

FORENSICS CERTIFICATE

18 Semester Credit Hours; Curriculum Number: 0239

This certificate provides students with practical hands on experience in the proper techniques of identifying, processing, collecting, and preserving physical evidence associated with crime scenes. The instruction focuses on the understanding of the criminal justice field, the investigative process, criminal law, and the legal aspects of handling evidence and recovered property. The forensic science/evidence technician supports criminal justice professionals in the investigation and prosecution of criminal activity. Graduates and certificate holders may be employed as forensic evidence technicians, property custodians, arson investigators and investigators for local law enforcement and fire services, federal agencies, local, regional and national crime labs, as well as private industry that includes insurance agencies. This certificate can be completed in one semester.

Code	Title	Hours
Courses for a Certificate		
LAE 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
LAE 135	Forensics I	3
LAE 221	Criminal Law	3
LAE 235	Criminal Investigations	3
LAE 239	Forensics II	3
LAE 270	Law of Evidence	3
Total Hours		18

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the methods and importance of proper crime scene response in a criminal investigation.
2. Demonstrate methods for evaluating, collecting, preserving evidence and property at crime scenes.
3. Apply investigative methods and techniques for crime scene investigation and processing.
4. Explain relevant legal and ethical issues involved in investigating and processing a crime scene.

Forensics Certificate Pathway

The following Pathway is recommended for students pursuing the Forensics Certificate.

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Semester One		
LAE 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
LAE 135	Forensics I	3
LAE 239	Forensics II	3
	Hours	9
Semester Two		
LAE 221	Criminal Law	3
LAE 235	Criminal Investigations	3
LAE 270	Law of Evidence	3
	Hours	9
	Total Hours	18

Note: Pathway is a recommended sequence of courses. Full-time students should contact the Program Coordinator to discuss a full-time pathway as well as course prerequisites and recommendations.