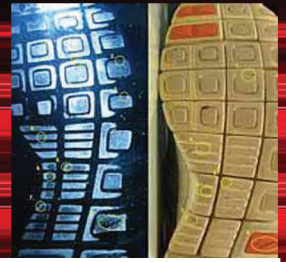




RON SMITH & ASSOCIATES, INC.



IAI Footwear Certification Prep Course

Course Description

Have you been thinking about taking the International Association for Identification (IAI) Footwear Certification Examination, but just not sure if you are ready? Maybe you have questions as to why you should take the certification exam. Here are some answers as to why every examiner should consider IAI certification: 1) external validation as to competency 2) career enhancement and 3) advanced credentialing for court. The 2009 NAS Report recommended certification for all practitioners in their respective disciplines, and this recommendation has been supported through legislative efforts. If you are an aspiring footwear examiner and wish to better yourself by taking the IAI Footwear Certification exam, this course is for you.

This course will direct the student through the application process, eligibility requirements, and ultimately through the testing process. The goal of this course is to provide encouragement and to ease any uncertainty about taking the IAI Footwear Certification exam. Lecture and periodic tests throughout the week will be used to strengthen the students' understanding of the material to be covered on the certification exam.

Target Audience

This course is designed for individuals who have completed their agency's footwear training program, or are nearing the end of their training, and are interested in taking the IAI Footwear Certification Exam.


Must Bring to Class

Students should bring all the equipment they plan to use during the actual certification test, e.g., magnifiers, calipers, pens, etc. These items will not be provided by the instructor, so each student must bring their own equipment to class. Side/Oblique lighting may be helpful during examinations, depending on the classroom lighting.


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

Pre-Requisite:

The student should have read the current certification requirements (Sections 8.3 and 8.9 of the IAI Certification Program Operations Manual) and the recommended reading materials before attending this course. Each student will be tested on their knowledge of this material throughout the course and will take two separate IAI Pre-Certification written and practical exams.



Class instructor:
Jon S. Byrd, MSFS,
CLPE, CFWE



Course Logistics

When:
November 2 - 6, 2026

Class Times:
08:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Where:
Johnson County Sheriff's Office
11890 S Sunset Drive
Olathe, KS 66061

Tuition:
\$650.00

Local Contact

Johnson County Sheriff's Office
Troy Mohror, Forensic Science Supervisor
Office: 913-826-3235
troy.mohror@jocogov.org

Parking Note: Limited parking in front of the lab, but this is shared with the building next door. Street parking is an option.

Daily Schedule

TIME	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
8-9	Registration Course Overview & Introductions	Material Review: Enhancement	Material Review: Class & RACs		
9-10	Overview of the IAI FTW Cert Program			IAI Pre-Cert Exam	IAI Pre-Cert Exam
10-11		Material Review: Manufacturing	Material Review: Comparison		
11-12	Material Review: Terminology				
12-1	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1-2	Material Review: Detection & Photography	Material Review: Known Shoes, Standards, & Sizing	Material Review: SWGTREAD documents	IAI Pre-Cert Test	IAI Pre-Cert Test
2-3					
3-4	Material Review: 2D & 3D Impressions	Material Review: Wear	Exam Pitfalls & Overview of Pre-Cert Test	Review of Test	Review of Test & Presentation of Certificates
4-5					

Course Objectives

- 1) Review of the IAI footwear certification program and requirement for application.
- 2) Review the proper use of footwear terminology.
- 3) Review the proper detection and treatment of footwear impression evidence.
- 4) Review the proper photography of footwear evidence (scene and laboratory).
- 5) Review the proper collection of 2D and 3D footwear impressions.
- 6) Review the proper physical and chemical enhancement of footwear evidence.
- 7) Review the different types of footwear manufacturing.
- 8) Review the proper collection of known standards and capturing known outsoles.
- 9) Review the proper understanding of footwear sizing.
- 10) Review the proper understanding and use of wear characteristics.
- 11) Review the proper understanding and use of class and RACs.
- 12) Review the proper understanding of weight given to characteristics during the exam.
- 13) Review the proper understanding of examination methodology
- 14) Review the proper understanding of case documentation for the certification exam.
- 15) Review the proper understanding of the range of conclusions for the certification exam.
- 16) Review the proper use of conclusions for the certification exam.

Course Expected Take-Away:

Upon completion of this course, the students should have accomplished four things:

- 1) A better understanding of the IAI certification exam requirements.
- 2) A deeper understanding of the subject matter.
- 3) A better understanding of any areas of improvement needed prior to taking the certification exam.
- 4) An increased confidence level in preparation for the IAI Footwear Certification Exam.

Required Reading:

- 1) Bodziak, W.J., "Forensic Footwear Evidence", 1st edition, 2016, CRC Press
- 2) All SWGTREAD documents.

Hotel Recommendations

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Olathe West
 10360 S Ridgeview Rd.
 Olathe, KS 66061
 (913) 541-9999

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE A ROOM](#)

Embassy Suites by Hilton Kansas City Olathe
 10401 S Ridgeview Rd.
 Olathe, KS 66061
 (913) 353-9280

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE A ROOM](#)

Online Class Registration

Visit us at: www.RonSmithandAssociates.com and register today!