

Murder Mystery Challenge Instructions

The Center for Academic Success invites you to participate in our Creative Writing Murder Mystery Challenge.

Come by The Center and investigate the crime scene to help you write the best scenario as to what happened! You are allowed to speak to the witnesses in the Center for Academic Success and ask what they have seen. Witness statements can be found on cubicles in the center! Feel free to read them if the actual witness is not present at the time! However, you are not allowed to touch or remove any of the evidence.

Directions:

Your creative writing piece should be a minimum of 500 to a maximum of 1000 words. Use the evidence and statements from witnesses to create your own version of what could have happened to the victim.

Your story must be written in APA format:

- All text should be double-spaced
- Use one-inch margins on all sides
- All paragraphs in the body are indented
- Make sure that the title is centered on the page with your full name
- Use 12-point font throughout
- All pages should be numbered in the upper right-hand corner

The deadline for your submission will be October 31, at 7 PM, EST. You can email your submission at cas@post.edu or walk into the center and hand in your short story. Please do this before the deadline. Winner will be announced by November 11th and awarded a prize!

Good Luck and Happy Halloween



Creative Writing Murder Mystery Challenge

Storyline:

A student worker walks back to the library evening of Sunday 6:36 PM, October 30th to pick up their laptop that they have forgotten. When they arrive, they hear an argument happening on the other side of the library, but they proceed to pick up their laptop. When they look up, they see a person wearing a mask run out of the library.

The student worker begins to leave the library with their laptop when they notice a victim on the floor bleeding from the area the suspect fled from.

The student worker calls out to the victim, but they appear to be unconscious and bleeding. Police and Ambulance are called to the scene and the victim is transported to the nearest care unit. The victim is later pronounced dead at Waterbury Hospital October 31st, at 12:06 A.M.

Description of the Suspect – Suspect is described as a 5-foot 7 person. Witnesses cannot identify if it is a male or female. Suspect was wearing dark clothing. A Black skull hat and mask. Black coat, sweats, and gloves. Suspect appeared to have a black bookbag.

Evidence

Bloody footprint

Fingerprint

Victim's backpack/personal belongings left at the scene

Murder weapon

- Gun – 9MM
 - Shell casing(s)



Item(s) dropped by the suspect that is evident that it didn't belong to the victim

- Starburst Candy Wrapper
- Black hat or piece of clothing
- Book

Witnesses

- Librarian
- Student worker who finds victim
- Other students in the library
- Witness that bumped into the suspect outside
- Witnesses who saw someone suspicious entering the library or running away from the library
- Janitor
- Academic Integrity Officer



Witnesses and Statements

- Librarian

Statement: I left the Center at 4:00 PM on Sunday, October 30. I did see the victim alone at the time and they appeared to be arguing with someone on the phone. I could not make out what the argument was about, but I had to tell her to please keep it quiet a few times.

- Student worker who finds victim

Statement: I worked the later shift of 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM on Sunday, October 30. Everyone was out of the library when I closed. I noticed when I was coming back to get my laptop that the door to the library was open. The door is self-lock, but students and staff are aware that the door does not close at times. I recognized the suspect wearing a mask and they had dark hair. The lights were off in the library but the lights from outside was enough for me to see the victim. I heard arguing coming from that area and what sounded like a loud firecracker before I seen the victim flee.

- Other students in the library

Statement: I noticed that the victim was with a female around 2 PM. The two appeared to be studying and happy. When I left the library at 3:30 PM, the victim was alone and appeared to be upset.

- Witness that bumped into the suspect outside

Statement: The suspect knocked me to the ground as they were running towards the parking lot. They did not apologize, and they smelled like smoke. They had dirty blonde hair and seem athletic. They could be a Rugby Player or even a Football player for sure! They had dark clothing and dark brown eyes.

- Witnesses who saw someone suspicious entering the library or running away from the library

Statement: Around 6:10 I was walking by the cafeteria. I could see from the distance what appeared to be two students at the distance walking into the library at a fast paced. I heard what sounded like a feminine voice: Wait until we get inside, I'll show you what happens when you cross me!

- Janitor

Statement: I heard a door open around 6:00 PM but I assumed it was the Student Worker returning to library for an item.

- Academic Integrity Officer

Statement: I did not see anything. I was busy with a student until the end of my shift until 4:00 PM.