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Scientific Association of Forensic Examiners (SAFE)
International Association of Document Examiners (IADE)
Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences (CSOFS)

COURSE IN FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINATION

Welcome to Graphanex - Institute of Professional Handwriting Examination where we strive to provide aspiring professional handwriting examiners, with quality training based on ongoing international research.

Our courses provide handwriting examiners with a thorough understanding of the applied science of forensic handwriting examination and we are confident that our graduates are able to provide a professional service as part of a multidisciplinary team or as individual consultants and with commitment, to build a successful career as a forensic handwriting analyst.

MISSION AND VISION

Enhance the reputation of handwriting examination as a legitimate, credible method of forensic assessment.

Graphanex is committed to:

- A scientific approach to handwriting examination.
- Training responsible and professional handwriting examiners
- Equipping students to provide an expert, professional service to business, legal, education and psychology professionals

WHAT IS FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINATION?

Forensic handwriting examination is the examination of handwriting to establish authenticity of writing in questioned documents. It is the responsibility of the forensic handwriting examiner to determine whether the document is authentic or forged, original or altered.

Forensic handwriting examiners provide valuable assistance to a multidisciplinary team of professionals, e.g. law enforcement, forensic auditors etc.

WHO SHOULD TRAIN AS A FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINER?

In the 21st century with a surge in white collar crime, forensic investigators, law enforcement and banking and insurers involved in forensic work are responsible for determining the authenticity of writing on questioned documents. This ever increasing white collar crime has put forensic document examiners in high demand.

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Matriculation certificate or higher preferably a degree
English at NQF level 4 (grade 12)
Good internet connection

MODULES OFFERED

1. Characteristics of Handwriting
2. Principles, Techniques & Methodologies
3. Court Preparation and Expert Testimony

DURATION OF MODULES

- Module 1: Characteristics of Handwriting and Factors affecting handwriting
approx 12 months - contact classes + 3 hour exam
 - Module 2: Principles, Techniques & Methodologies–
Approx 8 months - contact classes
 - Module 3: Court Preparation and Expert Testimony – approx 4 months
+hearing simulation practical - contact classes
- Online students work at their own pace.

MODES OF TRAINING

Contact classes: sessions on Saturdays or weekdays (by agreement) + online lessons and virtual classroom recordings. Online Learning: students who cannot attend class, may do the course online. Online classes are visual and synchronized with a facilitator, or asynchronized through viewing of recordings of facilitated classes. Graphanex follows a blended learning approach and contact students are required to complete online activities between classes as part of their final mark.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Pretoria

FEES FOR INDIVIDUAL MODULES (2018)

Enquire at info@graphanex.co.za

OUTLINE OF MODULES FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN FORENSIC HANDWRITING EXAMINATION

Module 1: Characteristics of Handwriting:

Characteristics of Handwriting is the first module of a series of 3 modules in forensic handwriting examination and will introduce you to the handwriting features, important to the forensic handwriting analyst.

Module 2: Principles, Techniques and Methodologies

The module in Principles, Techniques and Methodologies covers forensic handwriting techniques, and methods practiced to establish authenticity of handwriting on documents, but focuses on handwriting and includes line quality, education, neurological and mental disorders, substance abuse and other external factors affecting the handwriting and provides an introduction to basic handwriting comparison techniques, techniques for comparison of disputed writing with genuine writing, types of handwriting forgery.

Module 3: Court Preparation and Expert Testimony

Module three focuses on the preparation of documents for expert testimony. This module provides students with practical application and practical information about expert testimony as a document examiner. The module finishes with a simulated hearing where students present their case in a mock hearing.

Other modules (which may be of interest to the Forensic Handwriting Analyst)

Certificate in Statement Examination

The purpose of statement examination is to detect deception and to obtain information from statements made in a variety of contexts.

Statement Analysis Basic - R2640 Advanced – R2640 (Tutor guided/online)

EQUIPMENT

2 measuring grids included in fees

Students to purchase basic handheld digital microscope

Ruler included in fees

Pencil included in fees

Protractor included in fees

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Can be purchased from Kahalari.net, abebooks.com and Loot.co.za; alibris.com: readerswarehouse.co.za

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