FORENSIC SCIENCE

Forensic science combines the study of natural science and criminal justice. Successful practitioners must have substantial technical expertise and knowledge, critical analytic and thinking abilities, superior communication skills, and an awareness of the scientist’s ethical responsibilities in the legal process. Applying knowledge and technology from anthropology, biology, and chemistry, forensic scientists interact with the criminal justice system to collect, examine, and evaluate criminal evidence.

CURRICULUM

The BS in Forensic Science requires 88 credit hours of coursework. This includes laboratory science courses (minimum of 51 credit hours), forensic science courses (22 credit hours), criminal justice courses (6 credit hours), ancillary courses (3 credit hours), and electives (4–6 credit hours). For a complete list of courses that fulfill the degree requirements, visit LUC.edu/forensicscience.

FACULTY

Faculty members who instruct in the program are nationally recognized experts in their respective fields and are active in forensic professional organizations, including former presidents of their specialty organizations.

INTERNSHIP AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Forensic scientists interact closely with criminal justice professionals such as police officers, sheriff’s deputies, prosecutors and defense attorneys, crime scene investigators, and agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Central Intelligence Agency. Forensic scientists work in morgues, laboratories, court settings, and police departments. They are employed by local, state, and federal government agencies; public and private universities; medical examiner offices; forensic and medical laboratories; hospitals; law firms; police departments; and a growing number of private companies. They can also be self-employed as consultants to courts, law enforcement agencies, university-based research laboratories, law firms, and medical examiner offices.

RESOURCES

Forensic science majors are encouraged to join the Forensic Science Student Organization (FSSO), a group that organizes tours and forensic science field trips, hosts guest speakers, and works with the faculty and the Forensic Science Program Advisory Committee to meet the needs and interests of forensic science majors. In addition, students may also participate in the Criminal Justice Organization which sponsors field-related activities, lectures, and social events.

LEARN MORE

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Loyola University Chicago's Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science program is nationally accredited by the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC).