

DEATH INVESTIGATION, UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE (COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY)

The Biomedical Sciences Program, Criminal Justice Program, and Departments of Anthropology and Chemistry cooperate in offering three certificates in the area of forensic sciences. Sponsored jointly by the College of Letters and Science, the College of Health Professions and Sciences, and the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, these certificate curricula are designed to train students in basic skills that will provide the foundation for careers in the fields of law enforcement, death investigation, pathology, and toxicology.

Certificates are offered in Death Investigation, Forensic Science, and Forensic Toxicology. Where applicable, the curriculum meets the criteria required for professional certification examinations (Medicolegal Death Investigation, Toxicological Chemist).

Eligibility

Undergraduate students who pursue a forensic sciences certificate maintain their identity as majors in their home departments and continue to progress toward a baccalaureate degree while in the certificate program. Courses include lecture presentations and laboratory experiences that cover fundamental areas of forensic science and provide unique instruction on techniques that are essential in the specific certificates. Students are given instruction by faculty members at UWM and forensic professionals in the Milwaukee community. Any of the programs may be pursued as a post-baccalaureate educational certificate. Individuals who are not enrolled in a degree program at UWM, but are seeking continuing education for career development, may be admitted to courses in the certificate programs by meeting prerequisites with equivalent experience or consent of the instructor.

Requirements

To receive a certificate in Death Investigation, Forensic Science, or Forensic Toxicology, students must complete at least one half of the required credits on the UWM campus. A minimum grade point average of 2.500 must be achieved on the required credits. All options within the certificate require at least a basic knowledge of chemistry and biology. To meet this requirement, prior to registering themselves in the Forensic Sciences Certificate Program, students must successfully complete CHEM 100 or equivalent and BIO SCI 100 or equivalent.

The following courses must be completed successfully to obtain a Certificate in Death Investigation:

ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 481	Criminalistics	3
ANTHRO 403	The Human Skeleton	3
ANTHRO 405	Forensic Anthropology	3
CRM JST 110	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CRM JST 480	Criminal Evidence and Investigation	3
BMS 610 or HCA 212	Pharmacology Drugs Used and Abused	3
Total Credits		24

Additional courses with forensic content are listed below. Check prerequisites or consult the instructor for eligibility. These courses are recommended, but are not required, for the Certificate in Death Investigation:

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 585	Internship in Forensic Toxicology	1-3
ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 589	Internship in Death Investigation	1-3
ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 594	Internship in Forensic Science	1-3
ANTHRO 404	Human Biological Variation	3
BIO SCI 539	Laboratory Techniques in Molecular Biology	4
CHEM 194	First-Year Seminar:	3
CHEM 524	Instrumental Analysis	3
CHEM 602	Biochemistry: Cellular Processes	3
BMS 555	Toxicology and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring	1
BMS 560	Molecular and Genetic Diagnostics	2
BMS 561	Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory	1

Code	Title	Credits
ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 281	Dead Men Do Tell Tales: An Introduction to Forensic Science	3
ANTHRO/BMS/CHEM/ CRM JST 285	Medicolegal Death Investigation	3