



Direzione Ricerca,
Innovazione e
Internazionalizzazione

**UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO**

ID

VP_025_CHIM

Visiting Professor Program Academic Year 2025/2026

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 12 hours

COURSE TITLE

Forensic Medicine: General Aspects, Ethics and the Role of the Expert Witness

TEACHING PERIOD

I semester

SCIENTIFIC AREA

Forensic Toxicology and Legal Medicine

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH

English

COURSE SUMMARY

The VP will explore the general aspects of forensic medicine, the ethical considerations involved, and the role of the expert witness.

Forensic medicine is a specialized branch of medicine that intersects with law. It involves the application of medical knowledge to legal issues, particularly in the investigation of crimes, the determination of causes of death, and the assessment of injuries, among other tasks. Medical professionals in forensic medicine are often called upon to provide expert testimony in legal settings, offering their expert opinions based on medical facts. Among the others, key areas of Forensic Medicine are the autopsy, the use of forensic toxicology and the investigation of sexual assault.

Ethical concerns are central to the practice of forensic medicine due to the sensitive nature of the work and its direct impact on the legal system. Forensic experts must adhere to specific ethical standards of confidentiality, impartiality and competence.

In conclusion, the VP will delve into the role of the expert witness. In forensic medicine, the expert witness plays a crucial role in explaining complex medical and scientific concepts to the court. By maintaining ethical practices and offering clear, scientifically-grounded testimony, forensic medical experts contribute significantly to the legal process, helping courts make well-informed decisions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course focuses on various aspects of forensic medicine, ethical considerations, and the vital role of the expert witness in legal proceedings. In particular, the learning objectives will be:

- Understand the fundamentals of Forensic Medicine
- Gain knowledge of the processes involved in Forensic Medicine
- Understand the ethical aspects of Forensic Medicine
- Understand the role and responsibilities of the Expert Witness
- Apply knowledge of Forensic Medicine to real cases.

OTHER ACTIVITIES BESIDE THE COURSE

VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE

The Visiting Professor candidate for this course should meet the following requirements:

- Experienced in the field of analytical and forensic toxicology researching drug analysis in biological and non-biological specimens.
- Head of Forensic Unit or laboratories
- Gained academic affiliation and been Professor at international universities
- Consulted and testified in criminal and civil cases

CONTACT REFERENT

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