

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, HYDERABAD**

M.A. (CRIMINAL LAW & FORENSIC SCIENCE)

Academic Year: 2025-2026

**Third Semester Repeat Examination – Online Proctored Examination
(December, 2025)**

2.3.8. Questioned Documents and Fingerprints

Duration of the Examination: 2 ½ hours

Total Marks : 70 marks

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- a) Read the instructions carefully and adhere to the same.
 - b) Please mention your Name, DDE ID No., date of the exam, name of the programme, name of the subject, total number of pages on the first page and write the page numbers in sequence on each sheet before upload.
 - c) The questions to be interpreted as given and no clarification can be sought.
 - d) Clearly indicate the question numbers while answering them. Answers without question numbers / wrong question numbers will not be evaluated.
 - e) Write the answers clearly and neatly. Answers in illegible handwriting will not be taken into consideration.
 - f) Candidates need to check the scanned and pdf converted file before uploading, whether all pages are scanned properly and the same is in sequence and clearly visible.
 - g) Candidates are prohibited to use phones or any other electronic devices, books, material etc. during the Examination.
 - h) Copying from any source including from other students is strictly prohibited. Plagiarism is considered as a serious academic mis-conduct and the University will take action as it deems fit.
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1. (a) Explain the fundamental principles of handwriting identification and the significance of individual characteristics in questioned document analysis. **(10 marks)**

1. (b) A ransom note is received in a kidnapping case. As a handwriting expert, describe the procedure you would follow to examine and compare it with the suspect's handwriting specimens. **(15 marks)**

2. (a) Explain the scientific basis of fingerprint individuality and classification systems used in forensic identification. **(10 marks)**

2. (b) During a robbery investigation, latent fingerprints are recovered from a glass surface. Outline the steps of fingerprint development, comparison, and database matching ensuring the chain of custody is maintained. **(15 marks)**

3.(a) Define alteration and erasure. Discuss the different types and their forensic significance. **(10 marks)**

3.(b) An altered land agreement document is presented, showing chemical erasures and overwriting. Describe how you would detect and restore the original text using appropriate scientific techniques. **(10 marks)**