Forensic Science • College of Science and Mathematics

About the Program

Overview
Students interested in a Forensic Science major must complete a pre-forensic science block of courses with a minimum of a 2.75 GPA in the block, in order to be eligible to apply for acceptance into the Forensic Science Program.

Transfer students with over 60 semester hours completed at other institutions and post-degree students, to be admitted with the intent to pursue the pre-forensics path, must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.8, have completed at least 2/3 of all course work attempted, and be in good academic and personal standing at prior institutions.

Unique Features
- The only FEPAC-accredited undergraduate Forensic Science program in the state of Michigan.
- Program includes at least one minor in Biology or Chemistry for Forensic Science.
- Work with experienced Instructors.

Job Activities
Forensic scientists investigate crimes by analyzing physical evidence, working in both public and private laboratory settings. Often, they specialize in areas such as DNA analysis or firearm examination or perform tests on weapons or substances such as fiber, hair, tissue, or body fluids to determine significance to the investigation. They also prepare reports to document their findings and the laboratory techniques used. When criminal cases come to trial, forensic science technicians often provide testimony as expert witnesses on specific laboratory findings by identifying and classifying evidence collected at the crime scene.

Forensic Science Major:
Bachelor of Science (42 s.h.)

PRE-FORENSIC SCIENCE COURSES:
- BIO 1030 General Biology I 4 s.h.
- CHM 1110 General Chemistry I 4 s.h.
- CHM 1120 General Chemistry II 4 s.h.
- CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry I 4 s.h.
- FOR 1010 Introduction to Forensic Science 4 s.h.
- MTH 2350 Probability and Statistics 4 s.h.
- MTH 2510 Calculus with Analytic Geometry I 5 s.h.
- WRT 1020 College Comp II 3 s.h.

Required Major Courses:
- FOR 1010 Introduction to Forensic Science 4 s.h.
- FOR 3310 Impression and Trace Evidence Analysis 4 s.h.
- FOR 3420 Firearm and Tool Mark Analysis 4 s.h.
- FOR 4620 Forensic Biology 4 s.h.
- FOR 4540 Forensic Chemistry I (CHM) 4 s.h.
- FOR 4550 Forensic Chemistry II (CHM) 4 s.h.
- FOR 3430 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology 3-4 s.h.
- FOR 4640 Toxicology 3-4 s.h.
- FOR 4650 Ethics and Expert Testimony 4 s.h.
- FOR 4950 Senior Seminar 2 s.h.

Electives (3 s.h. selected from below):
- BIO 2260 Microbiology (4 s.h.)
- FOR 3210 Principles of Criminology (CJ*/SOC) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 3430 Intro to Forensic Anthropology (4 s.h.)
- FOR 4010 Population Genetics (BIO*) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 4640 Toxicology (BIO) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 4910, 4920, Co-op (2-6 s.h.)
- FOR 4930 Internship (1-4 s.h.)

Note: students who complete a Criminal Justice major or minor in conjunction with the Forensic Science major may not include CJ courses in the Forensic Science major. Review the rule "When Courses May Satisfy More Than One Requirement" in the Catalog.

Required Support Courses:
- BIO 2450 Anatomy and Physiology I 4 s.h.
- BIO 3010 Genetics 4 s.h.
- BIO 4410 Molecular Biology 3 s.h.
- CHM 2220 Organic Chemistry II 4 s.h.
- CHM 3610 Biochemistry I 4 s.h.
- CHM 4510 Instrumental Analysis 4 s.h.
- FOR 3040 Criminal Law & Procedure (CJ*) 3 s.h.
- PHY 2630 Physics for Scientists and Engineers I 4 s.h.
- PHY 2640 Physics for Scientists and Engineers II 4 s.h.

Total Support Courses: 28 s.h.

At least one Minor is required with the Forensic Science major. Both minors are strongly recommended for students interested in Forensic Medicine.

Chemistry Minor for Forensic Science Majors:
- CHM 1120 General Chemistry II 4 s.h.
- CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry I 4 s.h.
- CHM 2220 Organic Chemistry II 4 s.h.
- CHM 3610 Biochemistry I (BIO) 4 s.h.
- CHM 4510 Instrumental Analysis 4 s.h.
- CHM 4550 Forensic Chemistry I (FOR*) 4 s.h.

Biology Minor for Forensic Science Majors:
- BIO 1030 General Biology I 4 s.h.
- BIO 1040 General Biology II 4 s.h.
- BIO 2450 Human Anatomy & Physiology I 4 s.h.
- BIO 2460 Human Anatomy & Physiology II 4 s.h.
- BIO 3010 Genetics 4 s.h.
- BIO 4010 Population Genetics (FOR*) or BIO 4640 Toxicology (FOR*) 3 s.h.
- BIO 4410 Molecular Biology 3 s.h.

Additional Program Requirements:
- Hepatitis A/B immunization
- Background check
- Participation in a national standardized assessment examination (e.g., American Board of Criminalistics) prior to graduation.

Science and mathematics courses taken more than seven years previously may need to be repeated, at the discretion of the program director. (This policy is general across all CNSS programs.)
For Admissions Information

Application and any transcripts are to be submitted directly to:
Office of Undergraduate Admissions
Madonna University
36600 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, Michigan  48150-1176
(734) 432-5339
(800) 852-4951, ext. 5339
FAX: (734) 432-5424
Web: www.madonna.edu
E-mail: admissions@madonna.edu
VideoPhone: (734) 259-3796

For Program Information

Jodi Lynn Barta, Ph.D.
Forensic Science Program Director
Biological and Health Sciences
Madonna University
36600 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, Michigan  48150-1176
E-mail: jlbarta@madonna.edu
(734) 432-5514
(800) 852-4951, ext. 5514
FAX: (734) 432-5592
Web: www.madonna.edu

DNA Analysis Certificate of Completion (22 s.h.)

Required Certificate Courses:
- BIO 3010 Genetics 4 s.h.
- BIO 4010 Population Genetics (FOR) 3 s.h.
- BIO 4410 Molecular Biology 3 s.h.
- CHM 3610 Biochemistry I (BIO) 4 s.h.
- FOR 4620 Forensic Biology 4 s.h.
- MTH 2350 Probability and Statistics 4 s.h.

Forensic Science Post-Bachelor Certificate of Achievement

The Post-Bachelor Certificate of Achievement in Forensic Science is available to degree-holding students whose prior degree majors are too heavy in science to allow a Second Bachelor program in Forensic Science.

Required Certificate Courses:
Each student’s plan is individually written to cover those courses that were not taken for the original bachelor degree. The plan requires all of the following courses not previously completed with a grade of C (2.0) or better:

Forensic Science Required Major Courses

Forensic Science Required Support Courses

Required Minor Courses
- RST 4110 Medical Ethics (PHL) or
- RST 4140 Life/Death Issues 3-4 s.h.

Minimum hours earned at Madonna 30 s.h.

While the minimum requirement for the certificate is 30 s.h. post-bachelor at Madonna University, meeting all requirements makes the plans of some students longer. For those for whom the plan might be short, additional courses to fulfill the 30 s.h. residency requirement are available from the Forensic Science electives group.

Crime Scene Practice Certificate of Completion (20 s.h.)

Required Certificate Courses:
- CJ 1020 Intro to Criminal Justice 3 s.h.
- FOR 3040 Criminal Law & Procedures (CJ*) 3 s.h.
- CJ 4230 Homicide Investigation 3 s.h.
- CJ 4450 Interviewing & Investigative Report Writing 3 s.h.
- FOR 1010 Introduction to Forensic Science 4 s.h.

Crime Laboratory Technician Certificate of Achievement (36-37 s.h.)

Required Certificate Courses:
- WRT 1010 College Composition I 3 s.h.
- FOR 1010 Introduction to Forensic Science 4 s.h.
- FOR 3310 Impression and Trace Evidence Analysis 4 s.h.
- FOR 3420 Firearm and Tool Mark Analysis 4 s.h.
- FOR 3430 Forensic Anthropology or
- FOR 4640 Toxicology 3-4 s.h.
- FOR 4620 Forensic Biology (BIO) 4 s.h.
- FOR 4540 Forensic Chemistry I (CHM) 4 s.h.
- FOR 4550 Forensic Chemistry II (CHM) 4 s.h.
- FOR 4650 Ethics and Expert Testimony 3 s.h.

Certificate Electives (selected from):
- FOR 3040 Criminal Law & Procedures (CJ*) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 3110 Criminal Investigation (CJ*) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 3210 Principles of Criminology (CJ*/SOC) (3 s.h.)
- FOR 3430 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (4 s.h.)
- FOR 4640 Toxicology (3 s.h.) 36-37 s.h.

Science and mathematics courses taken more than seven years previously may need to be repeated, at the discretion of the program director. (This policy is general across all College of Natural and Social Sciences programs.)