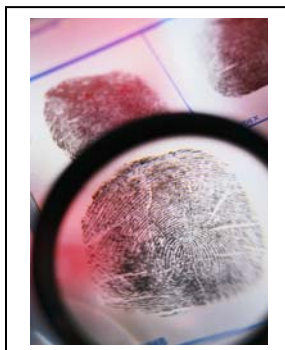


# Small Learning Communities



## FORENSICS INSTITUTE



**SUMMARY** The Forensics Institute brings together teachers from two subject areas (Chemistry and Constitutional Law) to create a unique interdisciplinary experience for selected juniors. This learning community provides an overview of forensic science and criminalistics including history and the modern role of forensic science in the judicial system. The courses run in a three period, consecutive block which includes a study lab period to allow extended time for guest speakers, field trips, project work, and course applications. Students must enroll in both portions of the institute. This institute is intended for students interested in a career in law, criminal justice, or forensic science. It fulfills requirements for one lab science.

### **SCIENCE: Chemistry**

**Grade 11**

**6 Credits**

This is an intensive course to study how basic chemical principles are used to examine the chemistry that most directly impacts criminal investigations. Typical college prep chemistry concepts will be covered in this course. It provides a framework of knowledge to be expanded and cohorted with the course below. Guest speakers, field trips, and distance learning are used to enrich the curriculum.



**Prerequisite:** *Successful completion of Biology and Algebra-1, IMP-2 or Geometry.*

### **HISTORY: Constitutional / Criminal Law**

**Grade 11**

**5 Credits**

This course will serve students by providing an in-depth familiarization with and working knowledge of the United States Constitution and its presence within this society. By understanding the history behind the document and its creation, students will be better prepared to examine its current applications in the field of forensic sciences. Detailed examination of how our government functions, specifically in the area of law, will serve to offer students the ability to better function within society while maintaining a better understanding of the United States legal system. Students who have an interest in any of the professions associated with law and/or government will benefit from the increased knowledge of the working of those systems this course will provide. Course covers the legal aspects of forensic science including the adjudicative process, admissibility of scientific evidence, laboratory reports, hearsay, relevant case materials and expert testimony.

**Prerequisites:** *Students must have passed World History and United States History I*

