



# CENTRE FOR CRIMINOLOGY AND FORENSIC SCIENCE

HPNLU  
PRESENTS

ONE-CREDIT CERTIFICATE  
COURSE ON:

## FORENSIC SCIENCE AND THE LAW

15<sup>th</sup> NOV. 2025

TO

13<sup>th</sup> DEC. 2025

*(2 hours class on Saturday and Sunday only)*

**ONLINE MODE**

Greetings!

The Centre for Criminology and Forensic Science at Himachal Pradesh National Law University in Shimla is excited to offer a One Credit Certificate Course on “Forensic Science and the Law.”

As crime methods become more sophisticated, the role of forensic science in achieving justice is more important than ever. The use of forensic evidence in legal systems, as stated in Section 176 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Samhita, 2023, shows its growing importance in modern criminal investigations. Scientific advancements, from DNA profiling and fingerprint analysis to digital forensics and toxicology, are changing the landscape of law and justice.

This certificate course aims to give participants a solid understanding of how forensic science connects with the legal system. It will explore practical uses of forensic techniques along with the ethical, procedural, and evidentiary issues that come with them. Through engaging lectures, case studies, and sessions with experts, the course aims to improve participants' ability to understand, interpret, and evaluate forensic evidence in legal situations.

This course is designed for students, academicians, legal practitioners, and researchers, this course will serve as an excellent opportunity to engage with experts in the field and to deepen one's understanding of how science and law intersect in the pursuit of truth and justice.

Join us in this academic endeavour to explore the scientific underpinnings of criminal investigation and their vital role in ensuring fairness and integrity within the justice system.

Warm Regards,  
Centre for Criminology and Forensic Science  
Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

## ABOUT HPNLU

The Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU, Shimla) was established by the State Government in the year 2016, by an Act of the Legislature (Act 16 of 2016). The University started functioning on 5.10.2016. Located in the geographical terrains of the Himalayas, HPNLU, Shimla, is offering conducive atmosphere for academics, research and extra-curricular engagements.

The University runs two undergraduate courses: B.A. LL.B. Hons., Five Year Integrated Course (FYIC), and B.B.A. LL.B. Hons. (FYIC); and One Year LL.M. Programme. The University also offers Ph.D. Programme and Post-Doctoral Programme (LL.D.) in Law. Presently, the University has about 779 students admitted to various courses. Under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Professor (Dr.) Priti Saxena, the team is not only working laboriously and diligently but feels motivated in making palpable endeavors in academics and research arena.

The University has proactively organized events ranging from moots to ADRs, from curricular to co-curricular, from academic deliberations to sport meets, etc. These Cultural Evenings, Mooting Competitions, Seminars, Webinars, National and International Conferences have adorned the documentary and historical assemblage of HPNLU from time to time. Despite being in its nascent stage, HPNLU has solidified its footing in academics by serving the society and the nation as a whole.



## ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre of Criminology and Forensic Science at Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU) has been at the forefront of pioneering research, education, and discourse in the field of criminology.

Established with a vision to bridge the gap between Legal education and the dynamic complexities of crime and criminal behavior, the Centre is committed to fostering a deeper understanding of criminal justice systems, criminal psychology, and the various socio-legal dimensions that influence crime and its control. Through a combination of rigorous academic research, collaborative projects, and interdisciplinary studies, the Center aims to contribute significantly to policy-making and the advancement of criminological knowledge. It seeks to provide a platform for academicians, legal professionals, law enforcement officers, and students to engage in meaningful discussions and explore innovative solutions to contemporary challenges in the criminal justice system.

The Centre plays a significant role in the development of legal education since the establishment of the same has been mandated by the Universities Grants Commission itself.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course shall be of total 15 hours and the classes can be held online, through lectures, demonstrations, and case discussions, on every Saturday and Sunday for two hours i.e. from 15th Nov 2025 till 13th Dec 2025 . The objectives of this course are as follow:

- To familiarise participants with basic principles and scope of forensic science.
- To explain the process of evidence collection, preservation and analysis.
- To highlight the evidentiary value of forensic reports in criminal trials.
- To bridge the gap between legal and scientific perspectives in the administration of justice.

# Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of how forensic science supports the criminal justice system. The main learning outcomes from this course for the participants would be:

- Understand and apply basic forensic techniques relevant to criminal investigation.
- Critically evaluate forensic evidence in legal proceedings.
- Appreciate the role of experts and forensic laboratories in the criminal justice system.
- Identify challenges and limitations in the use of forensic science in courts.

