This course is an introduction to fingerprints and their uses in forensic science to identify individuals. It will provide an overview of the fundamentals of fingerprint identification as well as practical experience developing and comparing fingerprints. Topics which will be covered on the course include: the history of fingerprint identification, the formation and development of friction ridge skin, fingerprint patterns, digit determination, the fingerprint analysis and comparison process, crime scenes and collecting fingerprints, chemical development, taking a set of fingerprints from an individual, fingerprint evidence in court, case studies, and current issues in fingerprints (including bias, probability and uncertainty).

Pre-requisites: One or more of the following: 60 credit hours including at least one 2000-level Biology and/or Chemistry and/or Physics course, or a relevant law enforcement or legal background.

Registration begins February 14, 2014