Forensic Science is the study of physical evidence in a modern legal context. It is best defined as “science in service to the courts.” Forensic Biology is the study of forensics and molecular biology.

UTM’s Forensic Science program, the first of its kind in Canada, is designed to provide the student 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 such as 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. 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)
- Specialist Program ERSPE1410, Forensic Biology (Science)
- Major Program ERMAJ0205 Forensic Science (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN0205 Forensic Science

Check out...

How is biological evidence interpreted in the forensic context? Take FSC315H5 to learn about biological and instrumental techniques used for the analysis of evidentiary items, including DNA, bodily fluids and hair.

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: Forensic laboratory analyst; Coroner; Biological technician; Forensics scientist; Toxicologist; Bacteriologist; Criminologist; Ballistics analyst; Crime scene investigator; Medico-legal investigator; Image enhancement specialist.

Workplaces: Government; Forensic laboratories; Medical examiners/coroner offices; Toxicology laboratories; Police departments; Scientific R&D companies; Pharmaceutical companies.
**FORENSIC BIOLOGY SPECIALIST Program Plan**

**1ST YEAR**

**Enroll in courses** BIO150H5, 151H5, CHEM110H5, 120H5; FSC299Y5, MAT134Y5/157Y5, 137Y5/157Y5; PHY134H5 and 137H5.
- Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Start sitting and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Studied Group.

**2ND YEAR**

**Enroll in courses** BIO202H5, 206H5, 207H5, 210Y5; FSC316H5; CHEM242H5, 243H5; and FSC271H5.
- Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses BIO299Y5, FSC299Y and BIO399Y5. Visit the EED website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

**3RD YEAR**

- Enroll in courses STA215H5, BIO360H5; FSC300H5, 302H5, 315H5 and 360H5.
- 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
- Explore your interests. Why not pass on your passion for science? Be a UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach volunteer to support educators and help youth form positive attitudes towards the role that STEM plays in their lives and futures.
- 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.
- Apply to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Internship Program as a recent graduate. View the MNRF website for details.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

- Enroll in FSC401H5, 402H5 and 481Y5. Attain 1.5 BIO credits at the 300/400 level.
- Conduct a research project under the supervision of a faculty member through BIO481Y5. Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor for advice and details.
- Log on to ACORN and request graduation.

**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 YOUR ACADEMICS**

- 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.
- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the UTM Forensics Society (IVNVI). Find them on Facebook and follow them @utmforensics on Twitter. Go to IVNVI’s Reference Desk.
- Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC) to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.
- Embark on a UTM Abroad Co-Curricular Experience through the IEC. Take advantage of this opportunity to travel with a faculty member and learn about a topic of interest in a unique location.
- Prefer traveling in Canada? Check out the IEC’s UTM Across Canada program.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program.
- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professionals School Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.
- What’s your next step after undergrad?
  - Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).

**BUILD 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.
- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don’t be shy!
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**BUILD A NETWORK**

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- Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don’t be shy!
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**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

- Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the Career Centre (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 Professionals School Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.
- What’s your next step after undergrad?
  - Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**

- Enroll in courses BIO150H5, 151H5, CHEM110H5, 120H5; FSC299Y5, MAT134Y5/157Y5, 137Y5/157Y5; PHY134H5 and 137H5.
- Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

R&I: 8/23/2017
Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.
Skills developed in Forensic Biology

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 student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

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

For a listing of clubs on campus visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- AccessAbility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Office (EEO)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- 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)

Department of Forensic Science

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Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
(Phone) 905-569-4423
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.

**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

Interested in the design of the human body? Learn the fundamentals of human anatomy and physiology in BIO210Y5. What is the role of a coroner? Take FSC239Y to find out about crime scene investigation, forensic botany and forensic entomology. Get excited for FSC481Y5! You will spend at least 200 hours at a forensic agency collaborating with a professional forensic specialist on an original project.

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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www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students