# Tentative Topics

- Overview of the New Criminal Codes and Evidence Code: BNS and BSA sections relevant to forensic science.
- Evidence Law Foundations and Expert Opinion: Relevance, reliability, expert scope.
- Crime Scene and Chain of Custody for Lawyers: Contamination control, documentation, packing, requisitions.
- Fingerprints and Impression Evidence in Court: Development, comparison logic, and explaining conclusions and limitations to judges and juries with appropriate expert caution.
- Biological Evidence and DNA in Litigation: Collection/continuity essentials for admissibility, interpreting identity and activity-level propositions, and limits in corroboration and exculpation.
- Questioned Documents and Handwriting: Admissions, denials, alterations, standards, non-destructive testing overview, and doctrinal bases for comparison and expert testimony.
- Firearms, Ballistics, and Toolmarks: Handling and linkage logic, when ballistic opinion is indispensable, and guidance on the significance of ballistic evidence.
- Trace and Physical Evidence: Glass, paint, fibers, soil, and GSR for presence/activity proof, with narratives, contamination risk management, and weight in corroboration.
- Arson and Explosives: Ignitable liquids, residues, device fragments, and scene documentation.
- Toxicology and Chemical Evidence: Admissibility and interpretive frameworks.
- NDPS Evidence and Proof: Seizure, sampling, sealing, lab reports.
- Electronic Records under BSA Section 63: Conditions for admissibility, certificate content/timing, continuity from Section 65B jurisprudence, and practical compliance.
- CCTV and Multimedia Integrity: SOP-compliant capture, hashing, metadata, storage, and preparing Section 63-ready evidentiary bundles for court.
- Self-Incrimination, Consent, and Neuroscientific Techniques: Polygraph, narcoanalysis, and BEAP, with lawful alternatives and privacy-rights implications for investigations.
- Trial Strategy and Cross-Examination of Experts: Building coherent case theory across evidence classes, anticipating defense challenges, and aligning with statutory and precedent-based expectations.

## EVALUATION PATTERN

- Class attendance (Minimum 70% required)  
Weightage: 40%
- Assignment/Presentation  
Weightage: 20%
- MCQ Test: 40-mark test (Minimum 70% required)  
Weightage: 40%

**To receive the certificate, a minimum overall score of 70% is compulsory.**

## TARGET GROUPS

- UG/PG students
- Faculty
- Professionals in the fields of Criminal Law, Criminology, and Forensic Applications

## Expected Outcome for the University

This course aims to connect the fields of law and science to help students understand how they work together in solving crimes. It supports the university's goal of providing strong education in criminal justice while giving students practical knowledge useful for careers in litigation, prosecution, and the judiciary. By combining theory with real-world examples, the course helps learners see how forensic science plays an important role in making the justice system fair and effective.

- It will enhance interdisciplinary learning between law and science.
- It will strengthen the university's obligation to impart criminal justice education.
- It will provide practical insight needed for litigation, prosecution, and judicial services.

## COURSE FEE

**Account Holder Name:- Registrar HPNLU Shimla (Seminar & conference)**

**A/c No. - 44249366590**

**IFSC Code:- SBIN0063954**

**Branch:- Ghandal**

**GST No. :- 02AAAJH0545B1Z4**

The total amount charged from the participants for this course will be  
₹999.

[Registration Link](#)

-

**Last date to register: 13th November, 11:59pm**

## COURSE COORDINATOR

**Dr Ruchi Sapahia**

**Director**

**CCFS,HPNLU, Shimla**

## RESOURCE PERSON

**Dr Rajesh Verma**

**Director (Retd.)**

**Directorate of Forensic Services ,H.P.**

## PATRON



**Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena**  
**Hon'ble Vice Chancellor**  
**HPNLU, Shimla**

## RESOURCE PERSON



**Dr. Rajesh Verma**  
**Director (Retd.)**  
**Directorate of Forensic Services ,H.P.**

## COURSE CO-ORDINATOR



**Dr. Ruchi Sapahia**  
**Director**  
**CCFS,HPNLU, Shimla.**

## CCFS TEAM

**Dr. Ruchi Sapahia**

(Director)

Associate Professor of Law, HPNLU,  
Shimla

**Dr. Navditya Tanwar**

(Faculty Coordinator)

Assistant Professor of Law, HPNLU,  
Shimla

**Dr. Shaifali Dixit**

(Faculty Co-Coordinator)

Assistant Professor of Law, HPNLU,  
Shimla

# STUDENT CO-ORDINATORS

Trishla  
**Student Convenor**

Morvi Sharma  
**Student Co-Convenor**

Shaurya Yadav  
**Student Secretary**

Shivam Verma  
**Student Treasurer**

Maanya Wazir  
**Social Media Head**

## **Student Members**

Dhruv Rajput  
Vaanya Sharma

Vasundhra

Kamya

Palak

Drishti Sarin

Jhanvi Sharma

Mayra

Rakshak Bhandral

Navya Yadav

Aditi Diwakar

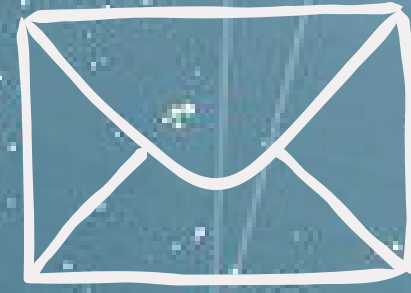
# CONTACT US



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