Forensic Science (HBSc)

Forensic Science Program

Forensic Science is the study of physical evidence in a modern legal context. It is best defined as “science in service to the courts.” UTM’s Forensic Science program, the first of its kind in Canada, is designed to provide students with an understanding of scientific analyses, theories, laboratory skills, applications, and field techniques — while allowing the student to emphasize one particular area in greater detail.

We have developed well-established partnerships with organizations including the Centre of Forensic Sciences, the Office of the Chief Coroner for the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Provincial Police, the RCMP, and numerous other police services and agencies worldwide.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Major Program ERMAJ0205 Forensic Science (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN0205 Forensic Science

Check out...

How can a body be used as forensic evidence? Take FSC316H5 and find out about autopsy procedures, pathology, identification, forensic imaging, and more. Take FSC407H5 to learn forensic field techniques like collecting and analyzing evidence found at a 'crime scene', in the UTM Forensic Science Crime Scene House.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for Graduates: Coroner; Forensics scientist; Operations research analyst; Computer-related crime investigator; Image enhancement specialist; Polygraph examiner; Speech scientist; Law enforcement.

Workplaces: Government; Forensic laboratories; Medical examiners/coroner offices; Hospitals; Toxicology Laboratories; Police agencies; Insurance companies.
# Forensic Science Major Program Plan

## 1st Year
- **Enroll in courses**: CHM110H5, CHM120H5; FSC238Y5, MAT134Y5/135Y5/137Y5; PHY136H5 and 137H5.
- **Choose a program of study (Subject POS)** once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- **Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.**
- **Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the UTM Forensics Society (IVNVI).**
- **Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR).** Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments. **Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.**
- **Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.**

## 2nd Year
- **Enroll in courses**: CHM243H5, CHM248H5 and FSC271H5.
- **Consider applying for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course FSC98Y.** Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.
- **Use the Career Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.**
- **Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLN.**
- **Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).**
- **Learn about local issues! Consider a CSE Alternative Reading Week (ARW) to be involved in social change and community development.**

## 3rd Year
- **Enroll in courses**: FSC360H5 and STA215H5/STA220H5.
- **Throughout your undergraduate degree:**
  - use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
  - see the Office of the Registrar and the Forensic Science Academic Advisor for assistance.
- **Explore your interests.** Why not pass on your passion for science? Be a UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach volunteer where you create your own STEM activities and take charge of special events and programs.
- **Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them.** Learn techniques forensic scientists use in the field. Collect, process, and analyze evidence found at “a crime scene” through FSC407H5. Speak to the Forensic Science Academic Advisor.
- **You can work on-campus through the Academic Work Placement opportunities (ROP).**
- **Consider applying for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP).**
- **Write a strong application for further education.** Attend the CC’s Grad Explore for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities. **Go to a conference such as the Forensic Training Conference presented by the Toronto Police Service.**
- **Earn credits overseas! Study for a summer, term or year at one of 120 universities.** The Forensic Science department has identified 4 partners who are most relevant to their students. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange and funding.
- **Why not work abroad?** Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo to learn about opportunities. **For International Experience Canada.**

## 4th or Final Year
- **Attain 2.5 credits from courses**: FSC300H5, 302H5, 303H5, 311H5, 315H5, 316H5, 350H5, 401H5, 402H5, 403H5, 406H5, 407H5, and 489H5.
- **Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them.** Learn techniques forensic scientists use in the field. Collect, process, and analyze evidence found at “a crime scene” through FSC407H5. Speak to the Forensic Science Academic Advisor.
- **You can work on-campus through the Academic Work Placement opportunities (ROP).**
- **Consider applying for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP).**
- **Write a strong application for further education.** Attend the CC’s Grad Explore for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities. **Go to a conference such as the Forensic Training Conference presented by the Toronto Police Service.**
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### How to Use This Program Plan
- Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
- Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan.
- Update your plan yearly.

### Plan for Your Future
- **Program Selection & Career Options** workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
- **Check out Careers by Major** at the CC to see potential career options.
- **Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program.**
- **Considering further education?** Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

### Revised on: 9/18/2018
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.
Skills developed in Forensic Science

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Technical**: make and record accurate measurements; make observations, draw diagrams and take photographs; crime scene investigation; and use statistical tests.

**Communication**: report writing; verbal testimony; understanding of cultural diversity; translate scientific evidence; and analyze and present data.

**Organizational**: casework; teamwork; and understanding legal issues related to evidence.

**Problem-solving**: identify alternative solutions and interpret lab findings.

**Research**: draw conclusions based on the evidence obtained and communicate results of investigative work through proper channels based on the conclusions drawn.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- UTM Forensics Society (IVNVI)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Forensic Science Program

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[www.utm.utoronto.ca/forensic](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/forensic)

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The Grade 12 prerequisites for this program are Advanced Functions, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook).

**NOTE**: During the application process, applicants will select the Forensic Science admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

**Sneak Peek**

What is the role of a coroner? Take FSC239Y to find out about crime scene investigation, the role of the expert witness, forensic pathology, forensic chemistry, forensic botany, forensic entomology, forensic anthropology, forensic dentistry, psychology and toxicology.

Our courses provide students the opportunity to learn about all aspects of forensic science in the classroom and to apply their knowledge to practical assignments using state-of-the-art technology and instruments. Courses are taught by professionals who bring their own expertise and unique field experience to the classroom.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

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