

Preapproved  
2 hrs

**CORONERS' EDUCATION BOARD** To be ratified  
**PROPOSAL FOR COURSE APPROVAL** 9/24  
2025-77

**NAME OF COURSE:** ASPHYXIA DEATH-CLASSIFICATIONS AND CAUSES

**TOTAL HOURS:** 2  
~~15~~ HOURS

**COST:** \$30.00

**LOCATION (ADDRESS):** [HTTPS://WWW.DITACADEMYONLINE.ORG/COURSES/ASPHYXIAL-DEATH-CLASSIFICATIONS ONLINE](https://www.ditacademyonline.org/courses/asphyxial-death-classifications-online)

**DATE(S) OF COURSE:** ANYTIME

**PRESENTER:** DARREN DAKE

**ADDRESS:** ONLINE

**CONTACT PERSON TO ENROLL IN COURSE:** JODI MONGRAIN

**TELEPHONE NO OF CONTACT PERSON:** (717) 836-6293

**SUBMITTED BY:** BRIANA REIGEL

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [BRIANA.REIGEL@LEBANONCOUNTYPA.GOV](mailto:BRIANA.REIGEL@LEBANONCOUNTYPA.GOV)

**TELEPHONE NO:** (717) 836-6214

**DATE:** 8/27/2025

# Asphyxia Death – Classifications and Causes

This course will introduce you to the primary classifications of asphyxial deaths; and describe the causes, how death occurs, and what investigators should know when investigating these deaths.

Darren Dake, D-ABMDI, CI, CCI

4.8 /5

(137)

**\$30**

Buy \$30

🌐 English

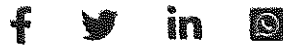
👤 Student Level: Everyone

📺 On-Demand Video

📜 Certificate of Completion

This course includes:

- ✓ 1.5 Hrs POST & ABMDI Credits
- ✓ Downloadable Resources
- ✓ Knowledge-Based Quizzes
- ✓ Private FB Community
- ✓

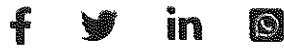
[Overview](#)[Curriculum](#)[Instructor](#)[FAQ's](#)[Recent Reviews](#)

## **Instructor**

### **Darren Dake, D-ABMDI, CI, CCI**

#### **Senior Instructor**

Darren Dake is a law enforcement professional with over 35 years of experience in criminal and medicolegal death investigations. Darren has worked in both the law enforcement realm of investigations as well as in the role of senior investigator with the Coroner's office for 24 years, and now serves as the elected Coroner. This combined investigative experience has uniquely established Darren as an expert in investigations which allows him to consult and teach internationally on investigation practices and procedures.

[Overview](#)[Curriculum](#)[Instructor](#)[FAQ's](#)[Recent Reviews](#)

## Course Description

[Tax Exempt? Click Here](#)

An asphyxial death refers to a multi-etiological set of conditions in which inadequate delivery, uptake, and/or utilization of oxygen by the body's tissues/cells is often accompanied by carbon dioxide retention. This course will introduce the student to the four primary classifications of asphyxial deaths, which are; mechanical, inert-gas, environmental, and pathological. The course will cover each classification and describe how the deaths occur and what investigators need to know to determine death properly due to asphyxial means.

## What You Will Learn

In this course, students will learn the fundamentals of asphyxia death classifications and causes. The highlight lessons in this course are.

- ✓ The classifications of death by asphyxiation
- ✓ How the seven mechanical asphyxia methods differ from other causes
- ✓ How partial hanging deaths appear and how they differ from full suspension
- ✓ How the body reacts to inert gas and drowning incidents

## Who This Course is For

This course will be beneficial to all professionals working in law enforcement and Coroner/M.E. roles. The principles taught will help you be a better investigator.

- Law Enforcement Patrol
- Law Enforcement Supervisors



Overview









Curriculum

Instructor











FAQ's

Recent Reviews

## — Course Introduction and Welcome (03:40)


-  Content Integrity and Continuing Education Credits 
-  Content Integrity and Continuing Education Credits Acknowledgment 
-  Welcome to your new course 
-  Join the Private Facebook Community 

## — Mechanical Asphyxiation Death (33:50)

-  Defining Asphyxial Deaths and Classifications (2 Minutes) 
-  Mechanical Asphyxiation - Hanging (15 minutes) 
-  Ligature and Manual Strangulation (9 minutes) 
-  Smothering, Gagging, Choking, and Drowning (6 minutes) 
-  Quiz-Mechanical Asphyxiation 

## — Environmental and Pathological (25:16)


-  Inert Gas Asphyxiation (7 minutes) 
-  Environmental Asphyxiation (11 minutes) 

 Pathological Asphyxiation (7 minutes)



 Quiz-Environmental and Pathological



 Resources (00:00)



Outlook

## OAG Coroners' Education Board Proposal For Course Approval Submission

From PA Office of Attorney General <noreply@attorneygeneral.gov>

Date Wed 8/27/2025 9:47 AM

To Jury, Ali R. <ajury@attorneygeneral.gov>

4 attachments (833 KB)

2025-ceb-asphyxia-death-classifications-and-causes-asphyxial-death-y-classifications-and-causes-overview.pdf; 2025-ceb-asphyxia-death-classifications-and-causes-asphyxial-death-y-classifications-and-causes-curriculum.pdf; 2025-ceb-asphyxia-death-classifications-and-causes-asphyxial-death-y-classifications-and-causes-instructor.pdf; coroner-course-application-Reigel.pdf;

*PA Office of Attorney General*

### Name of Course

Asphyxia Death-Classifications and Causes

### Total Hours

1.5 hours

### Cost

\$30.00

### Address

<https://www.ditacademyonline.org/courses/asphyxial-death-classifications>

Online

[Map It](#)

### Date(s) of Course

anytime

### Presenter Name

Darren Dake

### Address

online

[Map It](#)

**Contact Person to enroll in course**

Jodi Mongrain

**Telephone Number of Contact Person**

(717) 836-6293

**Submitted by:**

Briana Reigel

**Email Address**

[briana.reigel@lebanoncountypa.gov](mailto:briana.reigel@lebanoncountypa.gov)

**Date**

8/27/2025

**Telephone Number**

(717) 836-6214

Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General  
Strawberry Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
(717) 637-3391