



TRANSFER PATHWAY GUIDE 2025-2026

Associate in Science to
Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences (Forensic Science Track)

Overview

Completion of the following curriculum will satisfy the requirements for the Associate in Science (AS) degree at Gateway Community and Technical College (GCTC) and leads to the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biological Sciences (Forensic Science Track) degree at Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

Applying to the Gateway2NKU Program

Students can apply to participate in the pathway program by completing the online application on the NKU transfer webpage. Students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours at Gateway, enrolled in an associate degree program, plan to transfer to NKU, and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA at Gateway.

Degree Requirements for GCTC

1) Completion of minimum 60 credit hours, 2) minimum cumulative GPA 2.0, 3) minimum of 15 credit hours earned at the institution awarding the degree, 4) demonstration of digital literacy, and 5) college success requirement.

Admission Requirements to NKU

Students completing an associate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher will be accepted into NKU.

Degree Requirements for NKU

To earn a bachelor's degree at NKU, students must complete a minimum of 120 credit hours with at least 45 credit hours numbered 300 and above. In addition, at least 25% of the credit hours required for the degree and the last 30 credit hours must be completed at NKU. Students must have an overall GPA of 2.0 and meet all prerequisites for courses and requirements for the major. In addition, a grade of C- or better must be earned in all biology courses that count toward completion of major requirements. The department has also identified a common core of support courses that must be completed with a C- or better by all biological science majors.

This track is designed to provide students who wish to pursue a career in forensic science with a solid background in the sciences while giving them the basic knowledge that they will need in order to

succeed in the criminal justice system. It is strongly recommended that majors in the track complete the minor in criminalistics offered by the Department of Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Organizational Leadership. By doing so, they will be much better prepared to work with law enforcement professionals. This track is designed to ensure that graduates who later decide to pursue some other area of work in the biological sciences or go to graduate school can do so with little if any additional coursework.

Even though a biological sciences major does not require a secondary area of study (e.g. minor or focus), students who complete the forensic science track will earn a minor in chemistry as the requirements for this minor are built into this track.

General Transfer Information

Students must complete the online application to NKU. There is no application fee for students who are transferring from GCTC.

KCTCS Scholars Award: Students who are KY residents transferring directly from a KCTCS institution with at least 36 hours from that institution and minimum GPA of 3.0, were never enrolled as a degree-seeking student at NKU, and will be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours both fall and spring semester are eligible for a limited number of \$2,500 annual scholarships (\$1,250 per fall and spring). Students must gain admission to NKU by June 15 for fall and November 1 for spring to be eligible for a possible scholarship. Online accelerated programs are not eligible for the KCTCS Scholars Award.

**GCTC AS TO NKU BS IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
(FORENSIC SCIENCE TRACK) CHECKLIST**

Gateway Community and Technical College

Category 1: GCTC General Education Core Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
ENG 101	Writing I (WC)	3	ENG 101	
Taken at NKU	Advanced Writing in Biology (WC)	3	BIO 291W	
TBS XXX	Oral Communication (OC)	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Heritage	3	TBD XXX	
TBS XXX	Arts & Humanities Course (AH) – Humanities	3	TBD XXX (PHI 220)	
JUS 101U	Introduction to Criminal Justice (SB)	3	JUS 101	
TBS XXX	Social/Behavioral Science (SB)	3	TBD XXX	
BIO 114/115	Biology I with Lab (NS)	4	BIO 150/150L	
BIO 116/117	Biology II with Lab (SL)	4	BIO 151/151L	
MAT 150	College Algebra (QR)	3	(MAT 102 or MAT 103) + MAT 100T	
STA 220	Statistics (QR)	3	STA 205	
	Subtotal General Education Core Courses	35		

TBS XXX means to be selected by GCTC student.

TBD XXX means to be determined by NKU based on course selected.

For Social and Behavioral Sciences courses, two disciplines must be represented and different from those in the Arts and Humanities category.

