UTS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Forensic Science

Undergraduate & Postgraduate Courses
Domestic & International Students

Faculty of Science

UTS Science Vision

Our graduates are visionary scientists empowered to address global challenges and drive positive change. The building blocks to achieve this vision are founded on Connection, Expertise, Employability, and Research.

Connection

A strong bond between students and faculty is a cornerstone of our academic philosophy, ensuring that every student receives the guidance and mentorship they need to thrive in their academic journey.

We design learning environments that allow our students to engage more deeply with their professors and peers, facilitating meaningful discussions, collaborative projects, and hands-on experiences that go far beyond traditional lecture-style education. This dynamic approach to education empowers our students to explore their passions, develop critical thinking skills, and make lasting connections with their professors who are experts in their respective fields.

Employability

At UTS, we prioritise your employability and understand the importance of equipping you with a diverse range of skills that are highly sought after by employers. Our commitment to your professional success is evident in our comprehensive approach to skill development.

We believe that today's job market demands more than just academic knowledge, which is why our programs are designed to go beyond traditional classroom learning. We provide you with opportunities to cultivate practical and transferable skills that employers value greatly. Through internships you'll gain real-world experience that directly aligns with your chosen field of study.

Furthermore, our emphasis on teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and critical thinking ensures that you graduate not only with a degree but also with a skill set that makes you a highly competitive candidate in the job market.

Expertise

At UTS Science, we take immense pride in our exceptional academic teaching teams. Comprised of renowned experts and dedicated educators, our faculty members are at the forefront of their respective fields. Their wealth of knowledge, extensive research backgrounds, and passion for teaching create a dynamic and intellectually stimulating learning environment for our students.

Our teaching teams are here to inspire, mentor, and guide you on your educational journey, ensuring that you receive a world-class education that prepares you for success in your chosen field.

Research

We offer unique opportunities for research engagement. As a student, you'll have the chance to collaborate closely with world-leading researchers in your chosen area of interest. Our faculty members are not only experts in their fields but also actively involved in groundbreaking research projects that push the boundaries of knowledge. This means you won't just be learning from the best; you'll be an integral part of the research process, contributing your unique insights and skills to projects that have the potential to shape the future.

Whether you're interested in cutting-edge scientific discoveries, innovative technological advancements, or pioneering solutions to global challenges, our research ecosystem provides the ideal platform for you to explore, learn, and grow into a visionary scientist.

Bachelor of Forensic Science

Harness the power of science as a tool to uphold the law with Australia's first forensic science degree.

Forensic science is about detecting, collecting, examining and deciphering traces of criminal activity. The world-class UTS Bachelor of Forensic Science is known for producing future leaders in this compelling field of practice. More than just a theoretical science qualification, the UTS degree delivers comprehensive learning experience where hands-on practice will sit at the foundation of your degree.

You'll study at the intersection of STEM, information technology, law, criminology and social impact; build specialist expertise in a choice of four in-demand forensic science disciplines; and emerge ready to take your place at the forefront of this rapidly evolving field.

Course aims

Learn from leaders in the field

Work alongside leading academics and practitioners in the internationally acclaimed UTS Centre for Forensic Science, known for innovation in fingermarks, DNA and forensic intelligence research, among others. Benefit from regular engagement with industry, including via guest lectures, co-designed subjects and opportunities for internship placements, ensuring that the learning keeps pace with the contemporary forensic science field.

State of the art facilities

As a university of technology, UTS is known for its commitment to practice-based teaching and the integration of new technologies into course design and development. Study in the world-class Hive Superlab and UTS Science Superlab, two tech-driven learning environments that support simultaneous teaching of multiple classes in a single collaborative space. Gain access to the faculty's high-tech Crime Scene Simulation Lab where investigating crime is all in a day's work and specialist laboratories to analyse traces.

Course features

Grounded in forensic science

Regardless of the major you select, you'll complete a series of core subjects that are firmly embedded in forensic science. That means you'll graduate with the fundamental competencies required to work as a forensic scientist, plus expertise in your chosen forensic science specialty that will support your career progression.

Internships

Complete an internship with the NSW Police Force or with a UTS research institute and gain professional experience that will bring your learning to life. You'll also benefit from hands-on skills development.

Free Electives

Customise the degree to suit your personal or career aspirations. Enrol in an international exchange, pursue a professional internship or tailor your studies with a choice of subjects from the science faculty.

Major options

Biology

The Biology major is focused on biological traces – blood, saliva, hair, bones and animal/human remains – and what they reveal about the crime scenes at which they're found. Learning includes everything from human anatomy and molecular biology to genetics, DNA profiling and biological criminalistics. Gain broad expertise that sits at the intersection of scientific theory and practice.

