FORENSIC SCIENCE

Description

Website: http://forensic.unl.edu/

Forensic science includes any science that is conducted for use in the legal system. The need for science in the courtroom has greatly increased as a result of legal rulings and the positioning of forensic science in popular culture. The forensic science degree program provides students with an education in the use of science, mathematics, and statistics in legal proceedings. There are four options of study: Forensic Biology, Crime Scene Investigation, Forensic Chemistry, and the Pre-Law 3-3 Program.

College Requirements

College Admission

Requirements for admission into the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) are consistent with general University admission requirements (one unit equals one high school year): 4 units of English, 4 units of mathematics, 3 units of natural sciences, 3 units of social studies, and 2 units of foreign language. Students must also meet performance requirements (ACT composite of 20 or higher OR combined SAT score of 950 or higher OR rank in the top one-half of graduating class; transfer students must have a 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) cumulative grade point average and 2.0 on the most recent term of attendance). For students entering the PGA Golf Management degree program, a certified golf handicap of 12 or better (e.g., USGA handicap card) or written ability (MS Word file) equivalent to a 12 or better handicap by a PGA professional or high school golf coach is required. For more information, please visit: http://pgm.unl.edu/requirements.

Admission Deficiencies/Removal of Deficiencies

Students who are admitted to CASNR with core course deficiencies must remove these deficiencies within the first 30 credit hours at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, or within the first calendar year at Nebraska, whichever takes longer, excluding foreign languages. Students have up to 60 credit hours to remove foreign language deficiencies. College-level course work taken to remove deficiencies may be used to meet degree requirements in CASNR.

Deficiencies in the required entrance subjects can be removed by completion of specified courses in the University or by correspondence.

The Office of Admissions, Alexander Building (south entrance), City Campus, provides information to new students on how deficiencies can be removed.

College Degree Requirements

Curriculum Requirements

The curriculum requirements of the College consist of three areas: ACE (Achievement-Centered Education), College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Core; and Degree Program requirements and electives. All three areas of the College Curriculum Requirements are incorporated within the description of the Major/Degree Program sections of the catalog. The individual major/degree program listings of classes insures that a student will meet the minimum curriculum requirements of the College.

Foreign Languages/Language Requirement

Two units of a foreign language are required. This requirement is usually met with two years of high school language.

Minimum Hours Required for Graduation

The College grants the bachelors degree in programs associated with agricultural sciences, natural resources and related programs. Students working toward a degree must earn at least 120 semester hours of credit. A minimum cumulative grade point average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) must be maintained throughout the course of studies and is required for graduation. Some degree programs have a higher cumulative grade point average required for graduation. Please check the degree program on its graduation cumulative grade point average.

Grade Rules

Removal of C-, D and F Grades

Only the most recent letter grade received in a given course will be used in computing a student’s cumulative grade point average if the student has completed the course more than once and previously received a grade or grades below C in that course.

The previous grade (or grades) will not be used in the computation of the cumulative grade point average, but it will remain a part of the academic record and will appear on any transcript.

A student can remove from his/her cumulative average a course grade of C-, D+, D-, D- or F if the student repeats the same course at the University of Nebraska and receives a grade other than P (pass), I (incomplete), N (no pass), W (withdrawn), or NR (no report). If a course is no longer being offered, it is not eligible for the revised grade point average computation process.

For complete procedures and regulations, see the Office of the University Registrar website at http://www.unl.edu/regrec/course-repeats.

Pass/No Pass

Students in CASNR may take any course offered on a Pass/No Pass basis within the 24-hour limitation established by the Faculty Senate. However, a department may specify that the Pass/No Pass status of its courses be limited to non-majors or may choose to offer some courses for letter grades only.

GPA Requirements

A minimum cumulative grade point average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) must be maintained throughout the course of studies and is required for graduation. Some degree programs have a higher cumulative grade point average required for graduation. Please check the degree program on its graduation cumulative grade point average.

Transfer Credit Rules

To be considered for admission, a transfer student, Nebraska resident or nonresident, must have an accumulated average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum C average in the last semester of attendance at another college. Transfer students who have completed less than 12 credit hours of college study must submit either ACT or SAT scores.

