



DEGREE PLANNING GUIDE for FORENSIC SCIENCE

The fascination with forensic science and its use in solving crimes in popular culture has translated into a new demand for forensic programs on college campuses across the country. Forensic science is a growing profession, and the United States will need 10,000 more forensic scientists in the next decade. Through the Forensic Science degree, St. Edward's University plans to prepare many of these forensic experts.

Forensic Science refers to any science used for purposes of the law. Forensic science strives for the balanced use of all available information to determine the facts and to present the facts in such a way that justice can be done. As such, one of the main goals of forensic science is to support the search for justice in the criminal justice system. The principal academic association in the area, the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, illustrates the full range of topics and careers in the area of forensic science. This major in Forensic Science focuses on basic science and more advanced courses that prepare graduates to work with law enforcement agencies as crime scene investigators. Graduates of the program are also qualified for the many jobs open to students majoring in Criminal Justice and most other behavioral and social sciences. Forensic Science majors are prepared to go to law school or to graduate school in Forensic Science, Criminal Justice or a number of other disciplines.

The major in Forensic Science requires a basic knowledge of biology and chemistry, criminal justice systems and processes, and forensic psychology. It also requires a number of courses in forensic science and crime scene investigation.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Your four-year degree plan also includes general education courses which are required of all St. Edward's students. These include English, math, science, and others outlined in the undergraduate bulletin.

WHAT IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND? No problem! In fact, it is not unusual. Part of what college is about is a process to identify your area of interest. As long as that decision is made in the first two years, it is not likely to impact your degree program very much, as a good deal of your initial course work is the area of general education, that body of courses common to all students. There are a few exceptions - major change in direction after two years (philosophy to accounting for example) would lengthen your program. If you are a full-time student and take five courses each semester, you will graduate in four years. It's unusual to do it much faster and not uncommon for it to take a little longer. It all depends on how many courses make sense for you & if you enroll in summer(s).

PLANNING YOUR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY We want you to take an active role in planning your degree program. While there are a good deal of requirements in your program, there are still decisions you will need to make. For example, which foreign language do you wish to study; which math classes do you want to choose to satisfy the math requirement; is there a particular religious study or philosophy course that appeals to you; are there any time conflicts? Your advisor will help, but your involvement is critical.

SUGGESTED DEGREE PLAN FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE (FRSC)

FIRST FALL

FSTY 1310 Freshman Studies
FSTY 1311 Rhet & Comp I
MATH 1312 or higher
Foreign Language
CRIJ 1302 Admin of Justice
15 hours

FIRST SPRING

CULF 1319 Und & App Arts
CULF 1320 American Experience
ENGW 1302 Rhet & Comp II
Foreign Language
CRIM 1307 Crime in America
15 hours

SECOND FALL

COMM 1317 Pres'l speaking
CULF 1318 Lit & Hum Exper
BIOL 1307/1107 Cells & Organ Systems/lab
FRSC 2319 Intro to For Science
FRSC 2322 Crimes vs Persons
16 hours

SECOND SPRING

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS
CULF 2321 American Dilemmas
PHIL/RELS
FRSC 3320 Crime Scene Invest I
PSYC 3305 Intro to Forensic Psyc
15 hours

THIRD FALL

CULF 3330 Hist Glob Process
CRIJ 1310 Criminal Law I
BIOL 2303/2103 Human Anatomy/lab
FRSC 3321 Crime Scene Invest II
PSYC xxxx
16 hours

THIRD SPRING

Elective
Ethics
CHEM 1340/1140 Gen Chem/lab
CRIJ 2323 Criminal Evidence & Proof
PSYC xxxx
16 hours

FOURTH FALL

CULF 3331 Contemp. World Issues
Elective
Elective (1 hr)
CHEM 2320/2120 Analytical Chem/lab
FRSC 4348 or 4350 Sr Research
Seminar or Internship
13 hours

FOURTH SPRING

CAPS 4360 Capstone
Elective
Elective
Elective
GDCT 4000.01
12 hours

Note: Not all of these courses must be taken in the exact sequence presented. You have some choices as to when you would like to take a particular course, particularly those under the General Education Requirement. For instance, you might prefer to take a foreign language in your sophomore year instead of your freshman year.