



RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



EXAMINATION OF SIMULTANEOUS IMPRESSIONS

Course Description

This course will first examine the pilot study conducted on simultaneous impressions in the wake of the ruling by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts stating the application of ACE-V to such impressions does not satisfy a Daubert analysis. Topics to be discussed include study design, results, documentation, error rates, conclusions, and future considerations. The focus then shifts to an in-depth look at SWGFAST's Standard for Simultaneous Impression Examination, which provides a structured means to address these types of impressions. Attendees will also create simultaneous impressions according to provided ground truth (known) conditions on different surfaces. These impressions will then be developed and examined by the attendees to help them better understand the appearance of the impressions in light of the known deposition conditions. Finally, attendees will apply both the presented theory and their practical experience in examining numerous impressions (ground truth unknown) to conduct full written analyses, ideally demonstrating that their conclusions of simultaneity or non-simultaneity are supported by the physical evidence.



Class Instructor:
John Black, CLPE,
CFWE, CSCSA



Tuition: \$450.00
3 Days

Course Objectives

- To understand the research conducted to date on simultaneous impressions
- To properly document simultaneous impressions via analysis notes
- To understand how to properly examine simultaneous impressions

Target Audience

This advanced course is designed for examiners who want to learn more about the use of simultaneous impressions in the identification process. If your agency currently doesn't report identifications based on simultaneity then you may wish to attend. Research from both the United States and Europe will be presented along with the SWGFAST position on this important topic.

Should be Able to Perform

At the completion of this course the student should be better able to determine the simultaneity or non-simultaneity of impressions, with justification, on a variety of surfaces. Students should also have a more complete understanding of the many dynamics involved during the deposition process and how these dynamics affect the appearance of the resulting impressions.

Must Bring to Class

Students should bring fingerprint magnifiers and ridge counters.

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

Daily Schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Hour 1	Registration / Course Overview / Introductions	SWGFAST simultaneous impression standard – analysis	Practical exercises – creating simultaneous impressions
Hour 2	Review of the Patterson case	SWGFAST simultaneous impression standard – analysis	Practical exercises – creating non-simultaneous impressions
Hour 3	Patterson oral arguments video	Practical exercises – determining simultaneity	Examination of created impressions
Hour 4	Presentation of pilot study research	Practical exercises – determining simultaneity	Comparison Exercise
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Hour 5	Presentation of pilot study research	SWGFAST simultaneous impression standard – comparison	Comparison Exercise
Hour 6	Discussion of additional research	SWGFAST simultaneous impression standard – evaluation, verification	Course review
Hour 7	Practical exercises – determining simultaneity	SWGFAST simultaneous impression standard – reporting	Written examination
Hour 8	Practical exercises – determining simultaneity	Discussion of other research efforts	Discussion of exam; certificates; evaluations; closing remarks

Recommended Reading

Black, J. P. Pilot Study: The Application of ACE-V to Simultaneous (Cluster) Impressions. *Journal of Forensic Identification*. 2006, 56 (6), 933 - 971.

Standard for Simultaneous Impression Examination, 12/5/08, ver. 1.0, www.swgfast.org

Ashbaugh, D.R. Quantitative-Qualitative Friction Ridge Analysis: An Introduction to Basic and Advance Ridgeology; CRC Press: New York, 1999; pp 134-135.

Pre-Requisites

Attendees of this course should consider taking the Introduction to the Science of Friction Ridge Examination course first, however it is not required.