



**HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY,
SHIMLA**

IN COLLABORATION WITH

**STATE FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY, HIMACHAL
PRADESH, SHIMLA HILLS, JUNGA.**

**IS ORGANIZING ONE - WEEK FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME**

ON

**CURRENT TRENDS IN FORENSIC SCIENCE: LEGAL
EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE
(November 10-15, 2025)**

ABOUT HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA

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 from October 5, 2016. The University inducts students through Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) for its Under-graduate (UG) programme, which includes B.A.LL.B. and B.B.A.LL.B.- Hons. (Five- Year Integrated Course) and the Post-graduate(PG) programme for one-year LL.M. The PG programme provides four specializations viz, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and Forensic Studies, Business Law and Intellectual Property Rights. The University also offers Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) and Post- Doctorate Programmes (LL.D.) in Law. Located in the geographical terrains of the Himalayas, HPNLU, Shimla, is one of the best places for studying law in India. The University focuses on the holistic developments of students about the legal system, topographies of law making, legal practice, and administration. Perhaps, climatic conditions and environmental privileges of its placement, makes the University one of the most sought-after law education institutions within short span of time. The institution has attracted excellent set of teachers from all over India. The University is committed to provide interdisciplinary and practical/application based legal education keeping in view the requirements of the overall developments of its students. Under the academic and administrative leadership of the Hon'ble Vice - Chancellor, the team HPNLU, is committed to achieve new heights in legal education.

ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR CRIMINAL LAW AND FORENSIC STUDIES

The Centre for Criminal Law and Forensic Studies is a specialized centre established by Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, with a vision to promote academic learning in the fields of Criminal law and Forensic Studies. The Centre aims to conduct high innovative research under the various heads with special emphasis on the Criminal Justice and Law, Victims and Victimization, Psychology, Crime and Family, Forensic science. The Centre would work in vision to promote the use of scientifically valid and reliable forensic evidence for the purpose of criminal Justice Administration. The focus of the Centre would revolve around dissemination of knowledge by undertaking special projects and promoting research by the academicians, scholars, and legal luminaries to expand and advance the understanding in the field of Criminal Law and Forensic Studies. The centre endeavours to achieve the objectives: • To promote and carry out conducive quality research into the efficacy and adequacy of criminology and forensic science; • To research, analyze, and critically examine the laws, policies and programs related to criminology and forensic science, thereby annunciate the findings through publications and seminars; • To formulate the form of advocacy, legal clinic, and outreach programme for extending victim support service; • To explore the connection between the study of criminology and forensic science at its control in the larger concerns of contemporary forms; • To organize conferences, seminar, workshops, and training programmes for the advancement of knowledge and expertise in the field; • To promote forensic Studies temperament among the students through, academic teaching, crime scene visits, visits of forensic science laboratory, practically showing the conduct of different test/ examination etc.

ABOUT DIRECTORATE OF FORENSICS SERVICES



The Directorate of Forensics Services, Himachal Pradesh, began its journey with the establishment of the State Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in 1988 to provide scientific support to investigative and judicial agencies. Initially operating from Shimla with two divisions—Biology & Serology and Chemistry & Toxicology—it shifted to Junga in 1996 and expanded with new divisions like Documents & Photography, Physics & Ballistics, DNA, and NDPS. In 2005, it was placed under the Home Department for independent functioning. By 2009, the Director was declared Head of Department, and in 2014, a five-year development plan was implemented. Over the years, several Regional and District Forensic Labs, Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) cells, digital forensic labs, and voice analysis facilities were established, making Himachal a leader in forensic infrastructure.