Digital forensics

As the world moves increasingly online, digital crimes like identity and financial theft, cyberattacks, fraud and extortion are on the rise – which means that skilled digital forensic specialists are more in demand than ever. The first of its kind in Australia, this major will prepare you to collect, analyse and report data and digital information related to cyber-crime.

Find out more about your course and your subjects

handbook.uts.edu.au/courses/c10387.html

Major options

Chemistry

This major combines scientific theory with hands-on forensic science application. With subjects spanning organic and analytical chemistry, forensic toxicology and chemical criminalistics, you will learn to analyse and process chemical and non-biological traces found at crime scenes using a range of analytical and chemical techniques.

Crime scene investigation

This major will prepare you to access and examine crime scenes and collect, record and analyse traces such as fingermarks, blood stain patterns, and shoe and tyre impressions. The curriculum combines specialist subjects in advanced forensic imaging and homicide/human remains investigation, among others, along with theoretical learning in chemistry, microbiology, human anatomy, cell biology and more.

Find out more about your course and your subjects

handbook.uts.edu.au/courses/c10387.html

Careers and employability

As a graduate, you'll be qualified to work as a forensic scientist in law enforcement agencies, intelligence organisations, analytical laboratories and private forensic agencies. You'll also be ready for a range of specialist roles that align with your chosen major:

Biology major

Become a specialist in human traces as they relate to crime scenes. Work as a forensic scientist, DNA expert, molecular research scientist, hospital scientist, pathology technician or microbiologist.

Crime Scene Investigation major

Get ready for hands-on roles in forensic practice with opportunities in crime scene investigation and management. Potential positions include forensic scientist, scene-of-crime officer, investigations team leader, fire investigator, micro-trace specialist or analysts.

Chemistry major

This career path involves collecting, processing and interpreting various physical traces left at crime scenes. Work as a forensic scientist, microtrace specialist, explosive expert, analytical chemist, clinical or regulatory toxicologist, or analytical technician.

Digital Forensic Science major

Online crime is on the rise in an increasingly digital world. Prepare to meet demand for online forensic specialists — work as a digital forensic scientist, e-discovery analyst, cyberthreat intelligence analyst, fraud investigator, information security analyst or malware analyst.

Careers and professional experience

Studying Forensic Science at UTS offers a unique blend of opportunities for students wishing to make their mark in the world of criminal justice and security. Our research-driven curriculum, combined with hands-on practical experience, empowers students to delve deep into the world of specialist forensic knowledge.

Whether you aspire for a career in state and federal policing, digital forensics, or cybersecurity organisations, our program provides a solid foundation and equips you with the skills needed to excel in your chosen career path.