Ordinarily, credits earned at an accredited college are accepted by the University. The College, however, will evaluate all hours submitted on an application for transfer and reserves the right to accept or reject any of them. Sixty (60) is the maximum number of hours the University will accept on transfer from a two-year college. Ninety (90) is the maximum number of hours the University will accept from a four-year college. Transfer credit in the degree program must be approved by the degree program advisor on a Request for Substitution Form to meet specific course requirements, group requirements, or course level.
requirements in the major. At least 9 hours in the major field, including the capstone course, must be completed at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln regardless of the number of hours transferred.

The College will accept no more than 10 semester hours of C, D+, D and D- grades from other schools. The C-, D+, D and D- grades can only be applied to free electives. This policy does not apply to the transfer of grades from UNO or UNK to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

Joint Academic Transfer Programs
The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources has agreements with many institutions to support joint academic programs. The transfer programs include dual degree programs and cooperative degree programs. Dual degree programs offer students the opportunity to receive a degree from a participating institution and also to complete requirements for a bachelor of science degree in CASNR. Cooperative programs result in a single degree from either the University of Nebraska–Lincoln or the cooperating institution.

Dual Degree Programs
A to B Programs
The A to B Program, a joint academic program offered by the CASNR and participating community colleges, allows students to complete the first two years of a degree program at the participating community college and continue their education and study in a degree program leading toward a bachelor of science degree.

The A to B Program provides a basic knowledge plus specialized course work. Students transfer into CASNR with junior standing.

Depending on the community college, students enrolled in the A to B Program may complete the requirements for an associate of science at the community college, transfer to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, and work toward a bachelor of science degree.

Participating community colleges include:
- Central Community College
- Metropolitan Community College
- Mid-Plains Community College
- Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture
- Northeast Community College
- Southeast Community College
- Western Nebraska Community College

3+2 Programs
Two specialized degree programs in animal science and veterinary science are offered jointly with an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine. These two programs permit CASNR animal science or veterinary science students to receive a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln with a degree in animal science or veterinary science after successfully completing two years of the professional curriculum in veterinary medicine at an accredited veterinary school. Students who successfully complete the 3+2 Program, must complete the “Application for Degree” form and provide transcripts to the Credentials Clerk, Office of the University Registrar, 107 Canfield Administration Building. Students should discuss these degree programs with their academic advisor.

Cooperative Degree Programs
Academic credit from the University and a cooperating institution is applied towards a four-year degree from either the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (University degree-granting program) or the cooperating institution (non University degree-granting program). All have approved programs of study.

UNL Degree-Granting Programs
A University of Nebraska–Lincoln degree-granting program is designed to provide students the opportunity to complete a two-year program of study at one of the four-year institutions listed below, transfer to CASNR and complete the requirements for a bachelor of science degree.

Chadron State College
Chadron State College offers a 2+2 program leading to a grassland ecology and management degree program and a transfer program leading to a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Education in the teaching option.

Wayne State College
Wayne State College offers a 3+1 program leading to a Bachelor of Science in Plant Biology in the ecology and management option.

University of Nebraska at Kearney
Transfer programs are available for students pursuing degree programs leading to a bachelor of science degree.

University of Nebraska at Omaha
The University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) cooperates with CASNR in providing four-semester pre-agricultural sciences, pre-natural resources, pre-food science and technology, pre-horticulture and pre-turfgrass and landscape management transfer programs.

A student enrolled in these programs may transfer all satisfactorily completed academic credits identified in the suggested program of study, and enter CASNR to study toward a degree program leading to a bachelor of science degree. The total program would require a minimum of four years or eight semesters (16 credit hours/semester or 120 credit hours).

Nebraska CASNR faculty teach horticulture and food science and technology courses at UNO to assist an urban population in better understanding the food processing, horticulture, and landscape horticulture industries.

For more information, contact the CASNR Dean's Office, 800-472-8800, ext. 2541.

