

Facial reconstruction from clay and composite drawings from eye-witness accounts are just two techniques used in the forensic identification process. Sometimes the forensic artist will combine both techniques. "I take a skull and connect the dots with clay. Once complete, a picture is published



on as many posters as possible in hopes that someone will recognize them," Suzanne said. "Bodies that need identifying include missing persons and victims of crime."

It's not always just about the skull, Suzanne said. Information is also collected from the crime and/or accident scenes, as well as morgue photographs.

Some students will learn the art of forensics on the computer. Suzanne learned techniques by watching the hands of her instructors and put what she learned into her own hands. "You have some wiggle room when working



with your hands. There's a softer, more gentle look," Suzanne said. "Many trust the computer, but the lines are definite. There's no wiggle room at all."

As a college instructor, the best lesson

Suzanne can pass along to her students is for them to learn the techniques and then let the techniques do the work for them.

She also stresses that one doesn't have to be an artist to be successful in forensic art.

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