Biology (Forensics), BS

ASLSCFBS

ASU is no longer accepting new students to this program. Students interested in this program should apply to the BS in forensic science.

Program Description

The forensics concentration of the BS program in biology emphasizes the study of scientific techniques used to solve crimes. Students pursuing the forensics concentration take a more forensics-relevant set of courses than those students pursuing the BS in biology.

Much of the required coursework is completed in chemistry or biology lab science courses to ensure that graduates of this program are competitive as they apply to graduate degree programs, pursue relevant careers and enter the workforce.

Graduates are prepared to pursue careers in forensics laboratories and in the research and development of new criminal forensic technologies. Completion of the bachelor's degree in biology also ensures graduates are prepared for graduate, professional or medical degree programs.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: West campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.

At a Glance

• College/School: New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
• Location: West campus WUE
• Additional Program Fee: Yes
• Second Language Requirement: No
• First Required Math Course: MAT 210 - Brief Calculus
• Math Intensity: Moderate
Required Courses (Major Map)

2016 - 2017 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

Students should refer to https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/
Career Opportunities

Graduates of this program pursue careers in forensics laboratories and in the research and development of new technologies in forensics. Graduates are particularly competitive for positions in forensics laboratories because the concentration focuses heavily on chemistry and biology laboratory coursework (areas that administrators and current employees in crime labs have reported are critically important). For example, as reliance upon DNA fingerprinting technologies increases, demand for forensic scientists trained in the requisite amounts of molecular biology will increase. The concentration also places focus on oral communication skills (e.g., through coursework in argumentation, COM 222 Argumentation (3) or COM 422 Advanced Argumentation (3)), which will prepare graduates for the multifaceted aspects of their careers in forensics (e.g., providing articulate and compelling expert testimony in criminal trials). Graduates of this program are also well positioned to enter graduate programs in forensic science.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences Professor</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>$78,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Scientist (General)</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>$76,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemist</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>$74,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry Professor</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$77,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial Manager</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$118,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Scene Investigator</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>$57,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Professor</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>$60,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences Manager</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$118,970</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

Contact Information

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