**FORENSIC CHEMISTRY (HBSc)**

*Department of Forensic Science*

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

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**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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans)

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**Programs of Study (POSt)**

- Specialist Program ERSPE1009 Forensic Chemistry (Science)
- Major Program ERMAJ0205 Forensic Science (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN0205 Forensic Science

**Check out...**

How is analytical chemistry used for the analysis of physical evidence? Take FSC311H5 to learn about chemical and instrumental techniques used for analysis of drugs and alcohol, gunshot residue, explosives and paint.

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**What can I do with my degree?**

**Careers for Graduates:** Forensic laboratory analyst; Hazardous waste management technologist; Criminologist; Quality controller; Biochemistry technologist; Coroner; Medical lab technologist; Toxicologist; Ballistics analyst; Regulatory / government affairs specialist; Medico-legal investigator.

**Workplaces:** Government; Forensic laboratories; Medical examiners/coroner offices; Toxicology laboratories; Police departments; Pharmaceutical companies; Scientific R&D companies.
## 1st Year


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 strong and get informed with the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group and complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and 137H5.

Enrol in courses CHM110H5, 120H5, 206H5, 207H5, CHM211H5, JOP221H5, CHM231H5, 242H5, 243H5; FSC231H5, and STA220H5.

Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses CHM399Y5, FSC299Y, and CHM399Y5. Visit the ECO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

## 2nd Year

Enrol in courses BIO200H5, 206H5, 207H5; CHM211H5, JOP221H5, CHM231H5, 242H5, 243H5; FSC231H5, and STA220H5.

## 3rd Year


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 for assistance.

## 4th or Final Year

Enrol in courses CHM414H5, 416H5; FSC403H5 and 481Y5 (with chemistry focus).

Apply your understanding of science under the supervision of an experienced instructor/mentor. Consider applying for ER139BH5 (Teaching Opportunity in Sciences).

Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them. 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.

## 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.

## Tips On How to Approach a Professor

Attend the CC’s Work-Study program. View job postings on the CLN.

Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Consider applying for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.

## Program Selection & Career Options

Attend the CC’s Expo to explore different careers through food, music, and sport or through sightseeing around the GTA.

Enrol in courses BIO200H5, 206H5, 207H5; CHM211H5, JOP221H5, CHM231H5, 242H5, 243H5; FSC231H5, and STA220H5.

## Career Learning Network (CLN)

To find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.

## Work-Study program

Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLN.

## Co-Curricular Record (CCR)

Search for experiences beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.

## International Education Centre (IEC)

Attend the IEC’s Forensic Science Conference. Attend the Canadian Society of Forensic Science.

## UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach

Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).

## UTM Abroad Co-Curricular Experience

Earn credits overseas! Study for a summer, term or year at over 120 universities. The Forensic Science department has identified 4 partners who are most relevant to their students. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange and funding.

## UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach

Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating What’s Next?

## International Experience Canada

Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoGlobal. Attend the So Global Expo to learn about opportunities. See if you are eligible for International Experience Canada.

## UTM Grad Fair

Explore careers through the CC’s External Job Shadowing Program.

Consider further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professionals School Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

## UTM Visit Program

What’s your next step after undergrad?


Consider further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).

## UTM Grad Fair

Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating What’s Next?

## UTM Visit Program

Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.
Skills developed in Forensic Chemistry

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 Chemical and Physical Sciences Society (ECPS)
- 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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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

Curious about pharmacology? Take BIO200H5 to learn about the absorption and calculation of dosages as well as the variability in drug response and adverse drug reactions. What is the role of a coroner? Enrol in FSC239Y to find out about crime scene investigation, forensic chemistry and toxicology. Get excited for FSC481Y5! You’ll spend 200 hours 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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