

# RON SMITH AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

## SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS: FROM THE LABORATORY TO THE WITNESS STAND

Jamestown, NC | November 13-17, 2017



**Class Instructor:**  
Michele Triplett, CLPE

**5 Day Course**

**40 Training Hours**

**\$600.00 Tuition**

**This course is approved  
for IAI certification and  
recertification purposes**



**RS&A recommends  
taking our classes in  
order of our Sequential  
Training Curriculum**

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SEQUENTIAL TRAINING  
CURRICULUM**



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COURSE BROCHURE**

### CLASS CONTACT

Doreen Huntington, LPU Supervisor  
Guilford County Sheriff's Office  
336- 641-5976  
dhuntin@co.guilford.nc.us

### CLASS LOCATION

Guilford Technical Community College  
601 E. Main St. Room 225  
Jamestown, NC 27282  
Class Time: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### LODGING INFORMATION

Although we cannot endorse any particular hotel property, we have confirmed that the following lodging is within a reasonable commuting distance to the training site.

**Holiday Inn Express**  
4305 Big Tree Way  
Greensboro, NC 27409  
844-850-6173

### TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is designed for all pattern evidence practitioners regardless of experience. Examiners will learn principles used within a scientific environment and how to apply these concepts to thoughts, conclusions, and to research. Exercises, specific to fingerprints, will demonstrate the value of rigorous application of scientific protocols for arriving at conclusions and for assessing the conclusions of others. Practitioners will gain experience in conveying these concepts, which will improve training programs and create testimony which will withstand court challenges.

### SPECIAL NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Note taking supplies including a pen/pencil are needed.

Highlighters and/or colored marking pens are recommended for use in documenting features observed during comparisons.

All images are enlarged, magnifiers are not necessary.

Dress is business casual as the course will be conducted in a professional environment and facility.

### REGISTER AND PAY TUITION ONLINE

Training registration and tuition fees can now be completed online in the new RS&A e-Store!

- Online registration is fast and easy!
- Pay class tuition using your credit card, request an invoice, or choose check by mail.

Visit [www.RonSmithandAssociates.com/Training](http://www.RonSmithandAssociates.com/Training) to select your class and register online today!

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### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is the class which the forensic identification community has been pleading for a long time and one which should become mandatory training for any pattern evidence examiners who are expected to provide expert witness testimony in today's ever changing environment. It combines training in scientific analysis with the skill sets necessary to articulate your opinion while on the witness stand as an expert witness.

We all know that proper application and articulation of scientific principles to forensic evidence is a basic requirement of the modern day forensic practitioner. This five day course will explore and explain basic scientific principles as they pertain to pattern evidence comparisons, conclusions and testimony. Although the primary forensic discipline addressed will be friction ridge analysis, the majority of the instruction will be equally relevant to other pattern evidence disciplines. Practical exercises are designed to show the benefits of questioning information over accepting information as a means of improvement. For an expert witness to be able to convey the scientific reasoning behind their conclusion requires that they fully understand it themselves. Opinions without justification no longer meet the needs of the court and this course is designed to bridge the gap between what has been common practice in the past and what is now required in the post-Daubert environment. This is not a basic courtroom testimony class but should be considered required training for anyone who will be asked to offer scientific opinion testimony as an expert witness.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

This course is designed for all pattern evidence practitioners, especially friction ridge examiners, regardless of their level of experience. More experienced examiners will be able to learn an improved method of conveying their opinions from a more scientific perspective, while less experienced examiners will be able to develop a method of examination and testimony which will withstand the current and future challenges of our legal system as they develop. The student will be able to not only better understand the scientific principles of their forensic discipline, but they will be able to articulate those principles while offering their opinion testimony as an expert witness.

### DAILY SCHEDULE

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Hour 1	Registration/ Course Overview/ Introductions	Review	Admissibility Criteria/ Significant Cases/NAS	Review	Attorney Tactics
Hour 2	What is science/ Different types of sciences	Scrutiny	Critics/Objectivity/ Subjectivity/ Bias	Expert/Role of Expert	Exhibits
Hour 3	History/Goals/ Exercise: Basic Protocols of Science	Practical Exercises on scrutiny	Practical Exercise: Documentation/ Possible Conclusions	Non-Verbal / Communication	Terminology
Hour 4	Methods / Laws/ Theories		Practical Exercise: Errors	Verbal / Communication	Qualifying Questions
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Hour 5	Support behind methods laws and theories	Blind Verification	Statistics/ Organizations	Pre-trial	Basic Questions/ Challenging Questions
Hour 6	ACE-V	Practical Exercises Comparisons	Easy attacks/ Research Studies	Court Rules	Preparing for a Motion to Exclude
Hour 7	Practical Exercise: Specific Protocols		Practical Exercise: QA Measures/ Diminishing Bias	Cases Excluding Evidence/Limiting testimony/Overtured Cases	Practical Exercise: Difficult Testimony Questions
Hour 8	Sources for protocols		Review	Questions \ Test \ Certificates	



**RON SMITH AND ASSOCIATES, INC.****SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS: FROM THE LABORATORY TO THE WITNESS STAND****SHOULD BE ABLE TO PERFORM**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

- \* Learn scientific protocols within different types of sciences (pure, exact, hard, applied, etc.)
- \* Learn to correctly use scientific terminology (theory, valid, proof, possible, plausible, objective, etc.)
- \* Learn the fingerprint disciplines premises, methods, laws and theories and how to convey them
- \* Learn to apply scientific concepts to the comparison process as well as testimony
- \* Learn to embrace challenges from a scientific perspective as a method of improving the discipline

**MUST BRING TO CLASS**

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**HOST A CLASS**

If you would like to host this course the following items are needed: Preferred seating is in groups of 6 people with chairs and tables. Power Point projector Speakers for the power point One flip chart for each group of 6 people Marking pens for flip chart

**I.A.I. APPROVED TRAINING HOURS**

This course provides 40 training hours and is approved for IAI Certification and re-certification.

