



**SUMMER  
SPRINGBOARD**  
Look Inward. Go Upward.

# FORENSIC SCIENCE INFOSHEET

**New student admissions for  
Summer 2026 are open**

**2-Week Course**

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.



## Program Highlights

- Designed to give students both theoretical and practical tools in the field of forensic science
- Crime scene investigations and evidence, including fingerprints, trace (hair/fiber) evidence, blood spatter, DNA analysis, and more
- Using case studies, students will work in teams to solve crimes using newly acquired scientific and observational skills.
- Students will participate in a crime scene simulation

## 2026 Dates

### UCLA (\$6,298)

- Session 1: June 21 - July 3
- Session 2: July 5 - July 17
- Session 3: July 19 - July 31

### Vanderbilt University (\$5,698)

- Session 1: June 14 - June 26



## Academic Program Overview

Do you love detective work and are interested in solving crimes? Forensics is a field focused on the scientific gathering and analysis of evidence that can ultimately be utilized in the legal field. Although there are many types of forensics (accounting, psychiatry), this course will concentrate on crime scene investigations and lab science. Whether students are curious about doing crime scene investigations or want to be a forensic pathologist, this course will help them sharpen their investigative and observational skills while reviewing a range of scientific concepts. Forensic science is one of the most up-and-coming fields to explore. Crime scene examiners, medical examiners and lab technicians are just a few of the career options for those interested in forensics.



## Excursions

Students at UCLA have visited the Beverly Hills Police Department Crime Lab and the LA County Superior Court in the past to learn more about forensic data collection and its use in criminal investigations and courts. All students will also participate in a full crime scene simulation, gathering evidence and making a case alongside their classmates, effectively simulating the work of a forensic scientist. Excursion information for our program on Vanderbilt's campus will be later announced.

## Instructors

### **UCLA – Donna Thomas**

Donna holds a Master of Arts degree in Legal Studies and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Forensics from American Military University. Additionally, she holds two Associates degrees, one in Administration to Justice and the other in Social Behavior, from Citrus Community College.

### **Vanderbilt – Benjamin DeBlanc**

Benjamin DeBlanc is a Forensic Biologist with the Metro Nashville Police Department Crime Laboratory, with over 18 years of experience serving state and local laboratory agencies. His expertise includes Serology and Forensic DNA testing and reporting, and he has testified as an expert in federal and state courts. Mr. DeBlanc also serves Nashville and surrounding areas as a guide, instructor, and guest lecturer for primary schools, providing overviews of Forensic Biology and career expectations in the field.

## Tuition Information:

### **Residential Students:**

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes:** optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price:** See prices under 2026 Dates

### **Commuter Students:**

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for \$125 per day
- **Price:**
  - **UCLA:** \$3,298
  - **Vanderbilt:** \$2,998

## Supplements:

- **Application Fee:** Starting at \$99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Course Supplement:** \$250 tuition supplement for Forensic Science (mandatory)
- **Tuition Protection Plan:** Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click [here](#) for more info.



## Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm, Monday - Friday. During week two students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to additional academic time (excursions, speakers).



## Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast	
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival	
12PM	Lunch	
1:30PM	Academic Excursions or Recreational Activity	
3:30PM	College Readiness Workshop or True You	
5PM- 6:30PM	Commuter Student Departure	
6PM	Dinner	
7PM	Clubs	
10:30PM	Night Checks	

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[More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service](#)

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Summer Springboard programs are not run by our campus partners (with the exception of Cal Poly, University of Washington Foster School of Business, and NYSID which are run in partnership with SSB). Universities and their affiliated departments and partners do not control and are not responsible or liable in any manner for any part of the Summer Springboard program.



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**New student admissions for  
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## 1-Week Course

This course is one week long, and you can extend your experience to as many as six weeks by adding additional one-week courses.

## Program Highlights

- Gain both theoretical knowledge and practical tools in the field of forensic science
- Explore crime scene investigation techniques and types of evidence, including fingerprints, trace evidence (hair and fiber), blood spatter and DNA analysis
- Work in teams to solve case studies using newly acquired scientific and observational skills
- Participate in a realistic crime scene simulation to apply investigation methods in a hands-on setting

## 2026 Dates

### Yale

- Session 1: June 28 - July 4
- Session 2: July 12 - July 18



## Academic Program Overview

Are you fascinated by detective work and interested in solving real-world crimes? Forensic science focuses on the scientific collection and analysis of evidence that supports investigations and legal proceedings.

While there are many branches of forensics, including accounting and psychiatry, this course focuses on crime scene investigation and lab science. Whether students are curious about fieldwork or envision a future in forensic pathology, this course helps sharpen investigative and observational skills while introducing key scientific concepts.

Forensic science is a fast-growing field with diverse career paths. Crime scene examiners, medical examiners and lab technicians are just a few of the roles students may explore.



## Excursions

Students gain hands-on experience at the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science, where most classes and field excursions take place under the guidance of the Institute's Director. Past sessions have included visits to Connecticut crime labs and courthouses to observe how forensic evidence is collected, analyzed and presented in criminal proceedings.

All students participate in a comprehensive crime scene simulation at the Institute's state-of-the-art facilities. They collect and process evidence, analyze findings and build a case alongside their classmates, gaining firsthand insight into the work of forensic scientists.

## Instructor:

### **Dr. Brooke Kamrath**

Dr. Brooke Kamrath is a Professor of Forensic Science at the University of New Haven and Executive Director of the Henry C. Lee Institute of Forensic Science. She holds a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice with a specialization in Forensic Science from the City University of New York, along with multiple master's degrees in forensic science, chemistry education, and criminal justice. Dr. Kamrath is a certified diplomate of the American Board of Criminalistics and serves as a consulting criminalist, qualified as an expert witness in both state and federal courts. She is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Forensic Sciences and has co-authored several books on forensic science, including works on portable spectroscopy, blood trace analysis, and microscopy applications.

## Tuition Information:

### **Residential Students:**

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course and weekend excursions
- **Excludes:** optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price:** \$4,298 first week, \$3,298 each additional week

### **Commuter Students:**

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner and weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for \$125 per day
- **Price:** \$2,498 first week, \$1,998 each additional week

## Supplements:

- **Application fee:** Starting at \$99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan:** Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click [here](#) for more info.

## Course Structure

There are five 4-hour class sessions over the one-week course. Students have class from 9am-1pm, Monday-Friday. Afternoons are dedicated to students' course-specific academic excursion, guest speaker or activity.



## Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast	
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival	
11AM	15-Minute Break	
11:15AM	Academic Course	
1:15PM	Lunch/Free-Time	
3PM	Academic Excursion/Lab	
5PM	Commuter Students Depart	
6PM	Dinner	
7PM	Evening Activity	
8:30PM	Free-Time	
9:30PM	Back in Dorms	

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