

Forensic Science Program

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Our mission as a forensic science program is to develop professional, ethical graduates whose competence in problem-solving, legal analysis and application, quantitative reasoning, investigation, and scientific laboratory procedures can be applied to immediate employment or advanced study.

The forensic science major includes criminal justice, biology, chemistry, physics, math, and interdisciplinary courses designed to help students achieve the program goals and objectives. Forensic science majors are strongly encouraged to elect additional science courses, and a B.S. degree in forensic science with an emphasis in biotechnology is a commonly chosen degree option.

The forensic science major is housed in the Department of Biology, Chemistry and Geoscience, and students pursuing a forensic science major are assigned an academic advisor from this department. With small class sizes, innovative teaching approaches, and hands-on access to modern, research-quality instrumentation, our department supports students in developing the analytical, problem-solving and teamwork skills necessary to successfully pursue science-based careers.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Students completing a forensic science major will be prepared for application to a variety of professional and graduate schools, including medical school, dental school, physical therapy programs, toxicology, pharmaceutical science, and forensic science graduate programs. Forensic science majors will also be competitive for laboratory positions in the biotechnology, chemical, or pharmaceutical industries or in government agencies. Recent FSU graduates have been accepted at various professional schools and have gained employment as laboratory technicians.

Highly marketable combination degrees include forensic science with chemistry, biology, math, business, foreign languages, or psychology.



fast fact
The annual median wage for a Forensic Science Technician is \$47,680.00, and the projected need for this career field is expected to increase by 21% until 2016.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.fairmontstate.edu/academics/collegeofscitech/default.asp

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Note: For forensic science majors, the required science courses satisfy the General Studies scientific discovery requirement and the required math course satisfies the General Studies math requirement. Students interested in graduate school will need to complete additional upper-level science courses. ACT prerequisites for required science and math courses are listed in the catalog under the course description for each course. Students entering with an ACT science reasoning score of 21 or better, ACT Math score of 24 or higher, two units of high school algebra, one unit of high school geometry and one unit of high school trigonometry will be prepared for all courses. Students not meeting this list of prerequisites will need to take specific additional courses and should consult with the forensic science advisor immediately.

NOTES

MODEL SCHEDULE

Forensic Science (B.S.)

FRESHMAN FIRST SEMESTER

CHEM 1105	CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES I.....	5
MATH 1185	APPLIED CALCULUS I.....	4
ENGL 1104	WRITTEN ENGLISH I.....	3
CRJU 1100	INTRO. TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE.....	3
		15

FRESHMAN SECOND SEMESTER

CHEM 1106	CHEMICAL PRINCIPLES II.....	4
CHEM 1113	PRACTICAL SCIENTIFIC STATS.....	1
COMM 2200 OR 2201 OR 2202	.....	3
BIOL 1106	BIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES II.....	4
ENGL 1108	WRITTEN ENGLISH II.....	3
INFO 1100	COMP. CONCEPTS & APPS.....	3
		18

SOPHOMORE FIRST SEMESTER

CHEM 2201	ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I.....	4
CRJU 2236	CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION.....	3
PHYS 1101	INTRO. PHYSICS I (OR 1105).....	4
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
		17

SOPHOMORE SECOND SEMESTER

CHEM 2202	ORGANIC CHEMISTRY II.....	4
PHYS 1102	INTRO. PHYSICS II (OR 1106).....	4
MATH 1113	APPLIED STATISTICS.....	4
CHEM 2225	FORENS. MICROSC. & SPECTRO.....	3
		15

JUNIOR FIRST SEMESTER

BIOL 3380	GENETICS.....	4
BIOL 4495	PROBLEMS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES.....	2
-OR-		
CHEM 4403	INDEPENDENT RESEARCH.....	2
CHEM 2205	ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY.....	4
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
		16

JUNIOR SECOND SEMESTER

BIOL 3390	MOLECULAR BIOTECHNOLOGY.....	4
CRJU 3300	CRIMINALISTICS.....	3
INTR 3300	FORENSIC CRIMINALISTICS LAB.....	1
CHEM 2215	INTERMED. INSTRUM. ANALYSIS.....	4
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
		18

SENIOR FIRST SEMESTER

INTR 4411	FORENSIC SCIENCE INTERNSHIP.....	2
SPECIALIZATION	.....	4
SPECIALIZATION	.....	2
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
FREE ELECTIVE	.....	2
		16

SENIOR SECOND SEMESTER

INTR 4401	CAPSTONE SEM. IN FORENSIC SCI.....	3
BIOL 3360	BIOCHEMISTRY.....	4
SPECIALIZATION	.....	3
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
G.S./ELECTIVES	.....	3
		16