A grade of A or B in MAT 150 equates to MAT 103 + MAT 100T at NKU. A grade of C or D in MAT 150 equates to MAT 102 + MAT 100T.

Category 2: GCTC AS Requirements

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
CHE 170/175*	General College Chemistry I with Lab	5	CHE 120/120L	
CHE 180/185*	General College Chemistry II with Lab	5	CHE 121/121L	
	Subtotal AS Requirement Courses	10		

*Labs must be taken in person.

Category 3: GCTC Electives

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
FYE 105 or FYE 110	Achieving Academic Success	3	UNV 100T	
CIT 105 or	Introduction to Computers or	3	BIS 101	

GCTC Course	Course or Category	Credits	NKU Course	Completed
OST 105	Intro to Information Systems			
PHY 201/202	General College Physics I / Lab	5	PHY 211	
PHY 203/204	General College Physics II and Laboratory	5	PHY 213	
	Subtotal Elective Courses	16		
	Total Associate Degree Hours	61		

If completing digital literacy using other means, additional credits will be required in order to fulfill elective requirements.

*If a student completes FYE 110, they will not be required to take a separate digital literacy course, as FYE 110 fulfills both the college success requirement and Digital Literacy requirements.

Northern Kentucky University

Category 4: NKU Major Requirements for the BS in Biological Sciences (Forensic Science Track)

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
BIO 150/150L	Introduction to Biology I with Lab	4	BIO 114/115	x
BIO 151/151L	Introduction to Biology II with Lab	4	BIO 116/117	x
BIO 155	Orientation to Biology	1		
BIO 291W	Advanced Writing in Biology	3	Taken at NKU	x
BIO 304/304L	General Ecology	4		
BIO 349/349L	Genetics with lab	4		
BIO 458	Evolution of Organisms	3		
BIO 491	Comprehensive Examination	0		
CHE 310/310L	Organic Chemistry I with lab	4	CHE 270/275	
CHE 311/311L	Organic Chemistry II with lab	4	CHE 280/285	
CHE 482/482L	Biochemistry I with Lab	4		
JUS 101	Introduction to Criminal Justice (SB)	3	JUS 101U	x
JUS 204	Criminal Investigation	3	CRJ 204	
MAT 112 or MAT 129	Applied Calculus Calculus I	4	MAT 170 or MAT 174 or MAT 175	
Choose 2: BIO 302/302L BIO 320/320L BIO 342 BIO 380L BIO 400/400L BIO 425/425L BIO 426/426L BIO 430/430L BIO 436	Choose two from the following (one must contain a lab): General Microbiology with Lab (4) Entomology with Lab (4) Biometry (3) Human Cadaver Dissection (2) Adv. Molecular Biology with Lab (4) Adv. Human Anatomy & Physiology I with Lab (4) Adv. Human Anatomy & Physiology II with Lab (4) Immunology with Lab (4) Advanced Biology of a Cell (3)	10-13		

NKU Course	Course	Credits	GCTC Course	Taken at GCTC
BIO 455L BIO 470 CHE 340/340L CHE 350/350L JUS 320 ENV 350	Scanning Electron Microscopy (3) Medical Microbiology (4) Analytical Chemistry with Lab (5) Instrumental Analysis with Lab (4) Adv. Crime Scene Technology and Criminalistics (3) Environmental Toxicology (3)			
TBS XXX	Foreign language at the 102 or higher level. Can be met by a two-course sequence, CLEP or AP exam equivalency.	0-6	SPA 101 & SPA 102 or FRE 101 & FRE 102, or GER 101 & GER 102 or RAE 101 and RAE 102 or JPN 101 and JPN 102 or ASL 103 and ASL 104	
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at NKU	54-62		
	Subtotal Major Credit Hours at GCTC	33		
	Total Major Credit Hours	87-95		

Category 5: Additional Requirements at NKU

NKU Course	Course	Credits	KCTCS Course	Taken at KCTCS
	Subtotal Elective (300/400 level) Hours	0-5		
	Total Baccalaureate Degree Credit Hours	120-123		

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