

Minor Program Adjustment Template

Faculty: Science	Date: October 21, 2016
Program: Forensic Science	
Undergraduate: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Graduate: <input type="checkbox"/>

Minor Program Adjustments include: New required courses, Deletion of required courses, Other changes to degree requirements or program learning outcomes, New academic requirements or changes to existing requirements.

Motion: The Faculty of Sciences moves that CPRC approve Academic Calendar changes to the Forensic Science 'Capstone' entry which serve to clarify the time of offering and the equal value of the three courses in the program requirements.

Proposal Brief

Summary of the proposed change

In the fourth year of the Forensic Science Program, students must take one of three 'capstone' courses, FSCI 4410/4420 (thesis project), FSCI 4430 (directed studies) or FSCI 4460 (mock crime scene practicum).

The current academic calendar describes the FSCI 4430 and 4460 courses as being available in either the fall or winter term. However, these two courses will continue to be offered in the winter term only. Additionally, the current academic calendar description of the three 'capstone' courses for all three specializations (biology, chemistry and physics) inaccurately ranks the thesis project courses (FSCI 4410 and 4420) as more desirable than the directed studies course (FSCI 4430) and mock crime scene practicum (FSCI 4460). Moreover, the current description does not capture the term placement options for the capstone courses. The description will be changed to emphasize the different course options while more clearly outlining the equal value of the courses. The changes would also apply to the program maps for the FSP + Management programs (3 specializations) and to the 2014-2015 class taking the Forensic Psychology specialization.

Description of the ways in which the proposed change will enhance the academic opportunities

These changes will align the academic calendar with the current and future provision of courses in the Forensic Science Program and will encourage students to select the best option for them without fear of taking an option that may be seen as less desirable.

Having all three capstone courses converging into one semester allows for the following student experience enhancements:

- it provides a stop-gap for students who do not pass the Thesis I course, where they now have the choice of either the directed studies or the mock crime scene practicum course
- it provides options for students who are not successful in obtaining a thesis placement, and who may not receive confirmation of this until sometime in the fall term.

- running three capstone courses (FSCI 4420, FSCI 4430 and FSCI 4460) in tandem in the winter provides continuity and progression for the full 4th year graduating class towards the final experience at the Forensic Science Research Day in April.

Subsequent to this proposal, the three capstone course descriptions will be revised individually, to better represent credit and delivery hours and methods.

Process of consultation with other units if the change(s) involves students, staff and faculty from other programs of courses

No impact on other units.

Transition Plan

No transition plan is anticipated, aside from notification to the FEPAC accrediting body.

Analysis of the financial and enrolment implications

There are no financial or enrolment implications.

Proposed Implementation Date

To allow for clarity for current students, the capstone courses are being offered in the fall/winter format effective immediately. The updated description for the calendar should be added for the 2017-2018 calendar.

Calendar Copy and Program Maps (highlight revisions to existing curriculum)

Current academic calendar 'capstone' entry:

*****Thesis Project and Senior Science electives**

Students in clear academic standing who have completed 90 credit hours of their program and six third-year required FSCI courses may optionally apply to take a two-course sequence consisting of FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I and FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II . Students not accepted to take the thesis courses must complete FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum, plus one additional Senior Science elective. A Senior Science elective is defined as any third- or fourth-year series science course not explicitly specified in the program map. FSCI 4430U and FSCI 4460U may be offered in either semester, depending on demand. Opportunities for the Thesis project, Directed Studies, and Mock Crime Scene Practicum are limited; for any of these options, students must apply to the forensic science fourth-year thesis co-ordinator by March 30 in the third year of their program."

Amended description of the 4th year capstone course requirements, to replace the "Thesis Project and Senior Science electives" paragraph:

****Capstone courses and Senior Science electives**

Students in clear academic standing who have completed 90 credit hours of their program and the six required third year FSCI courses must apply to take one (and only one) of the three capstone courses.

These options are:

- 1- FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum plus one additional senior science elective. Students taking this option must also attend FSCI 4420U classes in the winter term.
- 2- A two-course sequence consisting of FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I and FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II .
- 3 - FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science plus one additional Senior Science elective. FSCI 4430U may be offered in either semester, depending on demand. Students taking this option must also attend FSCI 4420U classes in the winter term.

A Senior Science elective is defined as any third- or fourth-year series science course not explicitly specified in the program map. Opportunities for Thesis Project I/II, Directed Studies, and Mock Crime Scene Practicum are each limited; for any of these options, students must apply to the forensic science fourth-year thesis co-ordinator by March 30 in the third year of their program.

Attachments

The proposed changes to the fourth year program maps for 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are attached.

APPROVAL DATES

Date of submission	October 21, 2016
Curriculum Committee approval	October 21, 2016
Faculty Council approval	November 9, 2016

FSP Program Map for FOURTH YEAR

Current Academic Calendar:

Sem'r	Specialization		
	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
1	<p>Elective*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology •FSCI 4120U – Advanced Forensic Biology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization**
2	<p>Three electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists •FSCI 4040U – Fire Investigation <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists •PHY 4120U – Forensic Physics Applications <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum or •Senior elective relevant to specialization**

Proposed Changes for Biology, Chemistry & Physics specializations, for 14-15, 15-16, 16-17 and beyond.

Sem'r	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
1	<p>Elective*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology •FSCI 4120U – Advanced Forensic Biology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •Senior elective relevant to specialization** 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I or •Senior elective relevant to specialization**
2	<p>Three electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists •FSCI 4040U – Fire Investigation <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum 	<p>•Two electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists •PHY 4120U – Forensic Physics Applications <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II or •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science or •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum

Proposed Changes for Psychology Specialization program map (for 2014-15 only):

Sem'r	Psychology
1	<p>Two Electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4020U – Interdisciplinary Topics in Forensic Science •FSCI 4030U – Forensic Drug Chemistry and Toxicology <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4410U – Forensic Science Thesis Project I <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Senior elective relevant to specialization**
2	<p>Three electives*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4050U – Law for Forensic Scientists <p>One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •FSCI 4420U – Forensic Science Thesis Project II •FSCI 4430U – Directed Studies in Forensic Science •FSCI 4460U – Mock Crime Scene Practicum