Non University of Nebraska–Lincoln Degree-Granting Programs
The CASNR cooperates with other institutions to provide course work that is applied towards a degree at the cooperating institution. Pre-professional programs offered by CASNR allow students to complete the first two or three years of a degree program at the University prior to transferring and completing a degree at the cooperating institution.

Chadron State College–Range Science
The 3+1 Program in range science allows Chadron State College students to pursue a range science degree through Chadron State College. Students complete three years of course work at Chadron State College and one year of specialized range science course work (32 credit hours) at CASNR.

Dordt College (Iowa) – Agricultural Education: Teaching Option
This program allows students to pursue an Agricultural Education Teaching Option degree leading toward a bachelor of science in agricultural education. Students at Dordt College will complete 90 credit hours in the Agricultural Education: Teaching Option Transfer Program.

Residency
Students must complete at least 30 of the total hours for their degree using University of Nebraska–Lincoln credits. At least 18 of the 30 credit hours must be in courses offered through CASNR1 (>299) including
the appropriate ACE 10 degree requirement or an approved ACE 10 substitution offered through another Nebraska college and excluding independent study regardless of the number of hours transferred. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement if students register through UNL and participate in a prior-approved education abroad programs. University of Nebraska–Lincoln open enrollment and summer independent study courses count toward residence.

![1](includes courses taught by CASNR faculty through interdisciplinary prefixes (e.g., LIFE, MBIO, ENVR, SCIL, EAEP, HRTM, ENSC) and CASNR crosslisted courses taught by non-CASNR faculty.

### Online and Distance Education

There are many opportunities to earn college credit online through the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Some of these credits may be applicable not only as elective credits, but also toward the fulfillment of the College’s education requirements. Credits earned online may count toward residency. However, certain offerings may not be counted toward scholarship requirements or academic recognition criteria.

For further information, contact:
Office of Online and Distance Education
University of Nebraska–Lincoln
305 Brace Labs
Lincoln, NE 68588-0109
402-472-4681
http://online.unl.edu/

### Independent Study Rules

Students wishing to take part in independent studies must obtain permission; complete and sign a contract form; and furnish copies of the contract to the instructor, advisor, departmental office, and the Dean’s Office. The contract should be completed before registration. Forms are available in 103 Agricultural Hall or online at the CASNR website.

Independent study projects include research, literature review or extension of course work under supervision and evaluation of a departmental faculty member.

Students may only count 12 hours of independent study toward their degrees and no more than 6 hours can be counted during their last 36 hours earned, excluding senior thesis, internships, and courses taught under an independent study number.

### Other College Degree Requirements

#### Capstone Course Requirement

A capstone course is required for each CASNR degree program. A capstone course is defined as a course in which students are required to integrate diverse bodies of knowledge to solve a problem or formulate a policy of societal importance.

### ACE Requirements

All students must fulfill the Achievement Centered Education (ACE) requirements. Information about the ACE program may be viewed at ace.unl.edu (https://ace.unl.edu).

The minimum requirements of CASNR reflect the common core of courses that apply to students pursuing degrees in the college. Students should work with an advisor to satisfy ACE outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 10 with the college requirements.

### Catalog Rule

Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are first admitted to the University of Nebraska–Lincoln or when they were first admitted to a Joint Academic Transfer Program. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at Nebraska in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. The catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

### Learning Outcomes

Majors in forensic science will be able to:

1. Demonstrate factual and conceptual knowledge of forensic science, including knowledge of the U.S.A. legal system, pattern evidence, biological evidence, chemical/materials evidence, chain of custody, and ethics.

2. Effectively communicate knowledge of forensic science through written and oral presentations.

3. Demonstrate skills and foundational knowledge that will provide thorough qualifications for employment in a forensic science laboratory.

