



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**  
MISSISSAUGA

## FORENSIC SCIENCE PROGRAM

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Terrence Donnelly HSc Complex  
3359 Mississauga Road  
Mississauga, Ontario, L5L 1C6

# 2024-2025 FSC482HY5/FSC484H5

## PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY IN FORENSIC SCIENCE

### APPLICATION INFORMATION

#### **MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

#### **YOU MUST:**

- Be a **Forensic Science Program student** entering your **final year** in 2024-2025
- Be a **Forensic Science Program Specialist** who requires FSC482H5, FSC484H5 for program completeness
- Have completed **15 credits** by August 31, 2024
- Have completed your Forensic Science Program **required statistics** course(s)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024, 11:59pm**

Unlike FSC481, FSC483, and FSC485, students will complete a mixture of in class experiences and external workshops. You are given the opportunity to locate and select workshops relevant to your career goals, which may include (but is not limited to) a: conference workshop, professional certifications, campus skill development workshops, and communication seminars.

**LATE APPLICATIONS MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF YOUR PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITY!**

# Course Descriptions

## **FSC482H5Y Professional Practice in Forensic Science**

This course will address practical considerations of professional practice, including professional writing, ethics in research, interviews, mock trial, and journal publication. **Students MUST apply for this course.**

**Exclusion:** FSC481Y5

**Prerequisite:** Enrolment in a Forensic Science Specialist Program and completion of the statistics course(s) requirement listed within the student's Forensic Science Program (STA215H5 or FSC350 or BIO360 or ANT407) and permission of instructor. (Restricted to Forensic Science Specialists)

**Corequisite:** FSC483H5 or FSC485H5

## **FSC484H5 Communicating Forensic Science**

As a pre-professional training experience, this capstone course will prepare students in media literacy for communicating their forensic sub-discipline in a variety of avenues. Students will learn how to present forensic content through writing, digital media (podcasts, vlogs, etc.), interviews, and outreach engagement. The course will develop skills as they pertain to converting complex science to accessible testimony, both for public and academic/educational settings, as well as handling/engaging with journalism media.

Elements of course completion will include commitments external to class time, including, but not limited to: Forensic Skills Development workshops, HMALC workshops, RGASC workshops, and Forensic Outreach programming, all in conjunction with lecture components. Students are required to complete a minimum of 20 hours of communication experience outside of scheduled class time.

Major assignments will include presentations through various media of the student's choice, as well as cumulative interviews with police forensic science and professionals.

**Exclusion:** FSC481Y5 or FSC483H5 or FSC485H5

**Prerequisite:** FSC340H5 and (ANT407H5 or BIO259H5 or FSC341H5 or STA215H5 or STA220H5 or PSY201H5) and Enrolment in a Forensic Science Specialist Program and Permission of Instructor. (Restricted to Forensic Science Specialists)

**Corequisite:** FSC482H5Y

# Important Capstone Application Information

**EMAIL ADDRESSES:** All students **MUST** use their UTM email address. **DO NOT** use Gmail, Rogers, Hotmail, Sympatico, or Yahoo – these types of addresses are problematic in receiving documents from UTM stations at times and can critically impact your placement arrangement. If you currently use one of these e-mail providers, you **MUST** forward your current e-mail address(es) to your UTM account. All CV's and applications must list your UTM email address.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Capstone approval occurs on a rolling basis, beginning March 15<sup>th</sup> until August 1<sup>st</sup>, as placements are verified for eligibility. Be sure that your summer information is updated, as you may not be notified until a point in the summer. **All** placement communications will be sent by e-mail to your UTM account. It is **YOUR** responsibility to check your UTM e-mail account **DAILY** going forward regarding any capstone information.

**Up to date info on ACORN:** Ensure that all Personal Information on ROSI / ACORN (ie. mailing/permanent/e-mail addresses, phone #s, emergency contact etc.) is up-to-date. Any changes should be updated **promptly and** you should also inform my office by e-mail or you may miss important correspondence critical to your placement.