Significant milestones include the creation of India's first Forensic Auditing facility, integration of the Fingerprint Bureau under DFS, and amendments to the HP Police Act to formalize forensic leadership structures. The DFS earned international recognition by joining the Asian Forensic Sciences Network (AFSN) and achieving ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation for multiple labs, including the Fingerprint Bureau. It also became the first in India to have its Document & Photography divisions registered with the UNODC for international quality assurance exercises. In 2024–25, the second Five-Year Perspective Plan was approved, further enhancing regional capabilities with new DNA blocks and accredited labs, while continuing to support national agencies like NIA, CBI, and ED in forensic investigations.

The Himachal Pradesh Forensic Services and State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL) are headquartered in Junga, a historic town near Shimla. The SFSL campus spans 33,000 sq. ft. and serves as the forensic hub for southern districts while handling specialized cases like DNA and NDPS statewide. It comprises six advanced divisions and supports forensic research through a library with international journal subscriptions.

ABOUT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING CELL

HPNLU is deeply committed to promoting gender equity, not just through policy and academic research, but also by equipping individuals with practical skills and professional competencies. In line with this vision, the Professional Training Cell (PTC) at Himachal Pradesh National Law University serves as a dedicated unit aimed at fostering employability, leadership, and industry readiness among students, researchers, and professionals. The PTC actively bridges the gap between theoretical learning and real-world application through regular training programs, workshops, certification courses, and mentorship opportunities. These initiatives also emphasize inclusivity and gender-sensitive learning environments. One of the most recent initiatives was a One-Week Workshop on Research Methodology with Hands-on Experience in SPSS and AMOS (SEM), held from June 8th to 12th, 2025. This intensive training aimed to enhance research capacities with practical exposure to data analysis tools, empowering participants to conduct evidence-based, data-driven research, especially in areas such as gender justice, law, and public policy. Through such programs, HPNLU continues to nurture well-rounded, socially conscious professionals capable of contributing meaningfully to both academia and society.

Dr. Deepika Gautam, Faculty of Management, Chairperson, Professional Training Cell

Dr. Ruchi Raj Thakur, Faculty of English, Convener, Professional Training Cell

Dr. Esha Sharma, Faculty of Management, Member, Professional Training Cell

Dr. Honey Kumar, Coordinator, Member, Professional Training Cell

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME



The Faculty Development Programme on “Current Trends in Forensic Science Education and Application of Forensic Science in the Administration of Justice” will be conducted by the Centre for Criminal Law and Forensic Studies under the aegis of Professional Training Cell, HPNLU Shimla in collaboration with SFSL, Shimla.

Forensic Science plays a pivotal role in the criminal justice system, as experts assist in crime scene management, evidence collection, and the application of scientific methods and technology to support legal proceedings. Despite global efforts to combat crime, the rise in criminal activity underscores the importance of incorporating new advancements in forensic technology to more effectively prevent and solve crimes. Additionally, forensic professionals often testify as Expert Witnesses in court, providing critical insights that impact the outcome of cases. This interactive and inclusive programme will highlight contemporary developments in specialized fields of Forensic Science and Law, enabling participants to explore the latest trends, methodologies, and technologies. It will provide a platform to discuss the evolving role of forensic science in justice administration and its impact on crime prevention. A key focus will be on teaching strategies, with emphasis on modern tools, techniques, and evidence-based methods that are essential in today's academic environment. Led by global experts, the programme aims to foster cutting-edge research and inspire young academicians to integrate new knowledge and technologies into their teaching practices. By emphasizing practical, result-driven methods, the Faculty Development Programme seeks to promote innovative approaches to both teaching and research, while encouraging the use of forensic science in real-world legal contexts. The programme will also help participants develop valuable skills for mentoring the next generation of scholars, preparing them to contribute meaningfully to the field of legal studies worldwide.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Ultimately, this Faculty Development Programme is designed not only to strengthen technical expertise but also to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in criminal investigations. It will equip participants with the tools to address current challenges in forensic science and law, fostering new research ideas and enhancing employability and entrepreneurship in the field. This opportunity will serve as a catalyst for interdisciplinary collaboration and will promote the development of impactful, future-oriented solutions to crime and justice issues.

