

# FORENSIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



## DEPARTMENT STUDENT GUIDE

BRITISH COLUMBIA  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

BCIT.CA/CAS/FORENSICS



**POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS**



## Overview

Forensic investigation is a growing and diverse profession which combines various aspects of science and technology with the legal system. Our Bachelor of Technology in Forensic Investigation is a degree completion program designed to achieve a balance between intellectual rigor and current applications of technologies, enabling you to gain a firm understanding of the principles, procedures, technologies and legal ramifications of an investigator's work. All courses are taught by experts with specialized skills in various areas of forensic investigation. Our students train in forensic laboratories and computer facilities, receiving both classroom and hands-on experience. Once they graduate, they become professionals working in areas of science, computers, intelligence, economics and business who detect, collect, evaluate, and prepare evidence for use in civil and criminal courts of law.

## Credentials Available

- > Bachelor of Technology (BTech)
- > Advanced Certificate (AC)

## Options for Study

- > Computer Crime Option (CCO)
- > Crime and Intelligence Analysis Option (CIA)
- > Forensic Health Sciences (FHS)
- > Forensic Science Option (FSO)
- > General Criminalistics Option (GCO)

## Entrance Requirements

Generally speaking, students are required to have at least 60 credits of post-secondary work (be in the form of a degree or diploma) with at least 18 of these credits at the second year level. These credits can be in various disciplines with the exception of the Computer Crime Option which requires these credits to be in a Computing or IT field. See links below for greater detail and the alternate entry option.

### AND

In addition students must have English 12 (67% or higher) or three credits of post-secondary English, Humanities or Social Sciences (67%) from a recognized institution.

### AND

Submit a criminal record check.

The specific entrance requirements for each option can be found at the following links:

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| > CCO BTech | > FHS AC    |
| > CCO AC    | > FSO BTech |
| > CIA BTech | > FSO AC    |
| > CIA AC    | > GCO AC    |

## Bridging Requirements

The following programs have bridging requirements:

- > Crime and Intelligence Analysis Option (AC and BTech) – 3 credits of Criminology, 3 credits of Geographic Information Systems, and 3 credits of Computer Database Applications
- > Forensic Science Option (BTech only) – 3 credits of Chemistry and 3 credits of Biology

Applicants must have a pre-assessment with the program area to identify if they already have the required bridging (pre-entry) courses. Please contact a program assistant to make arrangements. Once you have completed all of the necessary pre-entry courses, you can apply to the program and upload your authorized pre-entry assessment document with your application.

The Computer Crime, Forensic Health Sciences and General Criminalistics Options do not have any bridging requirements.

## Application Process

Student intake is continuous in this program and applications are processed throughout the year. BCIT has moved to an online application process where applicants must meet all entrance requirements prior to being accepted.

Students will need to submit all official transcripts, a completed and authorized pre-entry assessment form (if bridging is required), and a completed criminal record check during the application process.

There are three terms in our program (Fall, Winter, and Spring/Summer) and after you are accepted into the program you can register for courses in the following term (or that term if courses have not already started and there is space).





## Information Sessions

You are welcome to attend an information session to learn more about the Forensics Department. We offer an info session for all options each term at the Downtown Campus. Visit our website to register.

## Part-time Studies Program

This program follows a part-time studies model. This means that courses are offered one day a week in the evening, on weekends, online or in a one week format. This means that the program is flexible and allows students to take courses based on their own schedule.

## Online and Hybrid Courses

Some of the courses in this program are either online or hybrid courses (combined face-to-face and online). Online material in these courses can be accessed using the Desire2Learn (D2L) platform at the start of the course.

## Prerequisites

Forensics courses clearly list the required prerequisites. You are responsible to ensure that you have the prerequisites or equivalent knowledge before registering for that course.

## Frequently Asked Questions

You can find answers to frequently asked questions on our website.

## Withdrawal and Refunds

In order to withdraw, you must complete a formal request by completing the Part-time Course Withdrawal form and submitting it to BCIT Student Information and Enrolment Services (address in top right of form). You can find the BCIT policy on course withdrawal and refunds on the BCIT website.

## Textbooks

Please check your course outline and the BCIT Bookstore website to see if your course(s) have required textbooks.

## BCIT ID Card

You can get your BCIT ID card from the BCIT Library. All current students who have registered and paid for at least one course in a term are eligible. Your BCIT ID card is also your library card, can be used for photocopying and allows you access to the gym facilities.

## Student Employment Services

Student Employment Services (SES) provides students with one on one advising and provide job search seminars including help with networking, resumes, cover letters and interviews.

Our department's blog and Facebook page also regularly posts relevant career opportunities.

## Student Services

- > Bookstore
- > Food Services
- > Library
- > Parking
- > Health Services
- > Recreation
- > Distance Education
- > IT Services
- > PTS Student Financial Aid
- > Safety and Security
- > Student Association

## Department Links

- > Forensic Science and Technology website
- > Forensics' blog
- > Forensics' Facebook page



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