

INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS FOR COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS IN



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM)

Forensic Science Initiative 2024-25 Teacher Cohort

Agenda for Today

1. What is FSI?
2. Goals of the Forensic Science Initiative
3. Components of the Program for teachers
4. Components of the Program for students
5. Timelines
6. Q & A



What is FSI?



Forensic Science Initiative (FSI)

Districts partner with NJIT Center for Pre-College Programs & College of Science and Liberal Arts

Prepare more students for success in STEM fields even beyond Forensic Science

Forensic Science appeals to students

Forensic Science opens *many, many* career pathways

All Students benefit from targeted FSI PD



Program Goals

- Increase instructional capacity & dual enrollment opportunities through teacher PD
- Strengthen students' science preparation by developing STEM skills and experiences for high school seniors
- Preview for students their potential career trajectory – Forensics is a growth field
- Increase the pipeline to NJIT

Teacher Professional Development

- Everyone benefits when teachers grow professionally
- We prepare teachers to teach the foundation course in our BS in Forensics degree program: FRSC 201 *Introduction to Forensic Science*
- Cohort model: hands-on, active engagement
- On-campus work coupled with field research
- Stipend available



Teachers report that work with us has strengthened their teaching across all science topics

Teacher Requirements



- MS in Forensic Science, Biology, Chemistry, or closely related field
- NJ Teaching Certification in Science
- Recommendation from HS principal/DC
- Applicant letter expressing interest in teaching forensic science
- Sample of lesson plans taught in STEM subject(s)

Consideration given to:

- AP teaching experience in a STEM subject
- Those who meet some qualifications
- Law or forensic lab/field work background

Timeline – Teachers 2024



- Teachers complete application and are notified of selection – *stipend for full participation*
- 6/24, 25, 26 Teachers participate in NJ Forensic Science Education Conference on campus; returning teachers present; *registration fee waived*
- July 8-11 and 22-24 8 days PD 9-2:30 on campus
- 9/24-6/25 Teachers in PD 2 days TBD
- 9/25 and beyond *Options* teachers have continued supports

Student Summer Program



- Open to rising seniors
- Summer JumpStart includes 4 of the many facets of Forensic Science; hands-on labs; field research; on-campus experiences; activities to orient students to college; SAT/ACT prep; college app personal statement development
- Prep for academic year dual enrollment course: **FRSC 201 *Introduction to Forensic Science***

JumpStart Student Characteristics

- Motivated to learn
- Interested in STEM
- **Regular** attendance all 4 weeks
- Active participation in classes, program activities, college prep experiences



Student Requirements

- Completion of all three with at least a C:
 - Trigonometry topics
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
- Transcript and latest standardized test scores



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- Preference given to dual enrollment in FRSC 201 during senior year
 - Enrollment in Pre-Calculus
 - Completion of application by qualified students
 - Recommendation from science teacher
 - Student letter expressing interest
 - Parent/guardian approval



Timeline for Students

- 3/24 **Nominate students who will take FRSC 201 in Fall 2024 & Provide transcripts for our review**
- 3/24 Eligible Students invited to complete application (includes parent/guardian signature)
- 5/24 **Students notified of selection**
- 7/8/24 - 8/2/24 Students attend JumpStart
- 9/24 **Students take FRSC 201 at high schools**

Student Day Summer 2024



By 8:50 Be in your seat in class

9:00-11:50 **Forensic science exploration/labs**

Noon-1:00 Lunch & Recreation in Game Room

1:10-2:00 **Case studies in forensic science**

2:10-3:00 ACT/SAT/personal statement Prep 2 days / Professionalism and Guest Speakers 2 days

Fridays 9:00-noon Field Research

8/2/24 **Celebration** for students, families, guests

Q & A

- We want to hear from you: What questions/comments do you have?



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