

Course Specification Student Version

Course Title:	Forensic medicine& toxicology
Course Code:	FMT407
Department:	Basic Medical Sciences
Program:	Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery
College:	Vision College in Riyadh
Institution:	Vision College in Riyadh
Revised:	July 2025



A. Course Identification

- 1. Credit hours: 3 (2+0+1)
- 2. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 7/Year 4
- **3.** Pre-requisites for this course (if any): HBO203 BAN203 GAD203 MBG203 BPC204 PDO204 HBT204 PDT204
- 4. Co-requisites for this course (if any): None

B. Teaching Methods

1	Lecture
2	Case-Based Tutorial

C. Course Description and Main objective







1. Course Description

The course is an introduction to Forensic Medicine, Postmortem pathology, and Toxicology. The students will be introduced to the legal and religious frames and codes of reference for common problems and improved their abilities and understanding towards these problems, professional and ethical aspects of Forensic Medicine, identification, cause, mechanism and manner of death, unexpected and natural death, Forensic Sciences, mechanical and physical trauma, and injury, drowning and toxicology. It helps them to recognize the principles of Forensic Medicine and general toxicology, besides modern techniques in forensic science laboratories. It also allows them to learn the basic autopsy techniques and how to write a full postmortem report. This will give them the chance to recognize the importance of the medical evidence and how to preserve it and maintain its continuity.

2. Course Main Objective

The overall objective of this course is to introduce the students to the legal and religious frames, general knowledge of forensic medicine and toxicology.

3. Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Explain the facts relevant to the risk and etiological factors, the clinical features of common medical issues such as ischemic, toxic, traumatic factors, injuries, and the way in which they affect the body
- Identify social problems such as toxin and poisoning, road traffic accidents, alcohol, illicit drugs, violence rape and child abuse
- Critically analyze clinical data obtained through investigation and autopsy findings
- Communicate medical information appropriate, using writing skills (medical, death reports)
- Collaborate with other colleagues during projects and group work showing respect for boundaries.
- Uphold Islamic, legal, and ethical principles in health-related to judiciary matters
- Demonstrate self-regulation, and self-reflection in interacting with colleagues.

D. Course Content

No	List of topics	
1	Introduction to legal issues& investigations	
2	Court procedures: Summons, conduct money, oath, affirmation, perjury, types of witnesses, recording of evidence, conduct of doctor in witness box	
3	Medical certification and medico-legal reports including dying declaration.	
4	Death: somatic, molecular and brain death and postmortem changes in eyes and cooling	
5	Postmortem staining & rigor mortis	
6	Decomposition, Mummification, adipocere formation	
7	Sudden death & Postmortem interval	



8	Violent asphyxia, general features, types and hanging	
9	Throttling strangulation	
10	Gagging, choking, drowning, traumatic and sexual asphyxia	
11	Mechanical trauma and mechanism of wound production, types of wounds and abrasions, Bruises, and lacerated wounds, Incised wounds, and stab injuries	
12	Characteristics of firearm wounds	
13	Head Injuries, Neck, chest, and abdominal injuries	
14	Traffic Injuries	
15	Burns, Scalds and electrical injuries	
16	Infanticide and child abuse	
17	Torture and Domestic abuse	
18	Pregnancy & delivery and abortion	
19	Classification of poisons, principles of poisoning and factors modifying poisons	
20	General management of poisoning	
21	Insecticides & Rodenticides	
22	Animal poisons	
23	Environmental & Occupational poisoning	
24	Over the counter drugs, food, and household poisoning	
25	Substance of abuse, addiction and Opium and its derivatives	
26	Identification	

E. Assessment tools

#	Assessment task	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Quizzes	10%
2	Assignment	10%
3	Midterm Exam	20%
4	Final OSPE	20 %
5	Final Written Exam	40 %
	Total	100%

F. Learning Resources

Required Textbook s	Simpson's Forensic Medicine, 13 th Edition, 2011, by Jason Payne-James, Richard Jones, Steven B Karch, and John Manlove (Author), ISBN-10: 0340986034	
Essential Referenc e Material	 linternational journal of forensic medicine& toxicology Forensic autopsy http://www.theapmla.net/files/PEX02 Forensic%20Autopsy%20Manual.opt.pdf 	





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Material

- https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/Digitization/44094NCJRS.pdf
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4E9YxLAmzlQ
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rBOTQEGmE3A
- https://www.medicinenet.com/autopsy/article.htm
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6490584/

