FORENSIC SCIENCE

Forensic Science majors uncover the details that are key to solving criminal and civil cases. At RWU, you’ll gain the strong writing, observational, and analytical skills necessary to identify and interpret evidence that aids other law personnel.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Learn and Do More at RWU

RWU faculty understand the background knowledge and skills our graduates need to enter the workforce. Forensic Science electives are taught by forensic scientists, medical doctors, and other professionals who work in the industry. RWU faculty connect students with internships and jobs in their field of study.

CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU Forensic Science alumni are working as:

- Forensic Scientists
- Lab Technicians
- Lab Analysts
- Forensic Examiners
- Lab Assistants

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

"There are no better people to learn from than those that are out in the field doing exactly what you want to do. [RWU's] program has pulled in some really great people to help get our foot in the door."

Rebecca Millard '18
Forensic Science
Graduate student at Boston University School of Medicine for Biomedical
Get a Great Internship

Inside the classroom, students get hands-on experience analyzing fingerprints, castings, and handwriting.

Once you step outside the classroom and into your internship, you get to bring that knowledge into the lab. You’ll work alongside industry professionals, attend lectures, learn procedures, and help prepare evidence for potential trials.

Our students intern at organizations including:

- RI State Crime Lab
- MA State Crime Lab
- RI State Police Department
- RI State Medical Examiner
- MA State Police Forensics
- U.S. Probation, District of RI

CURRICULUM

Structure

Forensic Science at RWU is an interdisciplinary degree giving students a strong background in both science and criminal justice. There is an increasing demand for employment in the industry and our program allows students to step right into the field after graduation.

Within the RWU program, you can choose between a biology-focused track or a chemistry-focused track. All students, regardless of the track they choose, take biology, chemistry, physics, and forensic science lab courses. Students take criminal justice courses like law of evidence, criminal investigations, and criminal and civil procedure in U.S. Courts.

Our Forensic Science students are encouraged to pursue their master’s degree. However, students can enter the field at an entry-level position to gain field experience before continuing their studies.

DEGREE TRACKS

Biology Track

Students who enter the Biology track have an interest in doing more crime scene and data collection. They will be prepared for careers as DNA analysts or fingerprint examiners. They inspect evidence like saliva, blood, and bodily fluids and work with police to solve crimes.

Chemistry Track

The Chemistry track is for students interested in doing more intensive and analytical lab work. They are prepared for careers as a lab analyst or toxicologist. They analyze collected evidence such as weapons, projectiles, and drug samples.