Educational Visit to State Forensic Science Laboratory, Shimla

As a culminating activity of the 7-day Faculty Development Programme, the participants will undertake an educational visit to the State Forensic Science Laboratory (SFSL), located at Junga near Shimla. This visit will provide valuable exposure to real-world forensic applications and state-of-the-art investigative techniques. The day will begin with an introduction to the historical and operational background of SFSL, followed by detailed presentations on its six core scientific divisions, including Biology and Serology, DNA Profiling, and NDPS analysis. A guided laboratory tour and live demonstrations will offer hands-on insights into forensic procedures and technological advancements. Participants will also engage in interactive sessions with expert scientists to discuss current challenges, innovations, and collaborative opportunities in forensic science. The visit will conclude with closing remarks and discussions on future engagement, making it a fitting and enriching finale to the programme.

WHO MAY ATTEND:

This programme is specifically designed for faculty members, professionals, researchers, and research scholars from universities, colleges, and other educational institutions, as well as individuals working in related fields such as police officials. It aims to equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in a technology-driven academic environment. The programme is ideal for:

- Faculty members in academic institutions
- Research Scholars/Post-Doctoral Scholars
- Scientists working in forensic science and related disciplines
- Lawyers and Judges involved in legal proceedings requiring forensic expertise
- Professionals from Forensic Industry

Participants from these diverse backgrounds will gain a unique edge, enabling them to integrate cutting-edge forensic techniques and technology into their research, teaching, and professional practice.

OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The participants would be able to comprehend real time cases and assimilate research ideas to strengthen criminal justice system. To discuss recent advancements in forensic science education. To provide training in different instruments required for analysis of various physical evidence. To provide a platform for skill development and discussion on employability and entrepreneurship.

Learn recent advancements in use of technology to assist criminal justice system. Understand real time problems faced by forensic experts in dealing with different criminal cases. To empower forensic fraternity with enhancing skills for employability and entrepreneurship.

ELIGIBILITY FOR E-CERTIFICATION:

For being eligible for the e-certificate, the participants must fulfil the following conditions:

- ◆ 70% attendance in the programme is mandatory for all the registered participants.
- ◆ All the registered participants are required to fill up the feedback form, the link to the feedback form shall be shared towards the end of each session.
- ◆ A quiz will be conducted at the end of the course in which the participant needs to score a minimum of 50% marks.

MODE

Hybrid Mode

The Faculty Development Programme on Forensic Science will be conducted in a hybrid mode, offering participants the flexibility to attend either in person or virtually. This approach is designed to accommodate a wider range of faculty members from various institutions, ensuring greater accessibility and participation. The programme will feature expert-led sessions, hands-on demonstrations, and interactive discussions aimed at enhancing the knowledge and teaching skills of educators in the field of forensic science. Whether attending on-site or online, participants will receive the same high-quality content and opportunities for engagement.

REGISTRATION DETAILS AND FEES

The fee covers access to all sessions, resource materials, and certificates of participation. Payment can be made online through the specified payment gateway. Upon successful registration and payment, participants will receive a confirmation email with further instructions and session details. The registrations can be done through a Google Response Form. The last date for registration: **Registration Fees (Non-Refundable)** **Online Registration Details and Fees:**

Online Participants: ₹1500 only (Non-Refundable)

Other Participants: ₹3000 only (Non-Refundable)

**(Including the charges for Educational
Visit to State Forensic Science
Laboratory, Shimla)****

Registration link:

https://erphpnlu.in/anon_evForm.htm?ev=57

****excluding food and accommodation**

PATRON IN CHIEF

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia (Hon'ble Chief Justice,
High Court of Himachal Pradesh) The Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh
National Law University, Shimla

PATRONS

Prof. Priti Saxena, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh
National Law University, Shimla

Dr Meenakshi Mahajan, Director, Forensic Services, Himachal Pradesh

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