



**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This 5-day, 40-hour course provides in depth information on what friction ridge skin is, the history of discoveries made in the comparison of friction ridge skin, comparison methodologies, beginner and intermediate comparison concepts, and important terminology used in the ridgeology science. This course also discusses court testimony on latent print comparisons, early and famous court cases involving latent print examinations, along with practical exercises designed to reinforce the material and techniques presented. The exercises build the beginner examiner's skills and reinforce the intermediate examiner's skills through the course from looking for differences and tenprint comparisons to basic comparison techniques for latent finger and palm prints as well as orientation of friction ridge detail and enhancing difficult prints. This class is ideal for beginner tenprint and latent print examiners who are just starting out in the field or those examiners who want a refresher on the basics and some intermediate level comparisons. This course will provide the student with knowledge of the history behind the ridgeology science and a good introduction to comparing friction ridge skin. Lectures combined with a wide range of practical exercises designed to provide knowledge of the fundamentals supporting ridgeology science, basic to intermediate comparison techniques, and court testimony will be presented throughout this course.

This course has been approved for 40 hours of training credit toward certification/recertification by the IAI Latent Print Certification Board and the Tenprint Fingerprint Certification Board.



**COURSE TOPICS:**

- ❖ The biology and history of friction ridge skin
- ❖ Early court cases involving fingerprints
- ❖ The fundamental principles of persistence and uniqueness
- ❖ Overview of Tenprint/Henry classification of fingerprints
- ❖ Overview of reagents used, print processing techniques, and capturing latent and patent prints
- ❖ Overview of enhancements done to captured prints for comparison
- ❖ The philosophy and “ACE-V” methodology of comparing and identifying latent prints
- ❖ Overview of simultaneous impressions and comparisons
- ❖ Palm print and foot print clues and orientation techniques
- ❖ Overview of court testimony regarding fingerprints
- ❖ Famous court cases involving fingerprints

**WHAT TO BRING TO CLASS:**

Casual attire is suitable. Each student must bring latent print comparison magnifier(s) suitable for doing latent print comparisons. Each student will need to bring ridge counters. Needle-sharp ridge counters are strongly discouraged, and it is recommended that students bring a pair of ridge counters that will not penetrate skin nor damage latent and/or inked prints. Students are also encouraged to bring a flashlight or some other small light source to aid in seeing latent prints in the various exercises.

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?**

This is a beginner to intermediate level course, and is suitable for individuals that are starting out in the field doing either tenprint or latent print comparisons. Even though this is considered a beginner to intermediate level course, it is also suitable for individuals who would like a refresher on the history, basic latent print comparison techniques and orientation clues, and an overview of various topics including court testimony, palm and foot prints, and historic court cases involving latent prints. It is beneficial for those wishing to become certified Latent Print Examiners or Tenprint Examiners.