

Forensic Science and the Detective

The course will review early use of forensics in public health and the progression to becoming a tool for solving crimes. We will look at the latest technology and all the areas where forensics are currently implemented. We will watch a video of a real criminal case and how forensics were utilized to solve the crime.

We will see how early mystery writers, especially Sir Arthur Conan Doyle began using forensics well before real life police detectives. We will examine the life of Doyle and discuss *A Study in Scarlet*. We will watch a PBS show *How Sherlock Changed the World*. If you have never read *A Study in Scarlet*, I highly recommend it.

Next, we will look at the Detection Club and some of their rules for writing mysteries. We will see how Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot solves *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* and Dorothy Sayers' Lord Peter Wimsey solves *The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club*.

We will finish up with forensics in contemporary television and the amazing things that can be accomplished in less than 1 hour.