

Virginia Commonwealth University Bachelor of Science in Forensic Science with a concentration in Forensic Biology

TRANSFER GUIDE

Catalog years: 2025-2027

Associate Transfer Degree Plan in Biology

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS				Complete at VCU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		SATISFIED BY		BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNIV 101	1-2	SDV 100 or 101		Foreign language 101-102 (by course or placement)	0-6	This requirement can be waived if students completed 3 or more years of a foreign language at high school.
UNIV 111-112	3	ENG 111 College Composition I	UNIV 111 is waived and students receive 3 credits for UNIV 112.	CHEM/Z 301	0-5	Take at VCU unless CHM 241+245 are taken at CC.
UNIV 200	3	ENG 112 College Composition II		CHEM/Z 302	0-5	Take at VCU unless CHM 242+246 are taken at CC.
General Education	3	Any UCGS Art or Humanities (Block II)	These two courses must come from two different disciplines.	FRSC 300	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS Art, Humanities, or Literature (Block II)		FRSC 309	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS Social & Behavioral Science (Block II)	Cannot be a history course.	FRSC 365	3	
BIOL/Z 151	4	BIO 101 General Biology I	A score of 5 in the AP Biology exam is required to receive credit for VCU BIOL/Z 151 + BIOL/Z 152.	FRSC 375	3	
MATH 200	4	MTH 263 Calc I		FRSC 490	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS History (Block VI)		FRSC electives	6	See VCU advisor for course options.
BIOL/Z 152	4	BIO 102 General Biology II	A score of 4 in the AP Biology exam is required to receive credit for VCU BIOL/Z 152.	PHYS 201 or PHYS 207	0-5	Take at VCU unless PHY 201 or PHY 241 is taken at CC.
CHEM/Z 101	4	CHM 111 General Chemistry I	A score of 3 or 4 in the AP Chemistry exam is required to receive credit for VCU CHEM/Z 101.	PHYS 202 or 208	0-5	Take at VCU unless PHY 202 or PHY 242 is taken at CC.

CHEM/Z 102	4	CHM 112 General Chemistry II	A score of 5 in the AP Chemistry exam is required to receive credit for VCU CHEM/Z 101 + CHEM/Z 102.	BIOL 300	0-3	Take at VCU unless BIO 206 is taken at CC
BIOL 300 + BIOZ 391 or BIOL/Z 310	4	BIO 206 Cell Biology or BIO 256 Genetics	Select one.	BIOL 310	0-3	Take at VCU unless BIO 256 is taken at CC
CHEM/Z 301 Or PHYS 201 Or PHYS 207	4-5	CHM 241 Organic Chem I + CHM 245 Lab Or PHY 201 Or PHY 241	Select one.	BIOZ 476	2	
CHEM/Z 302 Or PHYS 202 Or PHYS 208	4-5	CHM 242 Organic Chem II + CHM 246 Lab Or PHY 202 Or PHY 242	Select one.	CHEM 403	3	
MATH 151	5-6	MTH 161-162 Precalculus I-II or MTH 167 Precalc with Trig	Or elective if students place directly into MTH 263 Calculus I	FRSC 385	3	
STAT 210	3	MTH 245 Statistics		FRSC/BIOL 438	3	
		Additional transfer electives, if needed to meet 60 credits		FRSZ/BIOZ 438	2	
				Concentration electives	5	See VCU advisor for course options.
				Electives		Additional electives, if needed to meet 60 credits at VCU.
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60				CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 60		

TRANSFER GUIDANCE

This degree program is covered by VCU's Guaranteed Admission Agreement.

By meeting the following criteria, you are guaranteed admission to the BS in Forensic Science:

- Earn the transfer associate degree.
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.5 for your associate degree. VCU will recognize the cumulative GPA as recorded on the VCCS transcript and not recalculate based on multiple course attempts.
- Complete a minimum of 30 credits at VCCS institution
- Earn grades of "C" or higher in all community college courses.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://transfer.vcu.edu/>.
- **Register Intent to Transfer:** <https://ugradadmissions.vcu.edu/register/letterofinterest>.
- **Admission Application:** By March 15 for fall admission and November 1 for spring at <https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/>.
- **Financial Aid:** <https://semss.vcu.edu/our-services/financial-resources-and-guidance/>.
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** March 1 for fall semester at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Complete your English courses and start your math sequence in your first year.
- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at www.TransferVirginia.org.
- Connect with an advisor at your community college and the VCU Transfer Center (<https://transfer.vcu.edu/>) in your first semester.

IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

The Department of Forensic Science offers programs leading to bachelor's and master's degrees. The Bachelor of Science is for students who plan a career or graduate study in the forensic sciences. The forensic science program provides students with fundamental learning in forensic laboratory analyses and crime scene investigation, with academic emphasis in biology, chemistry and criminal justice. The program offers three concentrations: forensic biology, forensic chemistry and physical evidence. ***The forensic biology concentration prepares students for graduate studies as well as for careers in the biology section of forensic laboratories. Graduates of this program will be prepared to work in molecular biology laboratories in both the public and private sectors. This concentration also encompasses much of the requirements for many pre-health programs and pre-professional health programs.*** The B.S. in Forensic Science supplies students with the necessary skills for professional careers in forensic laboratories, public and private, basic research laboratories, clinical laboratories, and/or to pursue graduate studies. Students also will be prepared to pursue advanced degrees in the physical sciences, biological sciences, forensic science, law, allied health and medicine, to name a few.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** The completion of a transfer associate degree results in all lower-division general education requirements being met when you transfer to VCU.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** The completion of an associate degree concurrent with high school results in 60 credits of coursework applied towards your degree and VCU's general education courses will be satisfied. High school students must apply to VCU as freshman applicants for orientation and engagement purposes.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** VCU accepts AP, IB, Cambridge, CLEP, DANTES, and military credits.
- **Catalog Year:** VCU will honor the degree requirements of the VCU Undergraduate Bulletin in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate associate degree at the two-year institution. Students must stay enrolled at their community college and take no more than four years to complete their associate degree. Students must also enroll at VCU within one year of completing their associate degree.

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

- Located in downtown Richmond, within two hours of the beach, the mountains and Washington DC, VCU provides top-ranked academic programs, research opportunities and an urban setting so students can live and learn in the real world.
- VCU is a large, public research institution dedicated to the success and well-being of students and the Richmond community.
- Diversity, inclusion and equity are deeply ingrained core values at VCU. If you are looking to connect with a broad range of people, come join us!

Learn more about our college at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Completing your associate transfer degree satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the likelihood you will complete your bachelor's degree?
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college could exhaust your financial aid there and reduce your future financial aid at VCU?

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at www.TransferVirginia.org

PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

The Forensic Science Seminar is a weekly seminar series held each semester featuring presentations from faculty, crime laboratory staff, students and visiting lecturers. Previous topics have included firearm and tool mark examination, DNA testing, scientific body donation and fire deaths. Additionally, students are able to enroll in the one-credit class (FRSC 570) if they would like to attend the entire series to receive academic credit.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

If you apply through general application instead of through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement, you will be considered for admission with all other transfer applicants.

Learn more about applying at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

- Due to our location, we are in close proximity to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science state crime laboratory and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Our students are able to utilize these facilities for internships, research and mentorship. Professionals from these offices regularly serve as guest lecturers and even teach entire courses for the department -- a unique perk of attending VCU.
- If you're interested in fast-tracking your advanced education, the accelerated B.S. and M.S. program is for you. In it, you can earn both the B.S. and M.S. in Forensic Science in a minimum of five and a half years by completing approved graduate courses during your senior undergraduate year. You may count up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both the B.S. and M.S. degrees. That means you can earn the two degrees with a minimum of 150 credits rather than the 162 credits necessary if you pursued the two degrees separately.

OTHER THAN CLASSES, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

All students must complete at least one VCU "REAL" experiential learning activity in order to graduate from VCU. Examples of REAL activities include: internships, research, and service learning. This requirement may be satisfied by completing a 300-level (or higher) REAL course or through an approved REAL co-curricular experience.

Learn more at <https://real.vcu.edu/>

