Advanced Homicide Investigation (32 hours)
This course will focus on equivocal death investigation and how to successfully resolve the most complex homicide cases. Lead investigator roles and responsibilities including administrative requirements and prosecutorial considerations will be identified. Advanced investigative techniques will be applied to investigative theory along with an emphasis on proper case management. The concepts of “linkage”, “linkage blindness”, “time and distance”, and “crime scene staging” will be explored. Crime scene reconstruction techniques and interrogation strategies for the homicide suspect will be taught. “Japanese” and “Dutch” law enforcement perspectives will be compared to United States law enforcement investigative methods and procedures. The importance of theme development during the homicide interview is another area of concentration. Child deaths, cold case investigations, and autoerotic deaths will be reviewed as well as the importance of recognizing “post offense behavior.” The importance of the neighborhood canvass, especially as related to the proper sequence of interviews to be conducted will also be examined. The conduct of death and homicide cases in hostile environments will be discussed. Common mistakes in homicide investigations and the need for an “investigative conference” will be identified. Lead development and the concept of “documentation dissection” will be explained through practical exercises. Several case studies will be evaluated to illustrate how complex homicide cases can be resolved.