Forensic Sciences (FS)

Courses numbered 100 to 299 = lower-division; 300 to 499 = upper-division; 500 to 799 = undergraduate/graduate.

FS 450. Forensic Identification of Marijuana  1 credit hour
Focuses on the botanical and chemical background necessary for the identification of marijuana. Students gain practical experience in the microscopic and chemical analysis of the marijuana plant. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 451. Forensic Identification of Narcotics and Other Illicit Substances  1 credit hour
Provides a background in selected analytical chemistry procedures used in the forensic lab to ensure a specific qualitative identification of various licit and illicit controlled substances. Students gain experience in the theory and application of various colorimetric, chromatographic and spectrophotometric techniques used in the modern forensic lab. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 452. Forensic Toxicology Alcohol  1 credit hour
Provides a didactic background for understanding the pharmacology/toxicology of alcohol. Students gain an understanding of the testing of biological fluids for alcohol, the interpretation of the results, including various pharmacokinetic calculations used in forensic settings, and the application of alcohol results in a judicial arena. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 453. Forensic Serology  1 credit hour
Provides a background in the detection, characterization and identification of biological fluids. Students gain a fundamental background in the characteristics of blood, saliva and semen, and practical hands-on experience in the forensic analytical techniques used in their detection and identification. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 454. Fingerprint Development and Analysis  1 credit hour
Provides an understanding of the development of fingerprint classification systems, and the detection, collection and preservation of latent fingerprints. Students gain practical hands-on experience using various powders and chemicals for development and recovery of latent fingerprints. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 455. Forensic Arson Analysis  1 credit hour
Provides exposure to the detection and classification of various flammable chemicals used in arson fires. Students gain exposure to the analytical techniques used in the laboratory investigation of suspicious fires. Prerequisites: BIOL 210, 211, CHEM 211, 212.

FS 498. Seminar in Forensic Sciences Techniques I  3 credit hours
Part one of the comprehensive academic-year-long overview of how forensic science techniques influence the criminal investigation process. Students receive instruction from faculty in the chemistry, biological sciences, anthropology and criminal justice departments. Prerequisites: FS 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, CJ 420.

FS 499. Seminar in Forensic Sciences Techniques II  3 credit hours
Part two of the comprehensive overview of how forensic science techniques influence the criminal investigation process. Students receive instruction from faculty in the chemistry, biological sciences, anthropology and criminal justice departments. Prerequisites: FS 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 498, CJ 420.