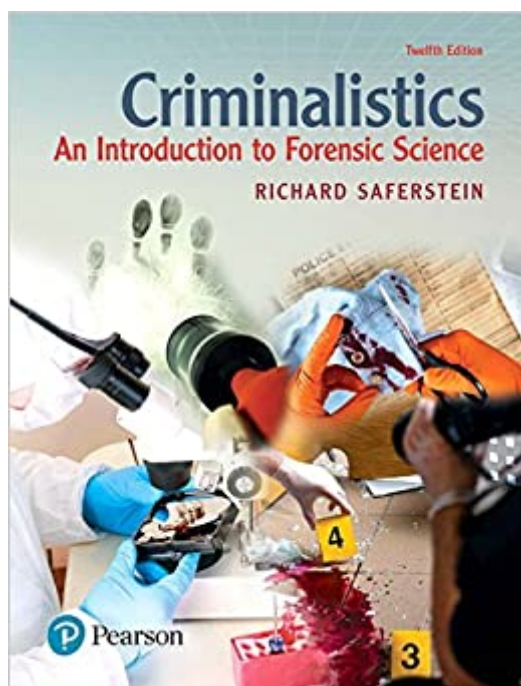


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# Criminalistics: An Introduction To Forensic Science (12th Edition)



## Synopsis

For introductory courses in Forensic Science and Crime Scene Investigation      A clear introduction to the technology of the modern crime laboratory for non-scientists      Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science, Twelfth Edition, uses clear writing, case stories, and modern technology to capture the pulse and fervor of forensic science investigations. Written for readers with no scientific background, only the most relevant scientific and technological concepts are presented. The nature of physical evidence is defined, and the limitations that technology and current knowledge impose on its individualization and characterization are examined. A major portion of the text centers on discussions of the common items of physical evidence encountered at crime scenes. Particular attention is paid to the meaning and role of probability in interpreting the evidential significance of scientifically evaluated evidence. Updated throughout, the Twelfth Edition includes a new chapter on the exciting field of forensic biometrics. With its easy-to-understand writing and straightforward presentation, this best-selling text is clear and comprehensible to a wide variety of students.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Richard Saferstein, Ph.D., retired after serving 21 years as the chief forensic scientist of the New Jersey State Police Laboratory, one of the largest crime laboratories in the United States. He currently acts as a consultant for attorneys and the media in the area of forensic science. During the O. J. Simpson criminal trial, Dr. Saferstein provided extensive commentary on forensic aspects of the case for the Rivera Live show, the E! television network, ABC radio, and various radio talk

shows. Dr. Saferstein holds degrees from the City College of New York and earned his doctorate degree in chemistry in 1970 from the City University of New York. From 1972 to 1991, he taught an introductory forensic science course in the criminal justice programs at the College of New Jersey and Ocean County College. These teaching experiences played an influential role in Dr. Saferstein's authorship in 1977 of the widely used introductory textbook *Criminalistics: An Introduction to Forensic Science*, currently in this twelfth edition. Saferstein's basic philosophy in writing *Criminalistics* is to make forensic science understandable and meaningful to the nonscience reader, while giving the reader an appreciation for the scientific principles that underlie the subject.

Dr. Saferstein has authored or co-authored more than 45 technical papers and chapters covering a variety of forensic topics. Dr. Saferstein has co-authored *Lab Manual for Criminalistics* (Pearson, 2015) to be used in conjunction with this text. He is also the author of *Forensic Science: An Introduction* (Pearson, 2008 and 2011) and *Forensic Science: From the Crime Scene to the Crime Lab* (2009 and 2015). He has also edited the widely used professional reference books *Forensic Science Handbook*, Volumes I, II, and III, 2nd edition (published in 2002, 2005, and 2010, respectively, by Pearson). Dr. Saferstein is a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, the Canadian Society of Forensic Scientists, the International Association for Identification, the Northeastern Association of Forensic Scientists, and the Society of Forensic Toxicologists. He is the recipient of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences 2006 Paul L. Kirk Award for distinguished service and contributions to the field of criminalistics.

*Criminalistics* is obviously for a student or professor interested in forensics. This is a standard text, maybe written a little better than some. The problem with all of these kinds of textbooks is that it is out of date a few days after you receive it...the book is already in its next edition! What I don't understand is, does the field of criminalistics change all that much so quickly? I understand that improvements and innovations in technology happen rapidly, but in looking at this text you wonder what it is that changed. While it is a good text, covering all the essentials of criminalistics, I'm not sure it's worth the price. It would be better to rent this text from some source if you really like it rather than purchase it outright.

The book itself is awesome. But do not buy this version that comes with the MyCJLab. The publisher (Pearson) only grants access for customers who have purchased from Pearson directly. I just spent 2 hours of dealing with customer service to find this out. Ugh!

I bought this book as a refresher since it's been so long since I took a forensic course in school. It was comprehensive with topics covering trace evidence, DNA, firearms, fingerprints, etc. While not described in depth, this book provides introductions to these fields and is easily understandable (in my opinion) for someone with an interest in forensics.

Bought this book for a biology class I was taking. It is very interesting with lots of cases to review and make you think. Only con is that I didn't get the "mycrimekit" registration number that should have come with the book. If you are buying this book, you want to make sure you get that number as well so you can go online and access more information.

clean as new

This is a useful tool for anyone looking to study Forensic Science in the world of Criminal Justice. I would highly recommend this book to anyone taking such a course. All of the information you need is there in the text, in an easy to read format.

I had to get this book for one of my classes at the University level. I rented this book and I deeply regret it! I wish that I would have bought it just so that I could keep it! All the information was clear and the pictures really made it easy to understand!

Interesting book, although it was a little different from the book I actually needed and couldn't find at the moment, but this book was as good as the newer edition. Great book it helped a lot with my Forensic Science class.

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