

FIVS 435

Comparison of three forensic science disciplines

Forensic scientists are expected to understand both the scientific and legal value of scientific research. Legal guidelines require that testimony be based on accepted practices in a particular field, however, each field differs in scientific quality. You are required to evaluate the quality of **three forensic science disciplines**. You then must compare and contrast the quality of these different areas of forensic science. You must find **three forensic science disciplines** that are presented in court cases found on either the **LexisNexis** or Westlaw databases; then you must **find ten related scientific articles per discipline** and evaluate, compare, and contrast the scientific quality of the disciplines. Evaluations of a forensic science discipline must be considered within the norms of the non-forensic science discipline that it originates from. Accordingly, you must also **read seven non-forensic science articles** related to the disciplines you encounter to gain an appreciation for the quality of the science conducted in the parent discipline.

Format: Minimum of ten pages (not counting references, tables, or figures); maximum of fifteen pages; double spaced; 11 point text; Times New Roman font. Figures and tables must have titles and captions and will not be imbedded in the main text of the paper.

Due Date: April 26 (oral and written)

An assignment that is considered well written will possess the following:

1. Proper referencing
2. Logical, cohesive, accessible, respectful, and valid arguments
3. Logical organization
4. Arguments relevant to the topic
5. Proper grammar

A presentation that is considered well presented will possess the following:

1. A well prepared and presentable speaker
2. The same qualities noted for a well written paper
3. Engagement of the speaker with the audience

FIVS 435 (200 points written, 200 points oral)

Compare and contrast three forensic science disciplines. No other guidelines are given. This assignment is designed to emulate one that may be given by an employer or client, where there are no specific guidelines, but you are still responsible for analyzing and presenting data in the best way possible. Apply knowledge from this and previous classes to identify the major themes necessary to successfully complete this work. You have over a month to complete the assignment, which means you have plenty of time to consult your instructor on this issue.