



ACADEMIC MAP - 2025-2026 FORENSIC LABORATORY SCIENCE



NORTHWESTERN STATE
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

Department of Physical Science
nsula.edu/physical-science



START HERE

YEAR 1	SEMESTER 1					Electives Credits	
	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
	CHEM 1030 – General Chemistry 1		3	C		Science	
	CHEM 1031 – General Chemistry Laboratory 1		1	C		Academic	
	MATH 1100 – Precalculus Mathematics		6				
	ENGL 1010 – Composition & Rhetoric 1		3				
	UNIV 1000 – The University Experience		1				

Semester Credits _____

SEMESTER 2					Electives Credits	
Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
CHEM 1040 – General Chemistry 2		3	C		Science	
CHEM 1040 – General Chemistry Laboratory 2		1	C		Academic	
MATH 2100 – Analytical Geometry & Calculus 1		5				
ENGL 1020 – Composition & Rhetoric 2		3				
BIOL 1010 – Biology Principles 1		3	C			
BIOL 1011 – Biology Principles Laboratory 1		1	C			

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 2	SEMESTER 1					Electives Credits	
	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
	BIOL 1020 – Biology Principles 2		3	C		Science	
	BIOL 1021 – Biology Principles Laboratory 2		1	C		Academic	
	MATH 2100 – Analytical Geometry & Calculus 2		5				
	CHEM 3010 – Organic Chemistry 1		3	C			
	CHEM 3011 – Organic Chemistry 2		1	C			
	COMM 1010 or 2500 – Oral Communication or Interpersonal Communication		3				

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2					Electives Credits	
Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
CJ 1100 – Introduction to Criminal Justice		3			Science	
ENGL 2110 – Introduction to Literature		3			Academic	
CHEM 3230 – Forensic Toxicology		3	C			
PHYS 2510 – General Analytical Physics 1		3	C			
PHYS 2511 – General Analytical Physics Laboratory 1		1	C			
FA 1040 – Exploring the Arts		3				

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 3	SEMESTER 1					Electives Credits	
	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
	PHYS 2520 – General Analytical Physics 2		3	C		Science	
	PHYS 2520 – General Analytical Physics Laboratory 2		1	C		Academic	
	CHEM 3240 – Forensic Testimony		1	C			
	CJ 2600 – Introduction to Criminalistics and Forensic Science		3	C			
	Electives – See list below		4	C			
	Elective – See list below		3	C			
	Science Elective – See list Below		1	C			

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2					Electives Credits	
Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
HIST 1010 or 1020 or 2010 or 2020		3			Science	
Electives – See list below		4	C		Academic	
Science Elective – See list below		4	C			
Elective – See list below		5				

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

YEAR 4	SEMESTER 1					Electives Credits	
	Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
	CHEM 4160 – Forensic Chemistry		3	C		Science	
	CHEM 4161 – Forensic Chemistry Laboratory		2	C		Academic	
	CHEM 4910 – Capstone Course in Chemistry		3	C			
	GEOG 1010 or ANTH 1510 or ECON 2000 or PSCI 1010 or PHIL 1010		3				
	Electives – See list below		4	C			
	Science Elective – See list Below		1	C			

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits _____

SEMESTER 2					Electives Credits	
Milestones	Grade	Credits	Minimum Grade		Concentration	
CHEM 4920 – Scientific Communication		3	C		Science	34
PSYC 1010 or PSYC 2050 or SOC 1010 EPSY 2020		3			Science	10
Electives – See list below		7	C		Academic	11
Electives – See list below						
Science Elective – See list below						

Semester Credits _____

Total Credits 120

YOU'VE FINISHED!



Milestone
Should be taken in order to stay on track for graduation and professional school readiness.



Major elective



Concentration elective



Academic elective

This is for Forensic Lab Science concentration, for other concentration or majors, consult with your advisor for any suggested changes.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Semester = 120, Science Electives = 10, Concentration Electives = 34, Academic Electives = 11

Courses taken outside of a student's degree program are not eligible for Title IV federal financial aid (grants and loans). However, elective courses are eligible for Title IV aid if they are required and included in the student's program of study. Once a student has completed all required elective credits, any additional elective courses taken beyond the program's requirements will not be eligible for Title IV funding.



ACADEMIC MAP - FORENSIC LAB SCIENCE



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List of Electives	Number of credits
<i>Students in the Forensic Laboratory Concentration choose one of two tracks to complete concentration electives:</i>	
Drug/Trace Evidence Analysis	
CHEM 2110 – Quantitative Analysis	3
CHEM 2111 – Quantitative Analysis Laboratory	1
CHEM 2120 – Introduction to Instrumental Analysis	3
CHEM 2121 – Introduction to Instrumental Analysis Laboratory	1
CHEM 2140 – Inorganic Chemistry	3
CHEM 3020 – Organic Chemistry 2	3
CHEM 3021 – Organic Chemistry Laboratory 2	1
DNA Analysis	
BIOL 3060 - Biostatistics	3
BIOL 3061 – Biostatistics Laboratory	1
BIOL 3270 - Genetics	3
BIOL 3271 – Genetics Laboratory	1
BIOL 4300 – Molecular Biology 1	3
BIOL – 4301 Molecular Biology Laboratory 1	1
CHEM 4040 – Biochemistry 1	3

- Note: both tracks can be completed if the respective courses are used for science and academic electives.
- Science electives: Students may select any course from Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, or Biology.
- Academic electives: Students are limited to a maximum of 6 hours of 1000-level courses.