learn concepts and they're just plain fun. However, it is imperative that labs/scenes are safe. All students are expected to know and follow the lab safety guidelines presented in class. Each student and their parents are also expected to read over and sign a lab safety contract. If at any time

students are not exhibiting safe lab practices, they will be asked to stop the lab and may receive a zero for the lab or complete an alternative (and most likely boring) paper assignment.

Grades

Grades will be updated on a weekly basis through infinite campus. Parents and students can check the status of their grades at <https://mycampus.asd20.org/campus/portal/academy20.jsp>. The following percentages represent the agreed upon standard for chemistry at RHS:

Grades:	In Progress Grade: 80% of final grade
	Tests: 30% = 24% of final grade
	Reports: 20% = 16% of final grade
	Squad Synergy: 20% = 16% of final grade
	Labs: 20% = 16% of final grade
	Practice/Classwork: 10% = 8% of final grade

Final Exam Grade: 20% of final grade

Tests & Quizzes

You will never be tested on something that we have not discussed in class. We do not believe in surprising you on tests and will give you the main concepts that are on the test ahead of time.

Retakes: What is most important is that you learn the material.

Tests: Students can retake only **one test per semester (so choose wisely!)**. The **second** score will be recorded regardless of improvement (so study!!).

Class Materials

Please bring the following to class each day:

1. Binder (three-ring) with for general note-taking-this will also be a place to keep hand-outs and graded work.
2. Writing utensil!!!! (Please don't forget this)

This is an *approximate* outline of the schedule for this course, including the chapters we will be covering. Please use the website for announcements and additional information in the "Daily Calendar" section.

Unit	Week	Topic of Study
1	1-4	History and Introduction to Forensic Science
2	5-8	Crime Scene Investigation, Sketching, Photography
3	9-12	Fingerprints
4	13-16	Hair and Fibers (includes Thanksgiving Break)
	17-18	Review and Final (cumulative for the semester)
Winter Break		
5	1-7	Blood Typing and Blood Pattern Analysis
6	8-11	DNA Fingerprinting
7	12-14	Glass Fracture Pattern Analysis (includes Spring Break)
8	15-18	Death, Injury, and Autopsy
	19-20	Review and Final (cumulative for the year)

FORENSIC SCIENCE PARENT INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your teen's Forensic Science teachers, we want to make certain that you are informed about the topics he or she will be learning. Forensic Science class will be exposing him or her to several controversial subjects. These **may** include the following:

- crime scene situations and evidence
- serial killer videos, facts, methods, and psychology
- fingerprinting, hair and fiber analysis
- firearm and bullet analysis
- the effects of a fired bullet on objects and people
- use and detection of blood/spatter
- time of death determinations, autopsy procedures, photos, and videos

Not only will the student learn about these topics, he or she will have guest speakers and labs to gain hands-on experience. Several graphic demonstrations, pictures, videos, and illustrations are included in the class so as to further the understanding of certain topics. It is important to note that to convict criminals one must first understand the circumstances of criminals, the crimes they commit, and the tools that are used to commit them. This must be done at the crime scenes, in laboratories, jailhouse, and courts.

Your teen received a hard copy of the course outline and requirements. All documents are available for your review before the start of the unit by email or through the website: marvelousmsmscience.weebly.com

If you have any questions or concerns, contact us at work at 719 234-2000 or email us (fastest route) at tanya.fillingham@asd20.org or jessica.milhollan@asd20.org.

Sincerely,

Tanya Fillingham & Jess Milhollan

I, _____, concur that I have read the above and understand that my teen, _____, will be exposed the aforementioned material and that we have read and understand the Forensic Science class policies. I have no objections to my teen attending and participating in Forensic Science class.

Student (printed)

Class/Period

Student signature

Date

Parent/Guardian signature

Date

Please circle one: I **do** or **do not** have access to the internet at home

Please see other side →→→

FINGERPRINT PERMISSION FORM (Unit 3, first semester)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

During the 3rd unit for Forensic Science first semester, we will be studying fingerprints. Your student will be asked to create a set of fingerprints, lift latent prints from various surfaces, and use physical and chemical techniques to develop latent prints. Several identification systems will be used to compare fingerprints.

The fingerprints will be kept in the students' notebooks. I will not keep or reproduce any of the prints for my record. Due to state privacy laws, your permission is needed for your son/daughter to participate. Please sign the bottom of this letter if you approve of his/her participation.

Parent signature

Date

BLOOD UNIT PERMISSION PARTICIPATION LEVEL (Unit 5, second semester)

Dear Parent/Guardian (please choose one option below),

We want to make certain that you are informed about the topics your student will be learning. Unit 5 is about blood and blood spatter patterns. To create the most accurate and realistic experience, we must use real animal blood in 2-3 demonstrations/labs.

Students will be required to use goggles and gloves when handling and observing blood labs even though the blood used has very low probability for danger. The animal blood will be obtained from the Royal Gorge Packing Co. and from a local veterinarian and are from animals approved for human consumption or tested pet blood for transfusions.

Option 1: If you will **permit** your student to **participate in all labs** in this unit, please sign below:

Parent approval signature for all lab participation

Option 2: If you will **not** permit your student **handle** any blood (always with gloves) but still would **permit** him/her to participate in the labs as a **recorder and observer**, please sign below:

Parent approval for observation only

Option 3: If you will **not** permit your student to participate in **any labs** involving blood or blood-like material and want an alternative assignment(s) for this unit, please sign below:

Parent desiring alternative unit activities