

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN **FORENSIC CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

OVERVIEW

Forensic Criminal Investigation is a specialty vocation in law enforcement. This program provides appropriate curriculum and education to prepare students for the complexities of forensic criminal investigation. The curriculum is based on an interdisciplinary approach, which includes germane courses from Criminal/Social Justice and other programs. Unlike programs structured to train students to become forensic scientists, this degree program is designed to prepare students to work in the field of law enforcement and function as crime scene investigators who collect and secure evidence at crime scenes. **This work is confined to the field and not assigned to the laboratory. For those students who are interested in studying forensic science to prepare for a career as a laboratory professional, the forensic concentration in chemistry is the appropriate area of study.**

Forensic Criminal Investigation has become a vital part of law enforcement on both local and international levels. This degree program is housed within the Department of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies. This program provides considerable opportunities for the study of the complexities of criminal investigation.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Historically, crime scene investigators have been sworn officers, but the present trend nationally is toward a civilian-based group of trained personnel operating in this capacity. Crime scene investigators are typically out in the field securing crime scenes, searching, collecting, and preserving physical evidence. They are not assigned in the laboratory. Given the importance of physical evidence in solving any crime, the demand for these positions continues to rise.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

www.crime-scene-investigator.net

CONTACT

Program Coordinator
Lewis University
Department of Justice, Law and Public Safety Studies
One University Parkway
Romeoville, IL 60446-2200
(815) 836-5686
jlps@lewisu.edu

**BACHELOR OF ARTS/
FORENSIC CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

Total Credit Hours: 128

Major Credit Hours: 52

I. Core Courses (52)

A. Required Science Courses (25)

- 02-101 Anatomy and Physiology I (4)
- 02-102 Anatomy and Physiology I Lab (1)
- 02-103 Anatomy and Physiology II (4)
- 02-104 Anatomy and Physiology II Lab (1)
- 03-102 Basic Inorganic Chemistry Lab I (1)
- 03-105 Introductory Organic and Biochemistry (3)
- 03-122 Introduction to Forensic Chemistry (3)
- 03-123 Introduction to Forensic Chemistry Laboratory (1)
- 81-467 Applied Forensic Techniques (3)
- 81-468 Applied Forensic Techniques Lab (1)
- 17-100 Elementary Laboratory Physics (3)

B. Required Criminal Justice Courses (21)

- 81-110 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)
- 81-200 Court Systems and Probation (3)
- 81-220 Criminology (3)
- 81-250 Criminal Investigation (3)
- 81-341 Criminalistics: Introduction to Forensic Investigations (3)
- 81-430 Elements of Criminal Law (3)
- 81-445 Criminal Procedures/Rules of Evidence (3)

C. Required Art and Design Course (3)

- 01-181 Digital Photography (3)

D. Required English Course (3)

- 06-302 Writing in the Disciplines (3)

II. The Advanced Writing Requirement in Forensic Criminal Investigation is fulfilled by successful completion of 06-302 Writing in the Disciplines: Law Enforcement.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

81-110 Introduction to Criminal Justice (3)

This course provides a study of the function and jurisdiction of various law enforcement agencies, as well as their historical development, significant court decisions and relationships with other agencies. Citizen groups and political administrations, technologies, personnel stratification and affirmative action are also considered.

81-200 Court Systems and Probation (3)

This course examines the historical and contemporary impact of the judicial process as the forefathers envisioned. The United States court system and its relationship to the criminal justice system are explored, along with the current system of probation in the United States. The organization and jurisdictions of the federal and state court systems are studied.

81-220 Criminology (3)

This course provides historical and current analysis and a critique of foremost theories and “schools” of crime. The approach is multidimensional – psychological, sociological, genetic, geographic and political.

81-250 Criminal Investigation (3)

An examination of the historical evolution of the criminal investigative process, this course explains how a crime can be solved through a very thorough investigation, including preservation of evidence, report writing, crime scene equipment, processing of evidence and investigative procedure.

81-341 Criminalistics: Introduction to Forensic Investigations (3)

This course covers aspects of criminalistics. It focuses on standards, certification, genetic technology, drugs, chemicals, crime scene technology, prints, artifacts, and photography. Prerequisite: 81-110.

81-430 Elements of Criminal Law (3)

This course is a basic study of laws, codes and jurisdictions relating to crime. Special attention is given to landmark court decisions, Illinois’ criminal codes, relationships of social climate to enforcement of laws, historical trends and future directions. Prerequisites: 81-110 and 81-200.

81-445 Criminal Procedures/Rules of Evidence (3)

This course covers the aspect of the evidence being material, competent, and admissible. The rules of evidence governing the admissibility and legality in court are explored. The rules of evidence are designed for the courts to allow or disallow the viewing of evidence which may or may not be relevant to the case at hand. Exploration of court precedence will occur.

