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PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

BENGALURU

Mid - Term Examinations – October 2025

Date: 08-10-2025

Time: 02.00pm to 03.30pm

School: SOL	Program: B.A.LL. B/BBA LL.B./B. Com LL.B. (Honors)	
Course Code: LAW3025	Course Name: Law and Forensic Science	
Semester: IX	Max Marks: 50	Weightage: 25%

CO - Levels	C01	C02	C03	C04	C05
Marks	22	28	-	-	-

Instructions:

- (i) Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.
- (ii) Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.

Part A

Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 2marks.

5Q x 2M=10M

1	State the reason why the prosecution must establish corpus delicti independently of the accused's confession.	2 Marks	L2	C01
2	Explain in brief how cross-examination serves as a test of the reliability of expert opinion under evidence law.	2 Marks	L2	C02
3	Identify how the testimony of a forensic scientist connects technical evidence with judicial reasoning.	2 Marks	L2	C02
4	State the challenges arising from the dual structure of central and state forensic laboratories in India.	2 Marks	L1	C01
5	Explain in brief the significance of the forensic principle that 'every contact leaves a trace' in criminal investigation.	2 Marks	L1	C01

Part B

Answer the Questions.

Total Marks 40M

6.	A. Critically examine the evidentiary significance of proper sealing, labeling, and preservation of biological samples such as blood collected from a crime scene, in light of the requirements of chain of custody under Indian criminal law.	5 Marks	L3	CO2
	B. Analyze the legal consequences of lapses in handling, such as failure to seal or label blood samples, on the admissibility of evidence and the ultimate outcome of a criminal trial, with reference to judicial pronouncements.	5 Marks	L2	

Or

7.	A. Examine the legal obligations of a medico-legal doctor to appear as a witness in court proceedings, with reference to the provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, relating to medical witness depositions.	5 Marks	L2	CO2
	B. Analyze how the BNSS, 2023 addresses situations where a medical professional refuses or is unable to attend court due to workload, and assess the mechanisms provided to balance judicial requirements with professional constraints.	5 Marks	L2	

8.	<i>Situation:</i> A State Forensic Science Laboratory has come under public scrutiny after allegations surface that its functioning is heavily influenced by the police department under whose administrative control it operates. Concerns are raised that such an institutional arrangement may compromise the impartiality and independence of forensic reports, thereby affecting the fairness of criminal trials.			CO1
	A. Critically examine how the institutional framework and administrative control of forensic laboratories impact the objectivity and impartiality of forensic science in the criminal justice system.	5 Marks	L3	
	B. Assess the legal and policy measures necessary to ensure autonomy and credibility of forensic institutions in India, with reference to comparative practices or judicial observations, where relevant.	5 Marks	L4	

Or

9.	<i>Situation:</i> During the trial of a cybercrime case, a forensic expert is called to testify on digital evidence. However, while presenting the findings, the expert struggles to explain complex technical terms in a manner comprehensible to the court. This creates ambiguity in the			CO1
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	interpretation of the expert's opinion and raises concerns about the weight the court should attach to such testimony.			
	A. Critically evaluate how courts are expected to assess expert testimony when the explanation of technical evidence lacks clarity, with reference to the principles under the law of evidence.	5 Marks	L3	
	B. Analyze the judicial responsibility in bridging the gap between highly technical forensic inputs and their legal appreciation, ensuring that the probative value of such evidence is neither overstated nor undermined.	5 Marks	L4	

10.	A. Examine the role of fingerprinting in the evolution of forensic jurisprudence in India, highlighting its legal recognition, evidentiary value, and judicial treatment as a tool for establishing identity in criminal proceedings.	5 Marks	L4	CO1
	B. Critically analyze the contribution of DNA profiling to modern forensic jurisprudence, with reference to its scientific reliability, statutory framework, and judicial acceptance, while also addressing concerns relating to privacy and ethical implications.	5 Marks	L3	
Or				
11.	A. Critically evaluate the role of Central Forensic Science Laboratories (CFSLS) in supporting criminal investigations and strengthening the administration of justice, with emphasis on their mandate, technical expertise, and contribution to high-profile or inter-state cases.	5 Marks	L4	CO1
	B. Assess the significance of State Forensic Science Laboratories (SFSLS) in the justice system, highlighting their accessibility, case-handling capacity, and challenges such as resource constraints, institutional bias, and coordination with investigative agencies.	5 Marks	L2	

12.	A. Discuss the statutory role and responsibilities of the police in the collection and preservation of scientific evidence under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, with reference to its procedural safeguards and evidentiary relevance.	5 Marks	L2	CO2
	B. Critically analyze how the provisions of BNSS, 2023 enhance or modify the existing framework of scientific evidence collection, and assess their potential impact on the quality of	5 Marks	L4	

	investigation and fairness of criminal trials.			
Or				
13.	A. Examine the guidelines on arrest and detention laid down by the Supreme Court in D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal (1997), with emphasis on their constitutional foundation in protecting the rights of accused persons.	5 Marks	L2	CO2
	B. Critically analyze how these judicially mandated safeguards have been incorporated, modified, or reinforced under the provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and assess their implications for procedural fairness.	5 Marks	L4	