COURSE DESCRIPTION

This one-week (38 hour) course will familiarize students with the microscopy equipment common to most modern crime labs. The course will enable students to select the most appropriate equipment and techniques and to make basic observations of the physical and optical properties of common evidential materials. This class will focus on the proper use and operation of the compound microscope. This course is intended for criminalists involved in microscopy and trace evidence work. Note: This class or its equivalent is a prerequisite for CCI courses on Hair, Fiber, and Advanced Microscopy classes.

Topics will include:

- Function and Nomenclature of a Microscope
- Geometric Optics
- Transmitted Light Microscopy
- Illumination
- Diffraction
- Refractive Index
- Polarized Light
- Isotropic and Anisotropic
- Birefringence and Crystal Orientation