

ShriVaishnavVidyapeethVishwavidyalaya, Indore Shri Vaishnav Institute of Forensic Science Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) SEMESTER-IV

Vocational Course

VOFS102 Questioned Document

	CATEGORY	Course Name	TEACHING&EVALUATIONSCHEME								
Course Code			THEORY			PRACTICAL					
			End Sem University Exam	TwoTerm Exam	Teachers Assessment*	End-Sem University Exam	Teachers Assessment*	L	Т	P	CREDITS
VOFS102	VC	Questioned Document	0	0	0	60	40	0	2	4	4

Legends: L-Lecture; T-Tutorial/Teacher Guided Student Activity; P-Practical; C-Credit;

Learning Objectives: After studying this Paper the Students will Know-

- 1. The fundamentals of questioned document.
- 2. Examination, identification and comparison of questioned document.
- 3. The basic principles and characteristics of handwriting.

Unit1: Nature and Scope of Questioned Documents:

Definition of questioned documents. Types of questioned documents. Preliminary examination of documents.

Unit2:Basictoolsneededforforensicdocuments'examination:

Ultraviolet, Visible, Infrared and Fluorescence Spectroscopy, Photomicrography, Microphotography, Visible Spectral Comparator, Electrostatic Detection Apparatus. Determining the age and relative age of documents.

Unit3: Comparison of Documents

Comparison of handwriting. Development of individuality in handwriting. Natural variations and fundamental divergences in handwritings. Class and individual characteristics.

^{*}TeacherAssessmentshallbebasedfollowingcomponents:Quiz/Assignment/Project/ParticipationinClass, given that no component shall exceed more than 10 marks.



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Unit4: Comparison of Handwriting

Merits and demerits of exemplar and non-exemplar samples during comparison of handwriting. Standards for comparison of handwriting. Comparison of paper, ink, printed documents, typed documents, Xeroxed documents.

Unit 5: Forgeries

Alterations in documents, including erasures, additions, over-writings and obliterations. Indented and invisible writings. Charred Documents. Examination of counterfeit Indian currency notes, passports, visas and stamp papers. Disguised writing and anonymous letters.

Practicals:

- 1. To identify handwriting characters.
- 2. To study natural variations in handwriting.
- 3. To compare handwriting samples.
- 4. To detect simulated forgery.
- 5. To detect traced forgery.
- 6. To study the line quality defects in handwriting samples.
- 7. To examine the security features of currency notes, passports and plastic money.
- 8. To study alterations, obliterations and erasures in handwriting samples.
- 9. To cite a case where in Section 45of Indian Evidence Act was invoked, seeking expert opinion for authentication of handwriting and/or signatures.
- 10. To cite a case where in Section 489A of the Indian Penal Code was invoked in context of fake currency.

Suggested Readings:

- 1. O.Hilton, Scientific Examination of Questioned Documents, CRC Press, Boca Raton (1982).
- 2. A.A. Moenssens, J.Starrs, C.E.Henderson and F.E.Inbau, Scientific Evidence in Civil and Criminal Cases, 4thEdition, Foundation Press, New York (1995).
- 3. R.N.Morris, Forensic Handwriting Identification: Fundamental Concepts and Principles, Academic Press, London (2000).
- 4. E.David, The Scientific Examination of Documents–MethodsandTechniques,2nd Edition, Taylor & Francis, Hants (1997).
