

Forensic Science (17FSCM)

Description

The Department of Biological Sciences in the College of Sciences offers an undergraduate Minor in Forensic Science, an interdisciplinary field of study that involves the application of scientific principles and methodology from numerous scientific disciplines to criminal investigations. The Forensic Science Minor is available to undergraduates majoring in any field, but might be most appropriate for students majoring or planning to pursue advanced studies in the sciences or in science education. Students in the Minor in Forensic Science take one required introduction to forensic science (3 credit hours), three required foundational courses (9 credit hours), and then they have the opportunity to further explore a variety of scientific disciplines as they relate to the legal system (minimum 6 credit hours). At least 9 credit hours of the minor must be completed at NC State.

Requirements

The Forensic Science minor consists of a minimum of 18 credit hours.

- A grade of C- or better is required for all Minor courses with a 2.0 GPA required in the minor for graduation.
- No course used in the minor can be taken for credit only (S/U).
- Courses taken for the minor can also be used toward major requirements, GEP Electives, or Free Electives.
- At least 9 credit hours of the minor must be completed at NC State.

Required Courses (3 credit hours)

- PCC 274 Introduction to Forensic Science (3 cr)

Foundational Requirements (9 credit hours)

- **Natural Sciences (choose one course, minimum 3 cr):**
 - ANT 371 Human Variation
 - BIO 240 Principles of Human Anatomy & Physiology A
 - BIO 405 Functional Histology
 - BIO/PB 414 Cell Biology
 - ET 310 Environmental Monitoring and Analysis
 - GN 301 Genetics in Human Affairs
 - GN 311 Principles of Genetics
 - MB 351 General Microbiology
 - SSC 442 Soil and Environmental Biogeochemistry
 - TMS 211 Introduction to Fiber Science
 - TOX 401 Principles of Toxicology
- **Statistics (choose one course, 3 cr):**
 - ST 101 Statistics by Example
 - ST 305 Statistical Methods
 - ST 311 Introduction to Statistics
 - ST 370 Probability and Statistics for Engineers
 - ST 371 Introduction to Probability and Distribution Theory
- **Ethics (choose one course, 3 cr):**
 - PHI 221 Contemporary Moral Issues
 - PHI (STS) 325 Bio-Medical Ethics
 - PHI 375 Ethics

Elective Courses (6 credit hours)

- ANT 370 Introduction to Forensic Anthropology (3 cr)
- ANT 421/521 Human Osteology (3 cr)
- ANT 422 Forensic Anthropology Crime Scene Investigative Field Methods (3 cr) – pending approval
- ANT 529 Advanced Methods in Forensic Anthropology (4 cr)
- CH 441 Forensic Chemistry (3 cr.)
- ENT 305 Introduction to Forensic Entomology (3 cr)
- GN 453 Personal Genomics (3 cr) – pending approval
- MSE 480 Materials Forensics and Degradation (3 cr)
- PCC 474 Forensic Chemistry Laboratory (3 cr)
- PSY 315 Forensic Psychology (3 cr) – pending approval
- Forensic Science Research or Professional Experience (maximum 3 cr)

Admissions and Certification of Minor

The minor in Forensic Science is administered within the Department of Biological Sciences in the College of Sciences. Students who plan to minor in Forensic Science should contact the contact person listed below for information on how to do so. Students are strongly encouraged to declare the minor early in their studies so they receive information on relevant courses, events, and other opportunities from the Department of Biological Sciences.

Certification

All requirements for the minor must be completed no later than the semester in which the student expects to graduate from his or her major degree program. Students apply to graduate in the minor through MyPack at the same time that they apply to graduate in their major program.

Contact Person

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