81-467 Applied Forensic Techniques (3)

A verdict of guilty or innocent is frequently the result of evidence developed and reported by the crime lab. This capstone course, together with 81-468 laboratory course bring together the concepts from the other courses in the program into an applied learning environment. Students will be expected to clearly demonstrate the relationship and application of the concepts from the Criminal/Social Justice focused courses and the science focused courses in discussions and situational environments. Prerequisite: Completion of a minimum of 20 semester hours of the major.

81-468 Applied Forensic Techniques Lab (1)

This course provides a laboratory experience of the concepts and topics of the Forensic Criminal Investigations program. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in 81-467.

06-302 Writing in the Disciplines: Law Enforcement (3)

This course is intended for students who need to write for specific audiences, usually in the context of a major or future employment. It provides students with strategies useful in communicating with others in the student's discipline, as well as teaching students how to use less technical language to communicate discipline-specific concepts and practices to those outside the discipline. Prerequisite: 06-112 and permission of instructor.

01-181 Digital Photography (3)

Basic theory and procedures of photography are studied, including individual instruction in digital camera usage, basic computer editing, fundamental composition, equipment care and operation, output and presentation. Offered: As needed, RMVL.

02-101 Anatomy and Physiology I (4)

The basic principles of human anatomy and physiology are covered in lecture and lab. Emphasis is placed on the normal, non-diseased state of the human body as a basis for advanced courses. This course is designed for nursing majors; not intended for non-majors. Prerequisite: one year of high school Biology and Chemistry. Introductory Organic and Biochemistry (03-105) must be taken concurrently.

02-102 Anatomy and Physiology I Lab (1)

Students complete laboratory exercises dealing with the basic functions of the human body. Prerequisite: Enrollment in 02-101.

02-103 Anatomy and Physiology II (4)

This course is a continuation of 02-101. Prerequisites: 02-101, 02-102 and 03-105.

02-104 Anatomy and Physiology II Lab (1)

A continuation of 02-102. Prerequisites: 02-101, 02-102 and 03-105.

03-102 Basic Inorganic Chemistry Lab I (1)

This lab illustrates the principles studied in 03-101. Required of students registered for 03-101. Prerequisite: Enrollment in 03-100. Offered: As needed.

03-105 Introductory Organic and Biochemistry (3)

This course is a survey of principles of organic and biochemistry, particularly as they relate to the health sciences. Areas studied include aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons, alcohols and ethers, aldehydes and ketones, carboxylic acids and derivatives, carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, nucleic acids and enzymes. The course is required of nursing majors. Prerequisite: high school Chemistry. Offered: fall and spring, RMVL; Summer, other sites as needed.

03-122 Introduction to Forensic Chemistry ** (3)

This course is designed to introduce the students to the chemical aspects of criminal investigation and the analytical techniques used in gathering evidence at the crime scene. Studies will include the chemistry of and the instrumentation used in drug identification, arson, paint/fiber/glass and other evidential identification from chemical residue.

03-123 Introduction to Forensic Chemistry Lab (1)

This course provides a laboratory experience and quantitative applications of the concepts and topics of Introduction to Forensic Chemistry (03-122) Prerequisite: Enrollment in 03-122.

17-100 Elementary Laboratory Physics ** (3)

This course provides an introduction to mechanics, heat, sound, electricity, magnetism and light.

* Satisfies the advanced writing requirement

** Satisfies the general education science requirement

LEWIS AT A GLANCE

ENROLLMENT

- 11th largest private university in Illinois
- 5,400 total students including
- 1,500 graduate students
- 30 percent students of color
- International students from more than 20 countries

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

- Professional and career preparation in liberal arts tradition
- Nearly 80 undergraduate and 22 graduate programs of study
- 90% of classes have fewer than 30 students
- No teaching assistants
- Extensive internship, research and study abroad options

COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Business
- College of Education
- College of Nursing and Health Professions
- School for Professional and Continuing Education

STUDENT LIFE

- More than 30 clubs and organizations
- 18 NCAA Division II athletic teams
- 11 residence halls housing 1,200 students
- Theatre and performing arts programs
- Opportunities for volunteerism and Peer Ministry

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- More than 84% of students receive assistance
- Over \$20 million institutional dollars awarded annually
- Academic, merit, talent, and athletic scholarships
- Federal and state aid available
- Convenient payment plan options

ROMEVILLE CAMPUS

- Wireless campus
- Beautiful, safe, picturesque environment
- Close proximity to Chicago
- Located in Will County, one of the fastest growing regions of the country
- Regional campuses in Chicago, Oak Brook, Shorewood, Hickory Hills, and Tinley Park

CAREER SERVICES

- Alumni career mentoring network
- Job search strategies, resume writing and interviewing skills
- On-campus job fairs and interviewing opportunities
- 90% of alums utilize their degree in their chosen occupation

MISSION STATEMENT

Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, provides to a diverse student population programs for a liberal and professional education, grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth. Lewis promotes the development of the complete person through the pursuit of wisdom and justice. Fundamental to its Mission is a spirit of association which fosters community in all teaching, learning and service.



Visit www.lewisu.edu for more information.