



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FORENSIC SCIENCES

410 North 21st Street • Colorado Springs • CO 80904-2712 • (719) 636-1100 • Fax (719) 636-1993

FEPAC Form 5.1.1
Revised 03/01/2021

Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC)

Application for Forensic Science Accreditation

University/College: _____
City, State: _____

Institution Type: Private: Public:

Part 1: Forensic Science Program Information

Program Name: _____
Bachelor Degree: _____

**Please specify the Department, School,
College, and/or Division that offers the
program:** _____

Date Program Established: _____
Date of First Graduate: _____
Number of Enrolled Students: _____
Number of Graduates to Date: _____

Program Director Information

Program Director: _____
Title: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____
Program Web site: _____

4.1c Forensic Science Capstone Experience

A minimum of three semester hours resulting in a capstone presentation, publication, or similar scholarly product. The requirement can be met in the following ways:

- Capstone Course
- Internships
- Independent Research

	Course ID	Course	3 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				

4.2. SPECIFIC EMPHASIS TRACKS CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Programs with no concentrations or tracks complete 4.2.1 Criminalistics.

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Biology complete 4.2.2.

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Chemistry complete 4.2.3.

Programs with concentration, track, or emphasis in Digital Evidence complete 4.2.4

4.2.1 Criminalistics

4.2.1a Natural Science Courses

Biology: At least two courses which include co-requisite laboratory (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

Physics: At least two courses which include co-requisite laboratory in physics for science majors (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

Chemistry: At least four courses which include co-requisite laboratory. Two courses in general chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours) and two courses in organic chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	14 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

Mathematics: At least one course in differential and integral calculus (minimum 3 semester hours) and at least one course in statistics (minimum 3 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2.			

4.2.1b Specialized Science Courses

A minimum of 15 additional semester hours in more advanced coursework in chemistry or biology.

Introductory level courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement. At least two courses shall include laboratory training.

Course ID	Course	15 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

4.2.1c Forensic Science Courses

A minimum of six additional semester hours in advanced, upper level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic science. Course shall include laboratory.

	Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

4.2.2 Biology

4.2.2a Natural Science Courses

Biology: At least two courses which include laboratory (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

Physics: At least two courses which include laboratory in physics for science majors (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

Chemistry: At least four courses which include laboratory. Two courses in general chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours) and two courses in organic chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	14 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

Mathematics: At least one course in differential and integral calculus (minimum 3 semester hours) and at least one course in statistics (minimum 3 semester hours)

Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

4.2.2b Specialized Science Courses

A minimum of 15 additional hours in more advanced coursework in chemistry or biology. Introductory level courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement. At least two classes shall include laboratory training (minimum 7 hours)

Course ID	Course	15 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

4.2.2c Forensic Science Capstone Experience

A minimum of six additional semester hours in advanced, upper level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic science. Courses shall include laboratory.

Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

4.2.3 Chemistry

4.2.3a Natural Science Courses

Biology: At least two courses which include laboratory (minimum 7 semester hours)

	Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

Physics: At least two courses which include laboratory in physics for science majors (minimum 7 semester hours)

	Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

Chemistry: At least four courses which include laboratory. Two courses in general chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours) and two courses in organic chemistry (minimum 7 semester hours)

	Course ID	Course	14 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				
3				
4				

Mathematics: At least one course in differential and integral calculus (minimum three semester hours) and at least one course in statistics (minimum three semester hours)

	Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

4.2.3b Specialized Science Courses

A minimum of 15 additional hours in more advanced coursework in chemistry or biology. Introductory level courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement. At least two classes shall include laboratory training (minimum 7 hours)

Course ID	Course	15 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

4.2.3c Forensic Science Courses

A minimum of six additional semester hours in advanced, upper level forensic science courses that provide greater depth in forensic science. Courses shall include laboratory.

Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

4.2.4 Digital Evidence

4.2.4a Natural Science Courses

Mathematics: At least two courses that include any combination of the following 3 semester hours courses:

- **Business Calculus**
- **Calculus I**
- **Calculus II**
- **Business Statistics**
- **Statistics I**
- **Statistics II**

	Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

Sciences: at least two courses that include co-requisite laboratory from the following list (minimum 7 semester hours):

- **Physics I**
- **Physics II**
- **General Chemistry I**
- **General Chemistry II**
- **Biology I**
- **Biology II**

	Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

4.2.4b Computer Science/Information Systems Courses

A minimum of 12 semester hours which include the following courses and topics:

1. At least one 3-semester hours of coursework in computer programming

	Course ID	Course	3 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

2. At least six semester hours in courses that cover the following topics:

- **Computer organization and structure**
- **File systems and operating systems**
- **Computer networking**
- **Information assurance/network security**
- **Data structure/database design**
- **Web or mobile application design and development**
- **Microelectric circuits**

	Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2.				

4.2.4c Specialized Digital Forensic Science Courses

A minimum of six additional semester hours in digital forensic science course work that covers the following topics:

- Acquisition of data
- Network / “live” forensic analysis
- Exploitation of mobile devices

	Course ID	Course	6 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1				
2				

4.2.5 Crime Scene Investigation

4.2.5a Natural Science Courses

Mathematics: At least one course from the following (minimum 3 semester hours):

- **Statistics**
- **Trigonometry**
- **Geometry**

Course ID	Course	3 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			

Sciences: At least two courses which include laboratory from the following (minimum 7 semester hours):

- **Physical Science**
- **General Chemistry**
- **General Biology**

Course ID	Course	7 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			

4.2.5b Crime Scene Courses

A minimum of 9 semester hours of coursework shall include the following topics:

- Crime scene interface with other forensic disciplines (including recognition and collection of evidence for other disciplines and presumptive testing)
- History and theory of crime scene investigations
- Relevant and current crime scene investigation literature
- Nature and properties of evidence types
- Crime scene safety; security; interactions with police, public, media; and legal
- Crime scene search
- Crime scene equipment, instrumentation, and technologies
- Crime scene interpretation, analysis, and reconstruction
- Crime scene documentation, collection, preservation, and enhancement
- Crime scene and evidence photography and videography
- Report writing and case preparation
- Vicarious trauma and workforce resiliency
- Cognitive bias

Course ID	Course	9 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
3			
4			

4.2.5c Specialized Crime Scene Courses

A minimum of 12 additional semester hours in specialized crime scene training that covers at least two of the following topics:

- Bloodstain pattern analysis and interpretation
- Shooting reconstruction
- Crime scene reconstruction (event analysis)
- Death investigations
- Sexual assault investigations
- Clandestine laboratories
- Fire and explosives investigations
- Crime scenes involving digital evidence
- Latent prints and/or other pattern evidence
- Forensic Pathology
- Forensic Entomology
- Forensic Anthropology/Archaeology
- Accident scene reconstruction
- Wildlife forensics
- Horticultural and agronomy evidence
- Water quality evidence
- Materials analysis evidence (mechanical engineering and stress and failure analysis)
- Behavioral aspects of crime scenes

Because of the specialized nature of these courses, there should be some form of practical hands-on instructions what includes laboratory setting.

Course ID	Course	12 Semester Hours	Laboratory Required
1			
2			
4			
5			

Part 4: Notification

In addition to the Program Director listed on page one of this application, the following individuals will be copied on correspondence and FEPAC decisions related to this program:

Name	Title	Email

Part 6: Authorization to Apply for Accreditation

The applicant institution’s Chief Executive Officer or Authorized/Designated Administrator authorizes the forensic science program’s application for accreditation by the Forensic Science Educational Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC).

Name: _____
Institution’s Chief Executive Officer or Authorized/Designated Administrator

Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____
e-signature is acceptable

An application fee of \$1,500 is required with the submission of the Institutional Application Packet (FEPAC Form 5.1). Both are due to the AAFS Office on or before **March 1**. Checks may be made payable to the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Credit card payment (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) is also acceptable. If paying with a credit card, please provide appropriate information and send to hjefferson@aafs.org.

If FEPAC determines that the institution is eligible for accreditation, an additional fee of \$2,000 is required with the submission of the Self-Study Report.

