The curriculum ensures that each student:

- Develops an understanding of the areas of knowledge that are essential to forensic science, including crime scene investigation, physical evidence concepts, law/science interface, ethics and professional responsibilities, quality assurance, analytical chemistry and instrumental methods of analysis, microscopy, molecular biology, toxicology, forensic biology, DNA technologies and biostatistics.

- Acquires skills and experiences in the application of basic forensic science concepts, analytical chemistry and forensic DNA knowledge to problem solving.

- Is oriented in professional values, concepts and ethics.

- Demonstrates integration of knowledge and skills through a capstone experience, such as a seminar, a research project, an internship or thesis.

Qualifications for a career and/or internship in forensic science

Prospective students should be aware that background checks, driving records, drug tests, polygraph, and medical or physical examinations similar to those required of law enforcement officers are likely to be a condition of employment and/or internships. Please refer to: NIJ Report NCJ 203099, pp. 7-10 for additional information.

Admission Requirements

- A B.S./B.A. in biological sciences, chemistry or forensic chemistry from a regionally accredited college or university is required for full admission. Students with a B.S./B.A. in a natural science with two terms in general chemistry, organic chemistry and general physics, and at least one term in general biology, analytical chemistry, statistics, biochemistry, molecular biology and genetics can be considered for admission.

- A GPA of 3.00 in previous science course work and an overall GPA of 3.00 are required for full admission. All GPA calculations for admissions are based upon the last 60 units of undergraduate and post-baccalaureate study. Students having a GPA of 2.75-2.99 may be given conditional admission. Full admission will be granted after students achieve a GPA of 3.00 in their first 9 graduate units taken at Towson University.

- Graduate application, application fee and official transcripts

Application Deadline

This program admits students for the fall and spring terms only.

Priority will be given to students whose application and transcripts have been received by March 30 for fall admission and October 31 for spring admission.

Students who miss the priority deadline may contact the program director via email at mprofil@towson.edu to inquire if space is still available for the forthcoming term.

Degree Requirements

All students complete 37 units of graduate work. No more than three courses may be taken at the 500 level. In addition to the required courses listed below, all students must select 3 elective courses with at least two electives courses from an approved list. To fulfill the capstone requirement students must choose either the Thesis option (6 units) or an Internship (0-3 units) and/or a Research Project (0-6 units). Students wishing to pursue a forensic chemistry rich program that is centered in toxicology, drug and trace analysis may do so with the consent of the program director. This will require substitution of some of the required biology based courses with elective chemistry based courses. The number of courses and credit units will not be affected by these substitutions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<td>FRSC 600</td>
<td>FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LAW</td>
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<td>FORENSIC MOLECULAR BIOCHEMISTRY</td>
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<td>ADVANCED DNA TECHNOLOGIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRSC 797</td>
<td>GRADUATE SEMINAR FOR FORENSIC SCIENCE</td>
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### Elective Courses

Students must consult with the program director prior to selecting their electives.

Select 12 units from the following:

- FRSC 640 CHEMISTRY OF DANGEROUS DRUGS
- FRSC 650 FORENSIC MICROSCOPY
- FRSC 660 DEATH ANALYSIS IN FORENSIC SCIENCE
- FRSC 670 FORENSIC ANALYTICAL METHODS
- FRSC 690 FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY

Up to 6 elective units from other disciplines may be taken with permission from the FRSC director.

### Capstone Courses

Select from the following:

- FRSC 787 GRADUATE INTERNSHIP IN FORENSIC SCIENCE (0-3)
- FRSC 880 RESEARCH PROJECT IN FORENSIC SCIENCE (0-6)
- FRSC 897 FRSC THESIS (6)

Total Units: 37

1. Students may choose to take FRSC 787 and/or FRSC 880 or FRSC 897.

1. Students will learn to apply their knowledge of analytical chemistry, molecular biology, population genetics, forensic biology, forensic DNA technology and statistics in a forensic setting.

2. Students will gain advanced skills in instrumental methods, microscopy, serology, DNA analysis, quality assurance and the ethical and legal requirements applicable to the examination of physical evidence and courtroom testimony.

3. Students will develop written and oral communication skills for presentation of analytical findings and courtroom testimony.

4. Students will be able to make a professional presentation of their research findings in a symposium/seminar format.