FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY (HBSc)

Department of Forensic Science

Forensic Science, 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 students 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 including 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 (POS)

- Specialist Program ERSPE1505 Forensic Psychology (Science)
- Major Program ERMAJ0205 Forensic Science (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN0205 Forensic Science

Check out...

What types of phenomena are encountered in the justice system? Take PSY328H5 to learn about jury decision-making, eye-witness evidence, insanity, treatment of special offender groups, and criminal profiling.

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: Rehabilitation counsellor; Speech scientist; Mental health nurse; Medico-legal investigator; Criminologist; Coroner; Speech-language pathologist; Mediator; Ballistics analyst; Crime scene investigator; Polygraph examiner.

Workplaces: Government; Medical examiners/coroner offices; Hospitals/mental health providers; Correction and rehabilitation facilities; Behavioural health clinics; Forensic laboratories; Toxicology laboratories; Police departments.
## 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.

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### 1st Year

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<thead>
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<td>PSY100Y5, FSC239Y5, BIO102H5 and BIO153H5.</td>
<td>PSY201H5, 202H5(equivalent, 210H5, 220H5, 230H5, 240H5, 270H5/274H5/280H5, 290H5; and FSC271H5).</td>
<td>FSC300H5, 302H5, 316H5, PSY309H5, 328H5, 340H5/341H5, 344H5, 346H5, 393H5 and 0.5 from PSY320H5, 379H5, and 399H5.</td>
<td>FSC481Y5. At least 1.0 credits from FSC311H5, 315H5, 360H5, 401H5, 402H5, 406H5, 407H5, 489H5, and 0.5 credits from PSY 400 level series courses.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
<td>Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses FSC299Y and PSY299Y. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s P.A.R.T. to enhance your research skills.</td>
<td>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</td>
<td>Design and execute an independent senior thesis! Apply for PSY400Y5. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor.</td>
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<td>Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.</td>
<td>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</td>
<td>use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements</td>
<td>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</td>
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<td>Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</td>
<td>Use the Career Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</td>
<td>see the Office of the Registrar and the Forensic Science Academic Advisor for assistance</td>
<td>Explore your interests. Get experience in a psychology lab! Enrol in PSY379H5 to learn methods for research in cognitive psychology. Speak to the Psychology Academic Counsellor to learn about the variety of opportunities.</td>
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<td>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 Experience Canada Expo to learn about opportunities.</td>
<td>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!</td>
<td>Explore careers through the CC’s Career Learning Network (CLN).</td>
<td>Skills are transferable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Need to strengthen your presentation skills? Consider a role as a RGASC Facilitated Study Group Leader.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
<td>Enrol in FSC400Y5. Attend 1.0 credits from FSC311H5, 315H5, 360H5, 401H5, 402H5, 406H5, 407H5, 489H5, and 0.5 credits from PSY 400 level series courses.</td>
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<td>Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</td>
<td>Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program.</td>
<td>Use the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) Course Prerequisites, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC)</td>
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<td>Attend the Program Selection &amp; Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the Career Centre (CC).</td>
<td>Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professionals School Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</td>
<td>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.</td>
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<td>Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.</td>
<td>*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.</td>
<td>Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating What’s Next?</td>
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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.*
Skills developed in Forensic Psychology

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; and translate scientific evidence.

**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)
- Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students of Erindale (P.A.U.S.E).
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://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

Terrence Donnelly Health Sciences Complex, 4th Floor
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
905-569-4423
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/forensic](http://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 and Biology. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://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, Majors, and/or Minors) until after first year.

**Sneak Peek**

What is the role of an expert witness? Take FSC239Y to find out about crime scene investigation and psychology. Is your personality unique? Take PSY230H5 to find out about the genetic, biological, cultural, and cognitive causes of individual differences in personality traits.

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

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
905-828-5400
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)