Graduation & Beyond

Graduates are prepared for careers as forensic scientists. Potential employers include federal, state, local or private crime laboratories and regional medical examiner offices in fields such as:

- Forensic Drug Chemistry
- Forensic Biology/DNA
- Fingerprint Examination
- Trace Evidence Analysis

Points of Pride

The Ohio Attorney General’s Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) located a 30,000 square foot, $14 million state-of-the-art crime lab on the BGSU campus. Simultaneously, it created the Center for the Future of Forensic Science to optimize the university partnership through shared research and delivery of education/training opportunities for both BGSU students and forensic science professionals.

MAJOR MAP

Forensic Examination- Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science

URL for Undergrad Catalog - bgsu.edu/catalog.html

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<th>CLASS</th>
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<td>Freshman</td>
<td>Begin BIOL 2040 &amp; 2050 sequence. Complete CHEM 1250 and CHEM 1270 &amp; 1280 (or CHEM 1350 and CHEM 1370 &amp; 1380) sequence. Complete CHEM 1770. Complete PHYS 2010 or 2110. Begin MATH sequence consistent with placement. Begin GSW/BGP requirement.</td>
<td>Meet academic advisor in College of Arts &amp; Sciences (2nd floor Administration Bldg.). Apply for scholarships. Pick a specialization.</td>
<td>Meet all your faculty. If qualified, apply for a work study position in a research lab.</td>
<td>Consider working on an independent research project with a faculty member.</td>
<td>Complete foreign language and international perspective requirements.</td>
<td>Sign up for the Falcon Internship Guarantee through the BGSU Career Center. Visit Office of Pre-Professional Programs (<a href="http://www.bgsu.edu/ppp">www.bgsu.edu/ppp</a>) and the Career Center Open House. Upload your resume onto WorkNet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>Complete BIOL 2040 &amp; 2050 sequence. Complete CHEM 3310. Complete CHEM 1010. Complete CHEM 3410. Complete CHEM 3440 (and either CHEM 3450 or CHEM 3480). Complete Math 2470. Complete PHYS 2020 or 2120.</td>
<td>Meet with your academic advisor in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences (2nd floor Admin. Bldg.).</td>
<td>Consider working on an independent research project with a faculty member.</td>
<td>Continue working on an independent research project. Apply for internship positions.</td>
<td>Talk with your faculty mentor about field course opportunities, research projects or attending a forensic science professional conference. Build your network.</td>
<td>Find a job on campus that utilizes your scientific skills. Attend EXPO to meet representatives of future employers, such as Ohio BCI and other federal, state, local or private organizations that maintain crime laboratories.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Complete CRJU 4410. Complete CRJU 4510. Complete BIOL 4460. Complete FSCI 3100. Complete FSCI 4890 Internship. Complete A&amp;S and BGP Requirements.</td>
<td>Complete junior audit with academic advisor in the college. See faculty mentor about finding summer internships at science labs. Consider graduate school.</td>
<td>Complete junior audit with academic advisor in the college. See faculty mentor about finding summer internships at science labs. Consider graduate school.</td>
<td>Complete a graduation check with an academic advisor in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences. Apply for graduation.</td>
<td>Meet with your faculty mentor and visit the BGSU Career Center about internships (FSCI4890). Consider on or off-campus Ohio BCI lab, as well as off-campus federal, state or local crime lab internship opportunities. Prepare for GRE, etc.</td>
<td>Talk to your mentor about research opportunities. Continue to build your professional network by attending professional forensic science conferences, seminars and regional meetings. Update any information on your WorkNet.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Complete CHEM 3080 or 4450. Complete FSCI 4100. Complete FSCI 4990 Capstone. Complete A&amp;S and BGP Requirements.</td>
<td>Complete a graduation check with an academic advisor in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences. Apply for graduation.</td>
<td>Complete a graduation check with an academic advisor in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences. Apply for graduation.</td>
<td>Complete a graduation check with an academic advisor in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences. Apply for graduation.</td>
<td>If conducting an independent research project, present research findings at the Undergraduate Research Symposium.</td>
<td>If applying to graduate programs, take appropriate examinations (e.g., GRE). Visit BGSU Career Center for assistance in searching for job opportunities. Prepare an exit plan for life after college.</td>
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Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio

Center for the Future of Forensic Science, 14 College Park Office Building, 419-372-0224, bgsu.edu/forensicscience
Julie A. Cox is a 1997 graduate of Bowling Green State University. She graduated before there was a forensic science degree, but with a B.S. in biology with a microbiology specialization and a minor in chemistry, she had a solid foundation for working in a crime lab.

She is a forensic scientist and safety officer with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and works in the Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine’s BCI facility that is located on Bowling Green State University’s campus.

As a forensic scientist, her work involves examining evidence to assist in criminal investigations. Her area of expertise lies in the identification of biological fluid stains and forensic DNA analysis.

“I was well-prepared for my forensic science career by the education I received at BGSU. From the challenging science courses to my collaboration as an undergraduate research assistant, I earned the knowledge and hands-on experience necessary to work and think independently.”

Future forensic scientists should be prepared for a fast-paced and high-tech work environment. While the field still relies on some classic analyses, novel methodologies are employed routinely and there is a vast amount of research that continues to be conducted in all of the various areas of forensics. Scientists are needed who have a strong aptitude for hands-on laboratory work and an inquisitive mind.

Nathan Bunch, a Forensic Science Major, has worked as a student intern for the Center for the Future of Forensic Science at Bowling Green State University. He has helped with research projects conducted by the Bureau of Criminal Investigation in conjunction with the Center for the Future of Forensic Science. One of the projects he helped with during the summer of 2016, was to help record the measurement of distances that guns were thrown to aid dive team investigators in locating discarded firearms.