## Communicating Forensic Science Application Instructions

**All questions about the Forensic Science Opportunity Placement Application should be e-mailed directly to Murray Clayton:**

**[murray.clayton@utoronto.ca](mailto:murray.clayton@utoronto.ca)**

*Please include "FSC484 Capstone 2024-25" in the subject line.*

1. Fill out the on-line Professional Opportunity Placement Application by the deadline date: **February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024, 11:59pm. Be sure to fill out the entire form.**
2. Email your CV to Murray Clayton at [murray.clayton@utoronto.ca](mailto:murray.clayton@utoronto.ca). All students must submit their CV in the same format - please use the model 'Internship Placement Format CV' found at: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/forensic/inforamation-appying-internship-placement/internship-forensic-science-application/cv-internship>

3. In addition to an **electronic copy** of your CV, you must also send an electronic copy (screenshot/attachment/printout) of your current ACORN transcript (an official copy is not required) of all marks to date (& any other marks printout from other post-secondary institution, if you have attended elsewhere -- official transcripts are NOT necessary, but the marks page should show the other university somewhere.) CV and transcript of marks-to-date must also be submitted by the application deadline **February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024 11:59pm**, by e-mail to: [murray.clayton@utoronto.ca](mailto:murray.clayton@utoronto.ca)
4. **E-mail Attachments:** they **MUST** be **SAVED** and **SENT** in **BOTH** Word and PDF formats.
5. When **SAVING** your files, please do so as follows:  
**CV:** YourLastName\_FirstName\_cv.doc / YourLastName\_FirstName\_cv.pdf  
**MARKS:** YourLastName\_FirstName\_marks.doc / YourLastName\_FirstName\_marks.pdf
6. Only 2 good referees are necessary. You should have at least 1 academic referee and 1 work referee.
7. **References:** Only names are required --**Do not ask for reference letters**. You can tell your referees that they could be contacted at any time up to 6-8 months from now for a verbal reference. A reference is the same as a referee.
8. When listing your courses on the CV, PLEASE list **IP** (in progress) beside all the “S” Winter courses you are currently taking this term, or ‘Y’ courses not yet completed.
9. If you intend to take any professionally related safety/certificate courses (ie. WHMIS, Red Cross Life Saving, Gun Safety and Certification) but have not yet done so, please state this in the appropriate spot on your resume. **YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING SOME OF THESE PLACEMENTS RESTS ON YOUR APPARENT INTEREST.**  
Interested in GUNS/BALLISTICS? – please make the attempt to get this background so that you have a better chance of being hired at the OPP, RCMP, CFS, Police, Police College after your graduation.
10. The statement of interest for the communications experience should address why you are interested in engaging in this experience, and how it will contribute to your employment after graduation. In addition to the 484 statement, you must also provide separate statements for your top 3 alternative internship options, in the event of the professional opportunity no longer being an option. You must provide a separate “Statement of Interest” for each of your 3 placement options. Statements should be reflective of each placement area requested. This statement is used when proposing students to prospective mentors.

# 1. Communicating Forensic Science

**Topics covered (pending workshop availability) may include:**

- Writing for Forensic Science
- Media Literacy
- Communication with the Press
- Digital Media avenues
- Ethics of Communication
- Public Engagement & Outreach

**Methods of assessment may include:**

- Ongoing course evaluations
- Summative final assignment (media project)
- Professional interview
- Presentation of work at annual Forensic Science Day

## Workshop & Experience Requirement:

**Students are required to complete a variety of external (non-class) experiences. These may include, but are not limited to:**

Skill Development workshops run through UTM in:

- Writing
- Citations
- Professionalism
- Copyright
- Image use

The Forensic Science Outreach Program:

- Public presentations and workshops in various forensic disciplines
- Information sessions for incoming high school students
- Visits to local high schools for demonstrations and career workshops\*

**\*Note:** A valid police check is required for any experiences involving youth under 18. See application website for details.