

FORENSIC SCIENCE: FORENSIC BIOLOGY

Bachelor of Science (BS)

This is a guide based on the 2026-2027 Undergraduate Catalog and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on several factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students will meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their individual progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

84-88 Hour Major – No minor required

Core Courses: (59-61 hours)

- ___ BY163/063 Ecology & Evolution (4)
- ___ BY173/073 Cell & Organismal Biology (4)
- ___ BY283/083 Genetics (4)
- ___ CH185 General Chemistry I (3)
- ___ CH184 General Chemistry I Lab (1)
- ___ CH186 General Chemistry II (3)
- ___ CH187 General Chemistry II Lab (1)
- ___ CH341 Found of Organic Chem (4)
- ___ CH342 Organic Chemistry Lab I (1)
- ___ CH343 Adv Organic Chem (3)
- ___ CH344 Organic Chem Lab II (2)
- ___ CH531 Found of Biochemistry (3)
- ___ FS101 Introduction to Forensic Science (3)
- ___ FS351 Criminalistics (3)
- ___ FS405 Forensic Expert Witness Testimony (2)
- ___ MA139 Applied Calculus (3)
- OR ___ MA140 Analytic Geometry & Calculus I (5)
- ___ MA223 Elementary Probability & Statistics (3)

Physics Option – choose 1 group

- ___ PH120 Introductory Physics I (5)
- AND ___ PH121 Introductory Physics II (5)
- OR
- ___ PH230 General Physics I (5)
- AND ___ PH231 General Physics II (5)

Experiential Learning – Choose 2 credits

- ___ CH391 Undergraduate Research (1-3)
- ___ BY582 Internship in Biology (1-3)
- ___ BY591 Biological Research (1-6)

Forensic Biology Option: (19 hours)

- ___ BY345 Lab Methods in Biotechnology (3)
- ___ BY402 Molecular Biology (3)
- ___ BY406 Genomics (4)
- ___ BY422 Population Genetics (4)
- ___ BY575 Forensic Entomology (3)
- ___ FS552 Forensic Serology & DNA Analysis (2)

Option Electives – Choose 6-8 hours

- ___ AN339 Cold Case Anthropology (3)
- ___ AN415 Forensic Anthropology (3)
- ___ BY403 Medical Genetics (3)
- ___ BY404 Cell Biology (4)
- ___ BY410 Biological Microscopy (4)
- ___ BY440 Toxicology (3)
- ___ BY442 Immunology (3)
- ___ BY443 Epidemiology (3)
- ___ FS553 Introductory Analysis of Pattern Evidence (3)

General Electives: 3-7 hours

General Education Requirements – some requirements may be fulfilled by coursework in major program

- Social and Behavioral Sciences – 6 hours
- Constitution Requirement – 3 hours
- Written Communication – 6 hours
- Oral Communication – 3 hours
- Natural Sciences – 7 hours (from two disciplines, one to include a lab)
- Mathematics – 3 hours
- Humanities & Fine Arts – 9 hours (from at least two disciplines)
- Additional requirements – 5 hours (to include UI100 for native students)
- Civics examination

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

	Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
	Course #	Hrs	Course #	Hrs
FIRST YEAR	UI100	1	BY173/073	4
	BY163/063	4	CH186	3
	CH184/185	4	CH187	1
	MA139	3	MA223	3
	FS101	3	General Education	3
	Total	15	Total	14
Milestone: achieve a target cumulative GPA of 3.0				
SECOND YEAR	BY283/083	4	BY702	3
	Elective	3	Elective	3
	CH341	4	CH343	3
	CH342	1	CH344	2
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Total	15	Total	14
Milestone: achieve a target cumulative GPA of 3.0				
THIRD YEAR	FS351	3	BY345	3
			FS405	2
	CH531	3	Physics II	5
	Physics I	5	General Education	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Total	14	Total	16
Summer – BY575				
Milestone: achieve a target cumulative GPA of 3.0				
FOURTH YEAR	BY422	4	BY406	4
	Experiential Learning	2	FS552	2
	Option Elective	3	Option Elective	3
	General Education	3	General Education	3
	Elective	3	General Education	3
	Total	15	Total	15
Milestone: achieve a target cumulative GPA of 3.0				

A "Milestone" signifies a significant stage for a student in the completion of a degree.

Degree requirements for all students: a minimum of 120 credit hours, completion of the General Education program, and completion of 39 senior division hours (300-599). Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog or Degree Works for additional graduation requirements for your program.

A minimum 2.0 GPA in the major and overall are required to graduate with a BS degree.

Revised
9/22/2026

DEGREE MAP

2026-2027



SOUTHEAST MISSOURI
STATE UNIVERSITY · 1873®

Center for Academic Advising | semo.edu/advising
Office of Admissions | (573) 651-2590 | admissions@semo.edu