2026-27 Academic Year

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Discover the field of forensic science by pairing criminal justice and chemistry at Wayne State. Forensic science applies scientific methods to the law to collect and analyze evidence. This path emphasizes a strong foundation in chemistry and the natural sciences. In addition to traditional laboratory experiences, students will also apply coursework using the Criminal Justice Crime Scene Investigation Facility. Through the Forensic Science program, you'll integrate natural and social sciences to prepare for careers in forensic laboratory analysis and evidence processing. You'll graduate with degrees in Criminal Justice and Chemistry, prepared for laboratory-based roles in forensic science.

fast facts

Credit hours: 99 hours for double major
- 36 credit hours for Criminal Justice
- 63 credit hours for Chemical Sciences

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC.

Degree options: B.A. or B.S. in Criminal Justice and B.A. or B.S. in Chemistry/Chemical Sciences

Departments: Criminal Justice, Physical Sciences and Mathematics

School: Science, Health, and Criminal Justice

Popular pairings: Biology, Pre-Law, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish

focus on results

Skills Learned
- Criminal law and procedure
- Role and function of policing in society
- Theoretical criminology
- Chemical processes and materials
- Chemical experiment and design
- University physics and experimentation
- Research, observation, and analysis of data

Possible Careers
- Forensic chemist
- Crime lab technician
- Crime scene investigator

Types of Employers
- Law enforcement agency
- State, local, and federal crime labs
- Private and commercial labs

outside the classroom

Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities / Opportunities
- Utilization of on-campus CSI laboratory
- Attend parole hearings
- Tour prisons and law enforcement agencies
- Connect with crime lab specialists and other experts in the field

Clubs / Organizations
- Alpha Phi Sigma (criminal justice honor society)
- Criminal Justice Association
- Legal Minds
- Pi Gamma Mu (social sciences honor society)

Courses and outcomes

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The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Completion of the following coursework will result in a Criminal Justice and Chemistry/Chemical Sciences dual major.

Criminal Justice program courses

Take a foreign language course for CAT 2.

Criminal Justice Content Courses

CJA 105 Introduction to Criminal Justice....3
CJA 200 Criminal Law....3
CJA 203 Police and Society....3
CJA 210 Juvenile Delinquency....3
CJA 304 Report Writing for Criminal Justice Professionals....3
CJA 320 Correctional Institutions....3
CJA 325 Community-Based Corrections....3
CJA 351 Criminal Procedure....3
CJA 430 Criminology....3
CJA 488 Criminal Justice Senior Seminar....3
Select two of the following courses, with at least one of them being upper level....6
CJA 226 Criminal Investigation (3)
CJA 227 Forensic Crime Scene Investigation (3)
CJA 235 Security and Loss Prevention (3)
CJA 327 Applied Forensic Crime Scene Investigation (3)
CJA 360 Homeland Security and Terrorism (3)
CJA 370 Crime and the Media (3)
CJA 372 Environmental, White Collar, and Corporate Crime (3)
CJA 377 Gangs and Organized Crime (3)
CJA 380 Cybercrime (3)
CJA 382 Capital Punishment in America (3)
CJA 404 Drugs, Alcohol, and Crime (3)
CJA 405 Family Violence (3)
CJA 444 Topics in Criminal Justice (3)
CJA 451 Violent Crime and Victimology (3)
CJA 460 Emergency Management (3)
CJA 497 Internship (3)
SOC 220 Social Problems (3)
SOC 305 Sociology of Deviance (3)
SOC 320 Social Welfare (3)
SSC 300 Social Sciences Research Methods (3)
SSC 319 Statistics for the Social Sciences (3)

Student learning outcomes for Criminal Justice

1. Apply a theoretical foundation to case-based scenarios related to criminal justice.
2. Define pertinent criminal justice issues associated with their career-oriented goals.
3. Develop technical writing applications that illustrate a comprehensive knowledge of criminal justice material.

Chemical Sciences program courses

For CAT 7, take Biology 110 Biology Concepts.

Chemistry Core Courses

CHE 106 General Chemistry I....4
CHE 107 General Chemistry II....4
CHE 305 Analytical Chemistry....4

Chemical Sciences Concentration Courses

CHE 314 Organic Chemistry I....4
CHE 315 Organic Chemistry II....4
CHE 370 Introduction to Research....1
CHE 380 Instrumental Analysis....4
CHE 390 Inorganic Chemistry....3
CHE 393 Laboratory Techniques....1
CHE 456 Physical Chemistry: Thermodynamics....3
CHE 457 Physical Chemistry: Quantum Mechanics and Spectroscopy....3
CHE 470 Research Project....1
CHE 493 Laboratory Management....1
PHY 301 University Physics I....4
PHY 302 University Physics II....4
PHY 321 Physics Laboratory I....1
PHY 322 Physics Laboratory II....1
Select one of the following....1
CHE 458 Physical Chemistry Lab (1)
CHE 480 Advanced Laboratory Methods (1)
Select from the following upper-level CHE courses....7
CHE 301 Introduction to Clinical Chemistry (1)
CHE 326 Biochemistry I (4)
CHE 400 Environmental Chemistry (3)
CHE 426 Biochemistry II (3)
CHE 480 Advanced Laboratory Methods (1)
CHE 481 Principles of Fermentation (4)
CHE 482 Wine, Beer, and Spirit Production and Analysis (4)
CHE 483 Sensory Analysis of Beer and Wine (3)
*CHE 490 Chemistry Seminar (1-2)
CHE 497 Internship (12)
**Up to 4 hours of CHE 490 Chemistry Seminar may be counted toward CHE electives.*

Student learning outcomes for Chemical Sciences

1. Demonstrate mastery of the theoretical aspects of chemistry.
2. Demonstrate mastery in the technical aspects of chemistry.
3. Communicate effectively in a chemical manner, both verbally and in writing.
4. Apply mathematical and mechanistic problem-solving skills to chemistry processes.
5. Operate standard laboratory equipment and instruments and be able to interpret the data or spectra obtained.

for more information

Learn more about the Forensic Science program at www.wsc.edu/forensic-science.

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Revised on: 5/12/26