



Utah Bureau of Forensic Services

Crime Scene Specialist Training

Basic and Advanced Crime Scene Registration

Name _____

Agency _____

Contact Information

Email _____ Phone number _____

Please Check Applicable Class(s)

_____ Basic September 28, 2026 – October 2, 2026

_____ Advanced October 12 – 16, 2026

The cost of the class is \$250.00 each or \$400.00 for both. Please send check to:

Department of Public Safety

Utah Bureau of Forensic Services 2nd Floor

4451 South Constitution Blvd, 2nd Floor

Taylorsville, UT 84129

Return Registration to Bonnie Wilder-Estes

Email: bwilder-estes@utah.gov

Mail: Utah Bureau of Forensic Services 2nd Floor

4451 South Constitution Blvd, 2nd Floor

Taylorsville, UT 84129

Crime Scene Specialist Training (Basic)

Description:

The Crime Scene Specialist Class is an entry-level course designed to provide the new investigator with correct tools to become familiar with the evaluation, preservation, documentation, and collection of commonly encountered physical evidence types. If the student does well in the class and continues to practice these skill sets upon graduation, then they can expect to develop proficiency in crime scene processing.

Since the majority of crime scene work is documentation, this is the focus of the course. As such, the student will be required to bring their own SLR camera, tripod and flash with all necessary attachments. (e.g., sync cord, extra batteries, macro lens, etc...) However, the class does not teach entry-level camera use. We use the Nikon D70, and while most cameras are similar, they are different, and we cannot be expected to know everything about every camera. Hence, the student should be very familiar with their camera, its settings and attachments.

It is recommended that a basic photography course be taken prior to attempting this class. It is further recommended that a student bring a digital SLR camera and laptop to this course to aid in the rapid review and verification of photographs.

Minimum Passing Grade

There are four written examinations, which are given at the start of each class (0800) in the morning. The student must have a cumulative score of 70% or higher (exam/practical) to pass the class and receive credit. There are multiple lab exercises that the student must complete and have instructor verification (signoff). At the end of this course (Friday) the students will assemble into four teams and each team will process a mock crime scene, demonstrating the skills that they have learned and practiced during the week.

Student Expectations

The student should plan on being very busy and adjust their work schedule to compensate for this class. To do well on the written test, each student will need to study an average of 1-2 hours each night. Optionally, the student may want to practice after class time some of the skills that they learned during the day. This will help the crime scene practical go smoother and lessen the student's anxieties. Remember to have fun and take full advantage of this time to ask questions of the experts teaching this class and practice your newly learned techniques.

Instructors:

Utah BFS Personnel

Address:

Utah Bureau of Forensic Services
4451 South Constitution Blvd, 2nd Floor
Taylorsville, UT 84129

Lab Phone: 801-965-3870

Cell Phone: 801-419-2832

Email – bwilder-estes@utah.gov

Tentative Schedule: September 28, 2026 – October 2, 2026

- Crime Scene Management
- Note taking and Sketching and Exercises
- Collection/Preservation of Physical Evidence (Packaging, Trace, Blood [KM and swabbing], Documentation and collection of firearms and Exercises
- Camera Basics and Lab Exercises
- Crime Scene Photography and Exercises
- Paint Fire Debris Fibers
- Bloodstain Patterns (Documentation, Photography, etc.) and Exercises
- Fingerprints
 - Physical Development and Lifting of Fingerprints
 - Fingerprint Lab
- Footwear/Tire and Exercises
- Crime Scene Practical
- Serology/DNA

Student Notes:

Cost for course to cover materials is \$250.00 payable to Utah Bureau of Forensic Services prior to the first day of class. If you register for both the Basic and Advanced Classes in advance you will receive a discount and can attend both classes for \$400.00.

For R.S.V.P., payment and general class information please contact Bonnie Wilder-Estes at bwilder-estes@utah.gov.

Prerequisites:

1. Submittal of registration form and fee.
2. A willingness to devote the entire week to the study of crime scene processing is imperative. There is very little resource for makeups, so the student should plan on being at the class for the entire week.
3. **A camera (SLR) – not a point and shoot, tripod, detachable flash, sync cord, and macro lens.**

Max enrollment: (16)

Course Dates	Location	Time	Status
September 28, 2026 – October 2, 2026	Unified State Laboratory 4431 South 2700 West Salt Lake City, UT 84119	0800 - 1700	Open

Crime Scene Specialist Training (Advanced)

****Pre-requisite****

Successful completion of the Basic Crime Scene Specialist Training provided by the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services (a cumulative score of 70% or higher) is **required prior to taking the Advanced Crime Scene Specialist Training.**

Description:

The Advanced Class is designed to provide the experienced investigator with new skill sets beyond the basic skills learned in the first class. This class should only be taken by those investigators that are serious and actively participating in crime scene response. It is not recommended for the occasional crime scene responder.

As in the Basic course, it is imperative that a student bring a digital SLR camera, macro lens, and laptop to this course to aid in the rapid review and verification of photographs as well as the other standard photography attachments (e.g., flash, sync cord, tripod, etc...) The class does not teach entry-level camera use. We use the Nikon D70, and while most cameras are similar, they are different, and we cannot be expected to know everything about every camera. Hence, the student should be very familiar with their camera, its settings and attachments.

Minimum Passing Grade

There are four written examinations given at the start of each class (0800) in the morning. The student must have a cumulative score of 70% or higher (exam/practical) to pass the class and receive credit. There are multiple lab exercises that the student must complete and have instructor verification (signoff). The last day of class, on Friday, the students will assemble into four teams and each team will process a mock crime scene, demonstrating the skills that they have learned and practiced during the week.

Student Expectations

The student should plan on being very busy and adjust their work schedule to compensate for this class. To do well on the written test, each student will need to study an average of 1-2 hours each night. Optionally, the student may want to practice at night some of the skills that they learned during the day. This will help the crime scene practical go smoother and lessen student anxieties. Remember to have fun and take full advantage of this time to ask questions of these experts teaching this class and practice your newly learned techniques.

Tentative Schedule: October 12 – 16, 2026

- Blood Enhancements and Lab Exercises
- Forensic Photography – Challenging samples, photographing enhancements, night photography
- Advanced Latent Prints
- Bloodstain Pattern Analysis and Lab Exercises
- Firearm Basics / Safety / Shooting Scene Documentation, Trajectory, etc
- Footwear/Tire Casting/Gel lifts/Electrostatic lifter lecture and exercises
- Mock Crime Scene

Student Notes:

Cost for course to cover materials is \$250.00 payable to the Utah Bureau of Forensic Services prior to the first day of class. If you register for both the Basic and Advanced Classes in advance you will receive a discount and can attend both classes for \$400.00.

For R.S.V.P., payment and general class information please contact Bonnie Wilder Estes at bwilder-estes@utah.gov.

Prerequisites:

1. Submittal of an application and materials fee.
2. Selection by the POST/Crime Lab resource committee.
3. Successful completion of the CSST basic course or the Crime Lab’s crime scene academy (taught from 1995 – 2022). These requirements are essential in verifying that the crime scene investigator has been taught the basic skill sets.
4. A willingness to devote the entire week to the study of crime scene processing is imperative. There is very little resource for make-ups, so the student should plan on being at the class for the entire week.
5. **A camera (SLR) – not a point and shoot, tripod, detachable flash, sync cord, and macro lens.**

Max enrollment: (16)

Course Dates	Location	Time	Status
October 12 – 16, 2026	<i>Unified State Laboratory</i> 4431 South 2700 West Taylorsville, UT 84119	0800 - 1700	Open