**Semester End Project: Analysis of the CSI Effect**

**Due: Monday, 5.11.2020**

Television provides us with many hours of forensic investigations. The writers for forensic science shows have searched high and low for ideas and unusual cases. Some of the techniques and forensic science concepts demonstrated in these shows have been contrived or misrepresented for the sake of entertainment and filling the allotted time slot. In this project, you will be charged with detecting and documenting how the TV portrayal of a crime-scene investigation varies from what happens in real life.

**Instructions:**

For this project, you will select and view episodes of a forensics-related TV shows or major motion pictures and complete an analysis. It is your responsibility to record it ahead of time or arrange to stream it. Shows to consider might include *Bones*, *NCIS, CSI, Cold Case, Forensic Files, Making a Murderer, Law & Order,* etc.

*Requirements*

* You must select and view **at least four TV episodes from at least two different shows**or**two major motion pictures**. These cannot include any episodes or movies that we have viewed in class this semester.
* Complete an Episode Summary form for each episode or movie. On this form, make sure to identify the episode or movie by name and date it was first broadcast (or release date for movies).
* Use the Episode Evaluation Form to list all examples of contrived lab testing, sloppy or inappropriate procedures, incorrect evidence handling, erroneous division of labor, etc., that you observe as you watch the episode. You should look for procedures and activities that are not consistent with those you have learned in class and through the textbook.
* After viewing your episodes or movies and completing the forms, **compare and consolidate what you have found into one concise list**. You may refer to your textbook, internet, or other reference materials to verify the correctness of your list.
* Develop a summary of your list that you will report. The summary should discuss each inaccuracy that you identified and explain why you thought it was an inaccurate portrayal. You may be creative here constructing an Infographic, presenting a PowerPoint, creating a blog or podcast recording, or present your findings as if you are on a talk show with your classmates as your live studio audience. Please try to keep your oral presentation (if you choose this method) limited to 5 minutes.**PLEASE DO NOT FILL YOUR PRESENTATION WITH LONG PRAGRAPHS OF INFO AND THEN READ FROM SLIDES!**

This project is modified from Bertino and Bertino (2016) "Capstone Projects" Forensic Science: Fundamentals & Investigations, 2nd Ed. National Geographic Learning and South-Western Cengage Learning: Boston, MA. pp. 619-658.

Example on the next page:

