



Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission

Call for Comments July, 2014

Standard 4.1.1c Forensic Science Courses *(formerly 4.3.1c Forensic Science Courses)*

Rationale:

To insure a strong forensic base in any program adequate to meet forensic laboratory needs. FEPAC wishes to balance this with the realization that many programs are track-based and not strictly criminalistics. This concern is related to credit hour issues because many programs cannot add additional credit hours to programs. Finally, this change will clarify what is meant by “physical methods.”

Standard 4.1.1c Forensic Science Courses

Current Wording:

A minimum of 15 semester hours in forensic science coursework must be covered in the curriculum.

Of these 15 hours, 9 semester hours shall involve classes in forensic chemistry, forensic biology, physical methods, or microscopy and contain a laboratory component. Forensic science internships or independent study/research may not be used to fulfill the 9 semester hours containing the laboratory component.

Proposed Wording:

A minimum of 15 semester hours in forensic science coursework must be covered in the curriculum.

Of these 15 hours, 9 semester hours shall involve classes in forensic chemistry, forensic biology, **microscopy, or physical methods classes such as, but not limited to, forensic photography, crime scene analysis, pattern evidence, trace evidence, or questioned documents.** All classes used to satisfy this requirement must have an associated laboratory component. Forensic science internships or independent study/research may not be used to fulfill the 9 semester hours containing the laboratory component.”

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