### Major Requirements

#### Core Requirements

The following basic courses are required for a bachelor of science in forensic science. In addition, students must select and meet the requirements of one of the options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Integrative Course</th>
<th>Credit Hours Subtotal:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCIL 101 Science and Decision-Making for a Complex World</td>
<td>3</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural Sciences Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASNR Approved Life Sciences</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE 120 Fundamentals of Biology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; LIFE 120L and Fundamentals of Biology I laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE 121 Fundamentals of Biology II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; LIFE 121L and Fundamentals of Biology II Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemistry</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 109 General Chemistry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 110 General Chemistry II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 251 Organic Chemistry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; CHEM 253 and Organic Chemistry I Laboratory</td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physics</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 141 Elementary General Physics I</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics and Statistics (ACE 3)</th>
<th>Credit Hours Subtotal:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 106 Calculus I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 218 Introduction to Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communications</th>
<th>Select one of the following:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication (ACE 1)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Forensic Science

ENGL 150 Writing and Inquiry
ENGL 151 Writing and Argument
ENGL 254 Writing and Communities
JGEN 120 Basic Business Communication
JGEN 200 Technical Communication I
JGEN 300 Technical Communication II

Communications and Interpersonal Skills (ACE 2)
Select one of the following: 3
ALEC 102 Interpersonal Skills for Leadership
COMM 101 Communication in the 21st Century
COMM 209 Public Speaking
COMM 210 Communicating in Small Groups
COMM 215 Visual Communication
COMM 283 Interpersonal Communication
COMM 286 Business and Professional Communication
JGEN 300 Technical Communication II
MRKT 257 Sales Communication
NRES 301 Environmental Communication Skills
TMFD 121 Visual Communication and Presentation

Credit Hours Subtotal: 6

Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences
Select one of the following (ACE 8): 3
ECON 200 Economic Essentials and Issues
ECON 211 Principles of Macroeconomics
ECON 212 Principles of Microeconomics
Select one course each from ACE outcomes 5, 7, and 9 9

Credit Hours Subtotal: 12

Forensic Science Core Requirements
FORS 120 Introduction to Forensic Science 2
FORS 120L Introduction to Forensic Science Laboratory 1
FORS 200 Forensic Science Seminar 1
FORS 411 Overview of Forensic Comparative Analysis 3
FORS 485 Current Issues in Forensic Science 3
CRIM 101 Survey of Criminal Justice 3

Credit Hours Subtotal: 13

Option (Biology, Chemistry, CSI, or Pre-Law at 56 hrs)
Requirements Complete requirements 53
Credit Hours Subtotal: 53

Total Credit Hours 120

Forensic Biology Option

The Forensic Biology Option is designed for students interested in a laboratory-based career focusing on the analysis of forensically important biological materials. Students will learn basic biological techniques and be prepared for graduate study or professional careers in academia, research, industry, law or medicine.

Forensic Biology Requirements
PHYS 142 Elementary General Physics II 5
CHEM 252 Organic Chemistry II 4 & CHEM 254 and Organic Chemistry II Laboratory
BIOS 312 Microbiology & BIOS 314 and Microbiology Laboratory
BIOS 412 Human Genetics & BIOS 414 and Microbiology Laboratory
FORS 401 Forensic Biology & FORS 401L and Forensic Biology Laboratory
FORS 403 Advanced Forensic Photography 1
FORS 404 Bloodstains as Evidence 1
FORS 410 Advanced Forensic DNA Methods 3
Select one of the following: 3-4
BIOS 412 Human Genetics
BIOS 420 / M BIO 420 Molecular Genetics
BIOS 477 Bioinformatics and Molecular Evolution
FORS 445 / NRES 445 Human Remains in Forensic Science
FORS 446 / NRES 446 Pollen Analysis for Behavioral, Biological and Forensic Science
FORS 498 Special Topics in Forensic Science
Any 300-level or above AGRO, BIOS, BI OC, CHEM, ENTO, PHYS, or MATH 107
Select 7-8 hours of professional electives 7-8

Credit Hours Subtotal: 53

Total Credit Hours 53

1 Students interested in graduate or professional schools including medicine and pharmacy should substitute BIOS 431 and BIOS 432.
2 Students may substitute BIOS 214.

Crime Scene Investigation Option

The Crime Scene Investigation Option prepares students for a career in law enforcement and investigation. This option emphasizes broad understandings of forensic science as applied to the acquisition, preservation, interpretation, and presentation of evidence. This option prepares students for graduate study in forensic science and other natural and physical sciences.

Crime Scene Investigation Requirements
PHYS 142 Elementary General Physics II 5
CHEM 252 Organic Chemistry II & CHEM 254 and Organic Chemistry II Laboratory
BIOS 312 Microbiology & BIOS 314 and Microbiology Laboratory
ENTO 115 / BIOS 115 Insect Biology 3
ENTO 116 / BIOS 116 Insect Identification 1
Forensic Chemistry Option

The Forensic Chemistry Option is designed for students interested in a laboratory-based career focusing on the chemical analysis of forensically important materials. Students will learn basic chemistry techniques and be prepared for graduate or professional careers in academia, research, industry, law or medicine.

### Forensic Chemistry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGRO 215</td>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HORT 215</td>
<td>Elementary Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TLMT 215</td>
<td>Elementary Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 221</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; CHEM 254</td>
<td>Organic Chemistry II Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOC 321</td>
<td>Elements of Biochemistry and Laboratory for Elements of Biochemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOC 321L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOS 213</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOS 213L</td>
<td>Human Physiology Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATH 107</td>
<td>Calculus II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 221</td>
<td>Elementary Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 421</td>
<td>Analytical Chemistry</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; CHEM 423</td>
<td>Analytical Chemistry Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 471</td>
<td>Physical Chemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORS 307</td>
<td>Forensic DNA for Crime Scene Investigators</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FORS 415</td>
<td>Forensic Toxicology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following: 3-4

- FORS 300 | Forensic Taphonomy
- FORS 445 | Human Remains in Forensic Science
- FORS 446 | Pollen Analysis for Behavioral, Biological, and Forensic Science
- FORS 498 | Special Topics in Forensic Science

Or select 3-4 hours from any 300-level or above course in AGRO, BIOS, BIOC, CHEM, ENTO, PHYS, or MATH 208

Select 9-10 hours of professional electives 9-10

Total Credit Hours 53

**Pre-Law Option**

An applicant will be accepted into the 3-3 Program at the College of Law if the applicant:

1. Has an LSAT score of at least 156;
2. Has a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.6 or higher as calculated by the Law School Admission Council;
3. Will have successfully completed at least 75% of the course credits required for his or her undergraduate degree, along with all other requirements of his or her undergraduate degree program, by the date of matriculation at the College of Law. Course credits may include no more than six credit hours of pass/fail course work;
4. Has submitted on time the materials required of all applicants to the College of Law, including a completed application, satisfactory letters of recommendation, a personal statement, and records of the required course credits;
5. Has not been on academic probation at any undergraduate institution;
6. Has provided the College of Law with a letter from the relevant Dean, or other administrator of equivalent authority, of the applicant’s undergraduate institution stating that the applicant has completed all institutional requirements for participation in the 3-3 Law College Program and that the institution will grant the applicant an undergraduate degree upon the applicant’s successful completion of the first year College of Law course work.

If the above requirements are satisfied, the applicant will automatically be accepted into the 3-3 Law Program unless there is information concerning the applicant that reflects adversely on the applicant’s character and fitness, including criminal citations, pending criminal charges, or criminal convictions. In such cases, the application will be individually reviewed by the College of Law Admissions Committee.

### Pre-Law: Forensic Biology Requirements (Years 1–3 Forensic Science)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOC 321</td>
<td>Elements of Biochemistry and Laboratory for Elements of Biochemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOC 321L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 205</td>
<td>Genetics, Molecular and Cellular Biology Laboratory and General Genetics</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOS 206</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOS 303</td>
<td>Molecular Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOS 312</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOS 314</td>
<td>Microbiology Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>FORS 401</td>
<td>Forensic Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>&amp; FORS 401L</td>
<td>Forensic Biology Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>FORS 404</td>
<td>Bloodstains as Evidence</td>
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Select 1 hour of professional electives 1

Total Credit Hours 23

### Pre-Law: CSI Requirements (Years 1–3 Forensic Science)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENTO 115</td>
<td>Insect Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 115</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENTO 116 / BIOS 116 Insect Identification 1
AGRO 215 / HORT 215 / TLMT 215 Genetics 4
FORS 300 Forensic Taphonomy 3
FORS 400 & FORS 400L Crime Scene Investigation and Crime Scene Investigation Laboratory 4
FORS 404 Bloodstains as Evidence 1
FORS 307 Forensic DNA for Crime Scene Investigators 3

Select one of the following: 4

CHEM 221 Elementary Quantitative Analysis
CHEM 252 & CHEM 254 Organic Chemistry II and Organic Chemistry II Laboratory

Total Credit Hours 23

Pre-Law: Forensic Biology and CSI Requirements (Year 4 Forensic Science/Year 1 College of Law)

LAW 503 Torts I 4
LAW 505 Property I & LAW 506 and Property II 6
LAW 501 Contracts I & LAW 502 and Contracts II 6
LAW 516 Civil Procedure I & LAW 517 and Civil Procedure II 6
LAW 508 Criminal Law 3
LAW 513 Legal Research and Writing & LAW 514 and Legal Research and Writing 6
LAW 518 International Perspectives in U.S. Legal System: Practicing Law in a Global Legal Environment 2

Total Credit Hours 33

FORS 120 Introduction to Forensic Science
Notes: Register for FORS 120L as an optional one credit hour lab.
Description: The United States legal system, serology, DNA analysis, crime scene investigation, comparative analysis, digital forensics, and behavioral sciences.
Credit Hours: 2
Max credits per semester: 2
Max credits per degree: 2
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 200; FORS 300; FORS 302; FORS 306; FORS 400; FORS 401; FORS 411; FORS 803; FORS 804; FORS 804, FORS 404

FORS 120L Introduction to Forensic Science Laboratory

FORS 200 Forensic Science Seminar
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Current issues in research, ethics, and professional practice related to forensic science.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 400

FORS 300 Forensic Taphonomy
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/121, CHEM 109/110, and FORS 120/L
Description: Forensic application of processes associated with decomposition and preservation of organic materials.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 302 Principles of Forensic Photography
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Concepts, techniques, analysis and interpretation of photographic evidence.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 411; FORS 803, FORS 403; FORS 804, FORS 404

FORS 306 Crime Scene Management
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Critical thinking, reasoning, investigative failure, resource management, and supervision in criminal investigation.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING

FORS 307 Forensic DNA for Crime Scene Investigators
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/L and LIFE 121/L
Description: Basic terminology, concepts, and techniques that are currently, or have been previously used in operational crime laboratories. The concepts of laboratory techniques, measurements, analysis of the various analytical methods, and quality assurance/quality control are also included.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING

FORS 200 Forensic Science Seminar
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Current issues in research, ethics, and professional practice related to forensic science.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 400

FORS 300 Forensic Taphonomy
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/121, CHEM 109/110, and FORS 120/L
Description: Forensic application of processes associated with decomposition and preservation of organic materials.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 302 Principles of Forensic Photography
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Concepts, techniques, analysis and interpretation of photographic evidence.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 411; FORS 803, FORS 403; FORS 804, FORS 404

FORS 306 Crime Scene Management
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Critical thinking, reasoning, investigative failure, resource management, and supervision in criminal investigation.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING

FORS 307 Forensic DNA for Crime Scene Investigators
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/L and LIFE 121/L
Description: Basic terminology, concepts, and techniques that are currently, or have been previously used in operational crime laboratories. The concepts of laboratory techniques, measurements, analysis of the various analytical methods, and quality assurance/quality control are also included.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING

FORS 200 Forensic Science Seminar
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Current issues in research, ethics, and professional practice related to forensic science.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 400

FORS 300 Forensic Taphonomy
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/121, CHEM 109/110, and FORS 120/L
Description: Forensic application of processes associated with decomposition and preservation of organic materials.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 302 Principles of Forensic Photography
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Concepts, techniques, analysis and interpretation of photographic evidence.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 411; FORS 803, FORS 403; FORS 804, FORS 404

FORS 306 Crime Scene Management
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Critical thinking, reasoning, investigative failure, resource management, and supervision in criminal investigation.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING

FORS 307 Forensic DNA for Crime Scene Investigators
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/L and LIFE 121/L
Description: Basic terminology, concepts, and techniques that are currently, or have been previously used in operational crime laboratories. The concepts of laboratory techniques, measurements, analysis of the various analytical methods, and quality assurance/quality control are also included.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
FORS 400 Crime Scene Investigation
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L, FORS 200 and FORS 411 or instructor permission
Description: Identification, collection, preservation, presentation of physical evidence. Ethics and chain of custody.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 485

FORS 400L Crime Scene Investigation Laboratory
Prerequisites: Parallel FORS 400
Notes: A lab for credit to go with FORS 400.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LAB
Offered: FALL
Prerequisite for: FORS 485

FORS 401 Forensic Biology
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/L and LIFE 121/L, BIOS 205, BIOS 206, and FORS 120/L or instructor permission
Description: Ethics, quality assurance, quality control, analysis, and interpretation of biological evidence for the legal system.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 410; FORS 485

FORS 401L Forensic Biology Laboratory
Prerequisites: Parallel FORS 401
Notes: A lab for credit to go with FORS 401.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LAB
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 410; FORS 485

FORS 403 Advanced Forensic Photography
Crosslisted with: FORS 803
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L or FORS 302.
Description: Advanced concepts, techniques, analysis, and interpretation of photographic evidence.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 411; FORS 804, FORS 404

FORS 404 Bloodstains as Evidence
Crosslisted with: FORS 804
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L, FORS 302 or FORS 403/803.
Description: Documentation and interpretation of geometric bloodstains, calculating probable origins, and collecting blood as a source of DNA evidence.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 1
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 410 Advanced Forensic DNA Methods
Prerequisites: FORS 401/401L
Description: Provides a comprehensive description of forensic DNA analysis and includes a complete discussion of the process of forensic DNA analysis, from evidence collection to statistical analysis of DNA profiles, including the subjects of DNA extraction, quantitation, PCR amplification, allele detection, PCR artifact identification, and DNA profile interpretation. Particular attention will be given to the areas of mixed profile interpretation and statistical methods.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 411 Overview of Forensic Comparative Analysis
Prerequisites: FORS 120/L; LIFE 120/L; FORS 302 or FORS 403; CHEM 109; and STAT 218.
Description: Covers the main forensic science comparisons that are seen in most crime scene investigation units and forensic science labs. Provides a broad overview of the concepts and analytical techniques of forensic comparative science. Covers basic microscopic applications, photography, computer applications, courtroom testimony, ethics, cognitive bias, and the concepts of error and sufficiency in forensic science.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LAB
Offered: SPRING
Prerequisite for: FORS 400

FORS 414 Forensic Entomology
Crosslisted with: ENTO 414, ENTO 814, FORS 814
Prerequisites: ENTO 115 or equivalent introductory course.
Description: Application of entomology to legal issues. Criminal investigations, insects of forensic importance, insect succession on carrion, and case studies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
FORS 415 Forensic Toxicology
Crosslisted with: FORS 815
Prerequisites: CHEM 252/254; BIOC 321 (concurrent).
Description: Provides a comprehensive understanding of the principles of toxicology, pharmacokinetics, metabolism, analytical methods and instrumentation relative to forensic science.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 445 Human Remains in Forensic Science
Crosslisted with: FORS 845, NRES 445, NRES 845
Prerequisites: LIFE 120/L and LIFE 121/L, CHEM 109, CHEM 110, and FORS 120/L.
Description: Forensic anthropology within the broader context of forensic sciences and physical anthropology. Decomposition and bone modification through artificial means. Determination of individual identity, diet, chronic pathology and cause of death from human remains.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 446 Pollen Analysis for Behavioral, Biological and Forensic Science
Crosslisted with: FORS 846, NRES 446, NRES 846
Prerequisites: BIOS 109 and FORS 120.
Description: Collection, processing, identification of common North American pollen types. Pollination ecology relating to scene reconstruction. Fundamental statistics and presentation requirements for a legal and scientific audience.
Credit Hours: 4
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: LEC
Offered: FALL

FORS 485 Current Issues in Forensic Science
Prerequisites: FORS 400/L or FORS 401/L
Description: Application and integration of principles to address emerging issues involving forensic science.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Offered: SPRING
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

FORS 495 Internship in Forensic Science
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing and permission.
Notes: Requires a structured practical experience under the supervision of a forensic science professional.
Credit Hours: 1-4
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: FLD

FORS 496 Independent Study in Forensic Science
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing and permission.
Notes: Requires an individual or group project in research or literature review, or extension of course work.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: IND

FORS 498 Special Topics in Forensic Science
Crosslisted with: FORS 898
Prerequisites: 3 hrs FORS or equivalent.
Description: Current issues in forensic science.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: IND

FORS 499H Honors Thesis
Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program and permission. AGRI 299H recommended.
Description: Conduct a research project and write a University Honors Program or undergraduate thesis.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: IND

PLEASE NOTE
This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with this major. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with your college or department academic advisor. Advisors also can help you plan other experiences to enrich your undergraduate education such as internships, education abroad, undergraduate research, learning communities, and service learning and community-based learning.

Forensic Science - Forensic Biology
Forensic Science - Forensic Chemistry
Forensic Science - Crime Scene Investigation
Forensic Science - Pre-Law
Career Information

The following represents a sample of the internships, jobs and graduate school programs that current students and recent graduates have reported.

Internships
• Intern, FBI - Washington DC
• Research Intern, Institute of Environmental Science & Research - Auckland, New Zealand
• Intern, Criminal Investigation Division - Washington DC
• Drug Lab Intern, Honolulu Police Dept Scientific Investigation - Honolulu HI
• Intern, Estee Lauder R&D Headquarters - New York NY
• BSCO Intern, Boulder County Sheriff's Office - Boulder CO
• Intern, North Dakota Attorney General’s Office - Bismarck ND
• Intern, Homeland Security Investigations - Kansas City KS
• Correctional Officer Intern, NE Dept. of Correctional Services - Lincoln NE
• Intern, Pottawattamie County Sheriff’s Office - Council Bluffs IA
• Research Intern, Eli Lily and Company - Indianapolis IN
• Crime Laboratory Intern, Omaha Police Department - Omaha NE
• Law Enforcement Intern, Cook County Sheriff - Cook County IL
• Intern, Wichita Police Dept. - Wichita KS
• Intern/Lab Tech, MatMaCorp - Lincoln NE
• Troop B Intern, Nebraska State Patrol - Norfolk NE
• Insect Trait Development Research Intern, DuPont Pioneer - Johnston IA
• Student Trainee in Biological Sciences, US Department of Agriculture - Lincoln NE
• Intern, Omaha Police Department - Omaha NE
• Intern, Kansas City Police Department - Kansas City MO

Graduate & Professional Schools
• M.S. Crime Scene Investigation, George Washington University - Washington DC
• Nursing, University of the Incarnate Word - San Antonio TX
• M.D., University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
• M.A. Secondary Science Education, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• J.D., Southern Methodist University - Dallas TX
• M.S. Applied Science (Forensic Palynology), University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• Pharm. D, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
• M.S., Central Oklahoma University - Edmond OK
• M.S. Applied Science (Forensic Biochemistry), University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• Master of Forensic Science, Saint Joseph’s College Indiana - Rensselaer IN
• Animal Breeding and Genetics, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• Masters in Biochemistry, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• Medical Laboratory Science, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
• Masters of Arts with emphasis in science teaching, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• Master of Science, Forensic Science, Nebraska Wesleyan University - Lincoln NE
• Doctorate of Nursing Practice, UNMC - Omaha NE
• Nursing, Nebraska Methodist College - Omaha NE
• Forensic Science, M.S., Nebraska Wesleyan University - Lincoln NE
• M.S. - Forensic Biochemistry, Nebraska Wesleyan University - Lincoln NE
• M.S. Forensic Technologies, University of New-Haven - New Haven CT
• Secondary Science Education, M.A., University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE
• PhD, Ag & Environmental Chemistry, University of California-Davis - Davis CA
• Master of Science, University of California-Davis - Davis CA
• M.S. Toxicology, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor MI
• Masters - School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE