



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO
MISSISSAUGA

INSTITUTE OF FORENSIC SCIENCES

Admissions Viewbook



utm.utoronto.ca/forensic

WHY CHOOSE UTM FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE?

Our courses are taught by forensic and criminal science professionals who bring their own expertise and unique field experience to the classroom. Our faculty consists of highly trained individuals including:



Dr. Christina Lamparter, Forensic Toxicology, is a practicing forensic toxicologist with experience in non-criminal and criminal toxicology casework and expert testimony in court, as well as client and scientist training. Her active networks include the Centre of Forensic Sciences, the Toronto Drug Checking group, the Ontario Forensic Pathology Service and Health Canada Drug Analysis Service.



Dr. Rasmus Rosenberg Larsen, Forensic Epistemology, holds a PhD in philosophy from University at Buffalo, New York, focusing on mental health research, moral psychology, and biomedical ontology. He examines the theoretical validity of clinical construct, and psychopathy as a mental disease. Dr. Larsen explores the psychology of violence and antisocial conduct as well as foundational philosophical and scientific issues in mental health research.



Dr. Vivienne Luk, Forensic Chemistry, came to UTM from the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto, where she worked as a Forensic Toxicologist. She analyzed biological samples for the presence of drugs, alcohol and poisons and interpreted toxicological findings for the purposes of medical and legal investigations, with court experience as an expert witness in impaired driving cases, homicides and sexual assaults.



Dr. James Morrow, Forensic Biology, bridges rigorous academic research and applied forensic science practice. Dr. Morrow is joining UTM having served as a Forensic Scientist in Biology at the Centre of Forensic Sciences for almost ten years, and brings nearly a decade of casework experience combined with a substantial scholarly foundation in molecular biology, evolutionary genetics, and visual pigment biochemistry.



Dr. Sonya McLaren, Forensic Psychology, completed her PhD in Forensic Psychology with a concentration in quantitative methodology at Carleton University. Dr. McLaren's research interests include parole decision-making, offender change and rehabilitation, and offender risk assessment.



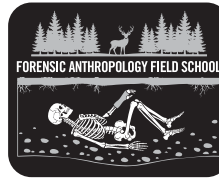
Dr. Tracy Rogers, Forensic Anthropology, is best known for her work as the lead forensic anthropologist at Canada's largest crime scene, the Pickton pig farm investigation, as well as several other high profile investigations in which her students were given opportunities to contribute. Dr. Rogers is also a forensic consultant for the Ontario Forensic Pathology Service, and the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario.



Dr. Karen Woodall, Forensic Toxicology, comes to UTM from the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto, as a forensic toxicologist, teaching the forensic toxicology and professionalism courses. Her current research topics include deaths due to fentanyl abuse and the role of drugs in motor vehicle fatalities. She also regularly provides lectures and training to police officers in the role of forensic toxicology in various criminal investigations.

EDUCATION THROUGH EXPERIENCE

The Forensic Anthropology Field School allows students to put themselves in the place of a forensic anthropologist where they learn to locate and excavate a missing person buried on campus. Students learn to map and record the scene, collecting evidence to reconstruct activity relating to the death and deposition of the victim.



The Forensic Identification Field School gives students practical exposure to field and laboratory methods related to evidence recognition, collection, and interpretation. Students put themselves in the place of a forensic identification specialist to process the crime scene that has taken place in the **Forensic Crime Scene House** located on campus, documenting, collecting and processing various types of evidence found at the scene.

Experiential Opportunities are available to all students enrolled in the Forensic Science programs. The Institute of Forensic Sciences has developed well-established partnerships with organizations such as the Centre of Forensic Sciences, the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario, the RCMP, and numerous other agencies worldwide. We offer limited seats in the **forensic co-op internship program**, as well as many experiential capstones to prepare students for their next step into the workplace.



Level Up! Skills for Academic Success runs in partnership with the UTM Library, the Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre, and the Institute for the Study of University Pedagogy, offering workshops focused on essential skills for university like developing productive study habits, effective notetaking strategies, and making a positive impression with professors. The **Level Up!** series will equip you with practical tools to support your success.



The Forensic Outreach Program gives our students a chance to engage with the wider community in meaningful ways during their time at UTM. Using the skills and techniques they learn in class, student volunteers **facilitate workshops and educational activities** for the public, high schoolers, teachers and adults interested in forensic science. This program gives undergraduate students a chance to practice their presentation and teaching skills in preparation for further academic and professional careers.



The UTM Forensics Society (IVNVI) is a strong support environment for undergraduate students. IVNVI is an active UTM society that offers workshops on academic skills, program application information sessions, mentorship with upper-years, firearms licensing, and organizes trips to Canadian and international forensic science conferences. For more information, visit: utmforensicsociety.wixsite.com/ivnvi



HOW DO I OBTAIN AN HONOURS BSc DEGREE IN FORENSIC SCIENCE?

Contributing to the completion of your Honours Bachelor of Science degree, you can choose from **two** Forensic Science program options:

OPTION 1) THE FORENSIC SCIENCE MAJOR (ERMAJ0205)

This Major Program can only be completed as part of a **Double Major Honours BSc Degree**, therefore, the Forensic Science Major requirements **MUST** be completed together with the second science major requirements (preapproved second science Majors are:

- Anthropology Major Program (ERMAJ0105)
- Chemistry Major Program (ERMAJ1376)
- Biology Major Program (ERMAJ2364)
- Psychology Major Program (ERMAJ1160)
- Biology For Health Science Major Program (ERMAJ1149)

OPTION 2) FORENSIC SCIENCE SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

A Forensic Specialist program is an intense, focused degree that does not require a paired second major. Students may complete one of four specialist degrees in forensic science (refer to the UTM calendar for full program requirements listed for each individual degree program listed below):

<https://utm.calendar.utoronto.ca/section/Forensic-Science>

- Anthropology Specialist Program (ERSPE1338)
- Chemistry Specialist Program (ERSPE1009)
- Biology Specialist Program (ERSPE1410)
- Psychology Specialist Program (ERSPE1505)



WHAT HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION IS NEEDED?

Students need six Grade 12U/M courses including Grade 12U English. This refers to courses from the Ontario curriculum. We will accept equivalent courses from other academic systems. For more details, visit the Admissions website: <https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students/admissions>

Include the following for **Forensic Anthropology Specialist**:



- Grade 12 Biology (SBI4U)
- Grade 12 Advanced Functions (MHF4U)

Include the following for the **Forensic Psychology Specialist**:



- Grade 12 Biology (SBI4U)
- Grade 12 Advanced Functions (MHF4U)

Include the following for **Forensic Biology Specialist**; **Forensic Chemistry Specialist** and the **Forensic Science Double Major**:



- Grade 12 Biology (SBI4U)
- Grade 12 Chemistry (SCH4U)
- Grade 12 Advanced Functions (MHF4U)



*In addition to the above, Grade 12 **Calculus** (MCV4U) and **Physics** (SPH4U) is **highly recommended** for success in the chemistry and biology specialist.*

WHAT COURSES ARE TAKEN IN FIRST YEAR UNIVERSITY?



FORENSIC SCIENCE (DOUBLE) MAJOR (ERMAJ0205)

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 4.0 credits.
2. Completion of FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science with a grade of 70% or better in the [first attempt](#).
3. Completion of CHM110H5 and CHM120H5, with a combined average of 65% or higher.
4. Completion of (MAT132H5, MAT134H5) or (MAT135H5, MAT136H5).
5. Completion of PHY136H5.
6. A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 2.7.
7. Enrolment in an Approved [Second Major \(see below\)](#).

First year courses required for **graduation**, but not degree entry, include BIO152H5 and BIO153H5. Students are also strongly encouraged to enrol in ISP100H5: Writing for University and Beyond.

At least 8.5 total credits from Forensic Science are required to graduate with this major degree.

SECOND MAJOR OPTIONS: 1ST YEAR REQUIRED COURSES

In addition to the following 1st year courses required for the Forensic Major Program, students must also complete the 1st year course requirements for the student's intended [Second Major Program](#) (see below).



Students wanting [Anthropology \(BSc\)](#) as their Second Major should also include:

- ANT101H5** Intro to Biological Anthropology & Archaeology
- ANT102H5** Intro to Sociocultural & Linguistic Anthropology
- ISP100H5** Writing for University and Beyond



Students wanting [Chemistry](#) as their Second Major should also include:

- BIO152H5** Intro to Evolution and Evolutionary Genetics
- BIO153H5** Diversity of Organisms (recommended)
- ISP100H5** Writing for University and Beyond



Students wanting [Biology](#) as their Second Major should also include:

- BIO152H5** Intro to Evolution & Evolutionary Genetics
- BIO153H5** Diversity of Organisms
- ISP100H5** Writing for University and Beyond



Students wanting [Psychology](#) as their Second Major should also include:

- PSY100Y5** Introductory Psychology
- BIO152H5** Intro to Evolution & Evolutionary Genetics
- BIO153H5** Diversity of Organisms
- ISP100H5** Writing for University and Beyond

FORENSIC SCIENCE MINOR (ERMIN0205)

A minor program that can be taken in combination with [any other specialist or major program](#) including from the Social Sciences and Humanities. This program will complement degrees in criminology, sociology, geography, political science, and any other field that intersects with the legal system. Students will learn forensic theory and at least one applied skill set through lectures and labs.

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

1. FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science. A final grade of 75% is required, and a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 2.0.

At least 4.0 total credits from Forensic Science are required to graduate with this minor degree.

WHAT COURSES ARE TAKEN IN FIRST YEAR UNIVERSITY



FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY SPECIALIST PROGRAM (ERSPE1338)

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 4.0 credits.
2. Completion of FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science with a grade of 70% or better in the [first attempt](#).
3. Completion of ANT101H5, ANT102H5 each with a grade of 75% or higher.
4. Completion of BIO152H5, BIO153H5 each with a grade of 65% or higher.
5. 0.5 additional science credit.
6. A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.2.
The actual minimum CGPA varies from year to year but is never lower than 3.2.
7. Students must be in good standing with no outstanding academic integrity cases.

Students are also strongly encouraged to enrol in ISP100H5 Writing for University and Beyond.

At least 15 total credits are required to graduate from this program.



FORENSIC BIOLOGY SPECIALIST PROGRAM (ERSPE1410)

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 4.0 credits.
2. Completion of FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science with a grade of 70% or better in the [first attempt](#).
3. Completion of BIO152H5, BIO153H5 each with a grade of 75% or higher.
4. Completion of CHM110H5, CHM120H5 each with a grade of 65% or higher.
5. Completion of (MAT132H5, MAT134H5) or (MAT135H5, MAT136H5).
6. Completion of PHY136H5.
7. A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.2.
The actual minimum CGPA varies from year to year but is never lower than 3.2.
8. Students must be in good standing with no outstanding academic integrity cases.

Students are also strongly encouraged to enrol in ISP100H5: Writing for University and Beyond.

At least 15.5 total credits are required to graduate from this program.

FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE SPECIALIST PROGRAMS?



FORENSIC CHEMISTRY SPECIALIST PROGRAM (ERSPE1009)

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 4.0 credits.
2. Completion of FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science with a grade of 70% or better in the [first attempt](#).
3. Completion of CHM110H5, CHM120H5 each with a grade of 65% or higher.
4. Completion of BIO152H5 with a grade of 65% or higher.
5. Completion of (MAT132H5, MAT134H5) or (MAT135H5, MAT136H5).
6. Completion of PHY136H5.
7. A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.2.
The actual minimum CGPA requirement varies from year to year but is never lower than 3.2.
8. Students must be in good standing with no outstanding academic integrity cases.

PHY137H5 is also required for **graduation**, but not degree entry. Students are also strongly encouraged to enrol in ISP100H5: Writing for University and Beyond.

At least 16.5 total credits are required to graduate from this program.



FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY SPECIALIST PROGRAM (ERSPE1505)

TO ADVANCE TO SECOND YEAR, STUDENTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS

1. Completion of 4.0 credits.
2. Completion of FSC239Y5 Introduction to Forensic Science with a grade of 70% or better in the [first attempt](#).
3. Completion of PSY100Y5 with a grade of 75% or higher.
4. Completion of BIO152H5, BIO153H5 with a grade of 65% or higher.
5. A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.2
The actual minimum CGPA requirement varies from year to year but is never lower than 3.2
6. Students must be in good standing with no outstanding academic integrity cases.

Students are also strongly encouraged to enrol in ISP100H5: Writing for University and Beyond.

At least 14.5 total credits are required to graduate from this program.

WHAT COMES NEXT? LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



Forensic Science 2026 graduates standing with Murray Clayton (Program Officer), Dr. Tracy Rogers (Associate Professor, Forensic Anthropology), Dr. Vivienne Luk (Associate Professor, Forensic Chemistry) and Det. Wade Knaap (Assistant Professor, Forensic Identification).

The Institute for Forensic Sciences prepares students for graduate programs in [Anthropology](#), [Biology](#), [Biotechnology](#), [Chemistry](#), [Molecular Biology](#), [Psychology](#), or [Toxicology](#). In addition, graduates may enter professional programs, subsequently establishing successful careers in medicine, law enforcement (either as civilians or sworn police officers), forensic laboratory science, forensic consulting, law, and a wide range of related fields, many found shortly after graduation.

For more information, visit the forensic science alumni webpage '[Where Are They Now?](#)' to get an idea of where our graduates are hired, what they are doing, and their achievements.

RECENT ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT utm.utoronto.ca/forensic/alumni



Antonio Fragomeni, HBSc. Forensic Biology Specialist (2024)

"Learning how to process crime scenes, handle and analyze evidence, and apply different forensic techniques both at the Crime Scene House and in the labs made the program feel very practical, and helped me appreciate how the science we were learning could be applied to real-world investigations.

Be open to where this journey takes you. I never expected that my Forensic Science degree would lead me to a Bachelor of Education and a career in teaching, but I have come to appreciate how much my forensic science background continues to influence the way I think, solve problems, and approach learning."

Antonio currently works with the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board as a K-8 Teacher.