Sandali
Forensic Science

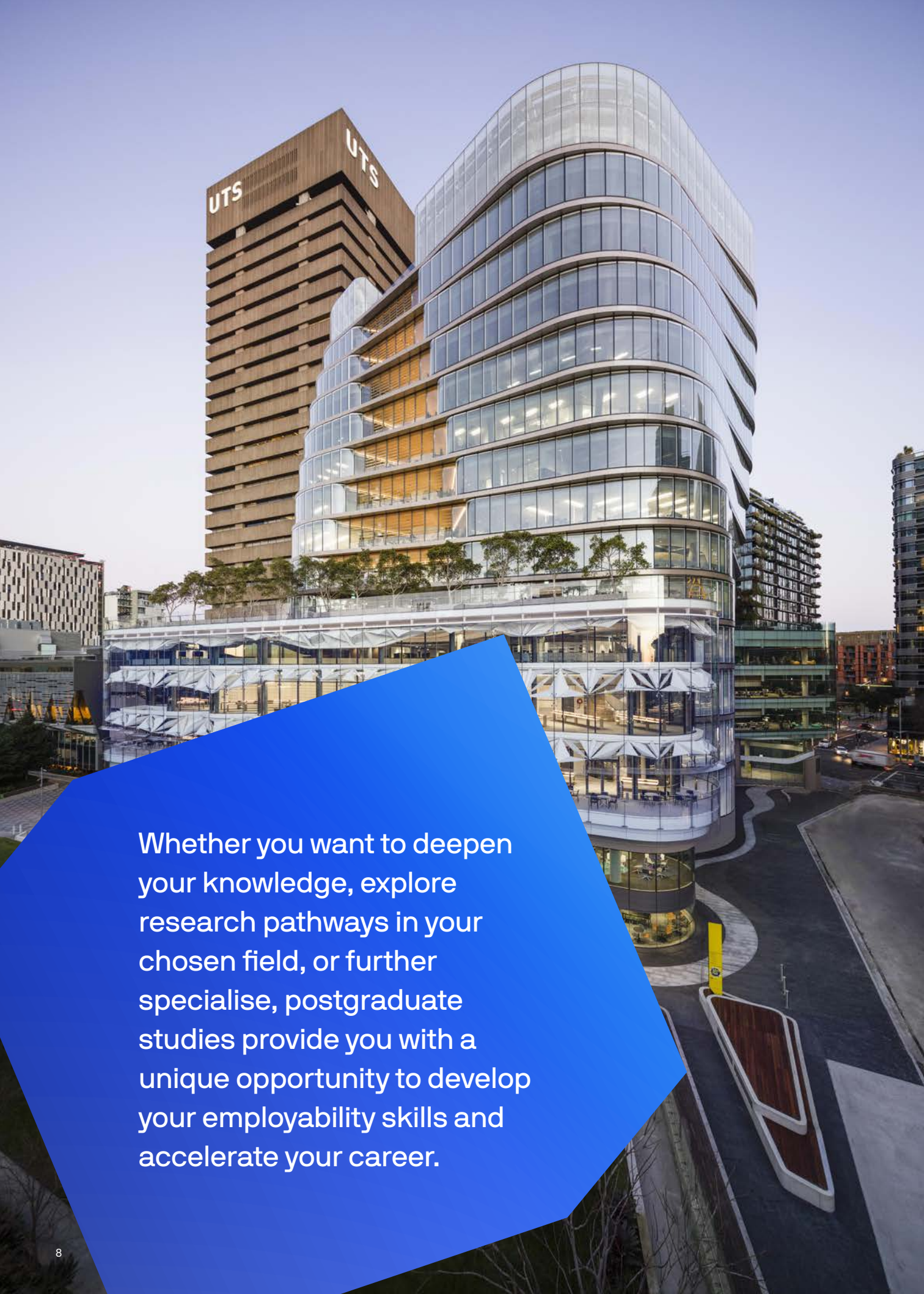
"I was so happy when I found out I got into UTS. So much stress had disappeared once I was accepted into my dream degree and I felt less worried about my future."

Bella
Forensic Science

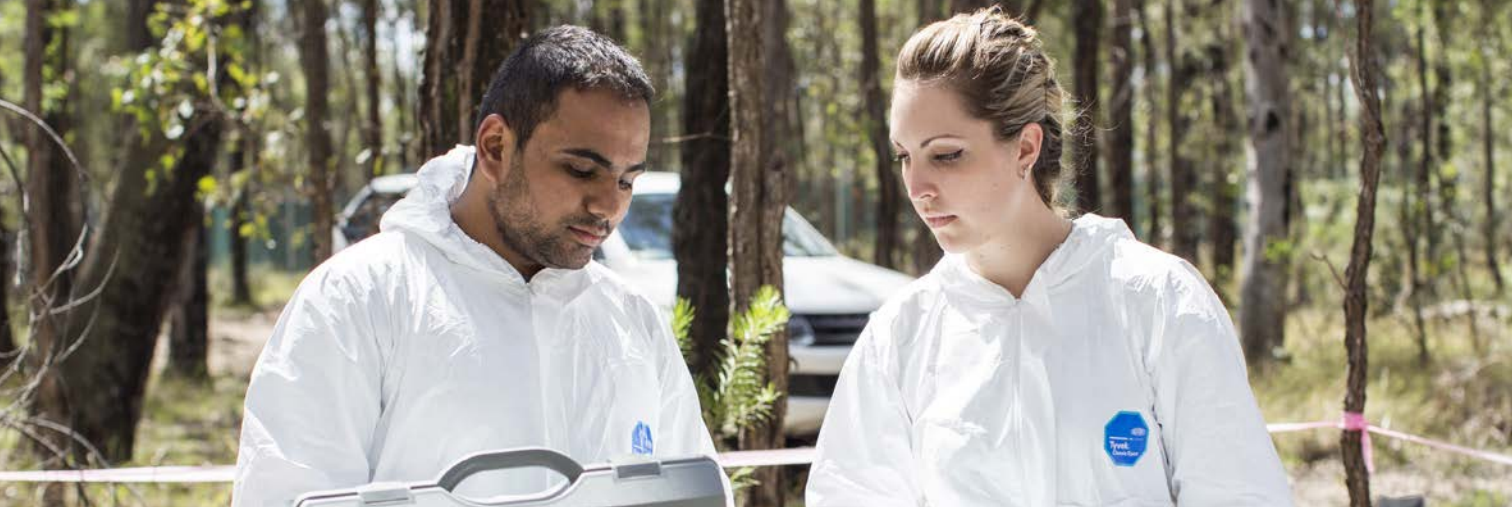
"I have thoroughly enjoyed studying forensic science. It has been amazing to sequence DNA from students in my class for experiments on genetics and using high quality equipment not usually available for undergraduate students."

Laura
Forensic Science

"This degree is the perfect blend of theory and practice where you end up with a qualification that sets you up for a career in forensics or a range of other areas in science."



Whether you want to deepen your knowledge, explore research pathways in your chosen field, or further specialise, postgraduate studies provide you with a unique opportunity to develop your employability skills and accelerate your career.



Postgraduate Forensic Science

A postgraduate degree in Forensic Science is well-suited for students looking to extend their forensic science studies and enhance their area of expertise. It also offers valuable opportunities for those already working in a scientific field who wish to develop new specialised skills and further their career development.

The curriculum is informed by leading academics and practitioners in the nationally acclaimed UTS Centre for Forensic Science, as well as by real-world organizations. As such, course content reflects the needs and priorities of the global forensic science profession.

Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science

The Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science is suitable for those seeking a scientific qualification to assist them to gain entry into further forensic science studies, as well as for those who are already employed in a scientific field but wish to gain new specialised skills to advance their area of expertise.

The course enhances career prospects by providing opportunities to extend knowledge beyond a first degree. It provides the opportunity to extend or renew scientific knowledge and professional skills that are important to career advancement.

Graduate Diploma of Forensic Science

The Graduate Diploma of Forensic Science will prepare you for professional and specialist work. The course includes practice-focused subjects across a range of disciplines from the crime scene to the laboratory. It also covers professional subjects that are crucial for all scientists, such as project and laboratory management, ethics, innovation, and science business models.

Master of Forensic Science

The Master of Forensic Science is one of Australia's leading qualifications in this niche scientific discipline, combining hands-on advanced forensic science practice with high-level professional and research skills acquisition. Our research-informed curriculum is focused on highly practical activities that take place in world-class facilities designed to replicate real forensic science environments.

Master of Forensic Science (Extension)

Students interested in the Master of Forensic Science should also consider the Master of Forensic Science (Extension), a two-year program of full-time study that includes an additional 24 credit points on top of the standard Master of Forensic Science curriculum. This extension program offers an even deeper dive into the field.

Master of Philosophy in Forensic Science

High-performing Master of Forensic Science students with an interest in research can transfer into the Master of Philosophy in Forensic Science, which provides a pathway to a PhD. Admission is via internal course transfer with faculty approval.

Find out more about your course and your subjects

Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science
https://handbook.uts.edu.au/courses/c11287.html

Find out more about your course and your subjects

Master of Forensic Science
handbook.uts.edu.au/courses/c04391.html

Build and enhance your career

The acclaimed postgraduate forensic science program at UTS is highly customisable, which means you can create a qualification that's aligned with your professional aspirations. You'll build advanced expertise in your preferred forensic science domains and choose from a wealth of professional and research electives, including real-world internships.

What's more, you'll benefit from the program's extensive industry connections, including with law enforcement, border control agencies and private forensic organisations and be prepared to become a leader in this international profession.

Chloe
Forensic Science

"This degree, while challenging, was incredibly rewarding. It offers the best of both worlds; an opportunity to improve your theoretical and practical knowledge in forensic science as well as develop your taste for research."

Why did you choose to undertake postgraduate study in forensic science?

Upon nearing the end of my undergraduate degree, I discovered a passion for Forensic Anthropology. This led me to pursue further studies in forensic science at UTS, who I found to offer a fantastic forensic science program, where I could pursue my growing interest in this field.

What was the highlight of your course experience?

A key highlight of my studies was the opportunity to collaborate closely with fingerprint experts at the NSW Police Force who mentored and guided me. In addition to them, I was taught by incredibly knowledgeable experts and researchers, all of which have helped to shape the way I process problems and view situations in my field.

Do you believe that your postgraduate study has made you more employable?

Absolutely. This challenging yet rewarding degree provided a perfect blend of theoretical and practical knowledge in forensic science, fostering a passion for research. Accepted into the NSW Police Force's Accelerated Program, I'll be working in the Forensic Evidence and Technical Services Command Unit, focusing on Fingerprint Operations—an exciting opportunity to pursue my passion for forensic science.

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