

Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Science (UPSIFS) is a premier educational and research institution established by the Government of Uttar Pradesh with the aim of producing highly skilled professionals in forensic sciences, law, cyber security, and related interdisciplinary domains. Strategically located in Lucknow, the capital city of Uttar Pradesh, UPSIFS occupies a 50-acre campus designed to international academic and research standards. The institute was officially inaugurated in March 2024 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, symbolizing the government's commitment to advancing justice through science and technology. Its establishment aligns with the broader national agenda of enhancing forensic capabilities to meet the growing demands of modern criminal justice systems.

UPSIFS operates under the academic affiliation of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), headquartered in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. NFSU is an Institute of National Importance functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. This affiliation ensures that UPSIFS adheres to globally benchmarked academic standards, enabling access to advanced curricula, research collaboration, and faculty development programs. All technical programs at UPSIFS are approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and all legal programs have the recognition of the Bar Council of India (BCI), ensuring professional credibility and eligibility for students in respective domains.

The academic philosophy of UPSIFS is encapsulated in its guiding principle of “Law with Labs”—a distinctive model that integrates theoretical legal education with practical, laboratory-based forensic science training. This approach is designed to create professionals who can seamlessly bridge the gap between the legal and scientific aspects of justice delivery, enabling them to interpret evidence with scientific precision and present it effectively in legal contexts. The institute's mission emphasizes fostering innovation, ethical practices, and social responsibility, producing graduates who are not only technically proficient but also deeply committed to truth and justice. Its vision is to emerge as a global leader in interdisciplinary education, research, innovation, capacity building, and skill development, contributing to justice, equity, security, and sustainable development.

The academic offerings at UPSIFS cover undergraduate, postgraduate, integrated, and specialized programs tailored to emerging industry needs and national priorities. Among its flagship programs is the Five-Year Integrated B.Sc.–M.Sc. in Forensic Science, introduced in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. This program is designed to nurture expertise from the

undergraduate level, ensuring graduates possess both breadth and depth in forensic disciplines.

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Other prominent programs include the M.Tech in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science with a specialization in Cyber Security (two years), which equips students to tackle challenges in digital crime prevention and cyber forensics; LL.M in Criminal Law & Criminal Justice Administration, admission to which requires qualification in PG CLAT; LL.M in Cyber Law & Cyber Crime Investigation, focusing on the complex interplay between technology and law; and the Postgraduate Program in DNA Forensics, a flagship course dedicated to advanced DNA evidence analysis and interpretation. The institute also offers a Five-Year Integrated B.Tech–M.Tech in Computer Science & Engineering (Cyber Security), blending technical expertise with investigative acumen.

In addition to these degree programs, UPSIFS offers short-term and advanced certification courses aimed at skill enhancement for professionals and students alike. For example, the Advanced Certificate Course in Cyber Threats, Digital Forensics, and Legal Response addresses the escalating threats in cyberspace and prepares participants to respond effectively with both technical and legal measures. Such programs reflect UPSIFS's responsiveness to contemporary challenges in crime and justice.

The institute actively fosters experiential learning through internships, field visits, and industry collaborations. The Internship Program 2025 provides students with opportunities to work alongside experts in forensic laboratories, law enforcement agencies, and judicial bodies, gaining practical exposure to the application of forensic science in live cases. Regular academic events further enhance learning and professional engagement. Notable among these is the Three-Day Summit on Cyber Warfare, Multilateral Legal Frameworks, and Strategic Countermeasures, which brings together policymakers, law enforcement officers, technologists, and academics to address pressing issues in cyber security. Another example is the essay competition on "Fair Trial and Scientific

Investigation”, held as part of the 75th Constitutional Day celebrations in 2024, encouraging students to critically engage with the intersection of law and science.

UPSIFS’s leadership plays a critical role in shaping its strategic direction and academic culture. The institute is led by Dr. G.K. Goswami, an accomplished police officer and scholar, serving as its Founder Director.

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A member of the Indian Police Service (IPS) since 1997, Dr. Goswami holds an M.Sc. in Chemistry, an LL.M., two Ph.D.s—one in Medicinal Chemistry and another in Law—and a D.Sc. in Forensic Sciences & Law. His second Ph.D., completed at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in 2018, explored the role of DNA profiling in enabling access to justice for victims of sexual offences. In 2020, he was awarded the D.Sc. by NFSU for his pioneering work on the role of forensics in strengthening child rights under the POCSO Act, 2012, becoming the first Indian to receive this honor.

Dr. Goswami’s professional career is distinguished by a blend of operational excellence and academic achievement. He has served as Chief of the Anti-Terror Squad (ATS), Uttar Pradesh, spent over seven years with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), and contributed to international law enforcement as an organized crime expert with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). His postings as District Police Chief in major cities such as Lucknow, Agra, Varanasi, NOIDA, Moradabad, and Etawah have given him practical insight into law enforcement challenges across diverse contexts.

He has been awarded the Police Medal for Gallantry three times by the President of India, the Police Medal for Meritorious Service, the Gold Medal for Gallantry by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, and the Kumarappa-Reckless Award by the Indian Society of Criminology in 2022. Academically, he has authored over forty research papers, contributed to multiple books, and is the author of Handbook of DNA Forensic Applications and Interpretation.

UPSIFS's infrastructure reflects its commitment to providing a world-class learning environment. Facilities include specialized laboratories for DNA analysis, cyber forensics, chemical examination, and artificial intelligence applications in crime analysis. Smart classrooms equipped with modern teaching aids, a comprehensive library with access to forensic journals and legal databases, seminar halls, and conference facilities support both teaching and research activities. Residential facilities, including student hostels and faculty quarters, ensure a conducive campus life.

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The institute also prioritizes outreach and collaboration. Partnerships with national and international institutions enable student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects, and access to specialized training programs abroad. Recruitment initiatives invite domain experts and guest faculty to contribute to its academic mission, ensuring students benefit from exposure to both theoretical foundations and current professional practices.

Milestones in UPSIFS's short history already demonstrate its trajectory toward becoming a leader in forensic education. The graduation of its first academic batch in July 2024 marked a significant achievement, while the launch of new programs in 2025 reflects its adaptability to emerging needs. Public events featuring dignitaries, including the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, underscore its importance as a hub for policy dialogue and public engagement in matters of justice and security.

UPSIFS's guiding principle of "Law with Labs" is more than a slogan—it is the structural core of its pedagogy. Students learn how to apply laboratory-derived evidence in the context of real legal cases, understanding both the science behind the evidence and the procedures required to present it effectively in court. This dual competency equips graduates to work effectively across multiple

sectors, including forensic laboratories, law enforcement, judicial services, corporate compliance, and private investigation.

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In keeping with its vision, UPSIFS invests heavily in research and innovation. Faculty members and students engage in projects addressing contemporary challenges such as digital evidence authentication, automated crime scene reconstruction, and the development of AI-based tools for evidence analysis. Through conferences, publications, and collaborations, the institute contributes to the global body of forensic knowledge.

Student life at UPSIFS is enriched by academic societies, technical clubs, and moot court competitions, encouraging leadership, teamwork, and professional networking. Annual events like the Forensic Science Fair and Cyber Crime Awareness Week bring together experts and students for knowledge exchange and skill demonstration.

Graduates from UPSIFS are expected to meet the rising demand for skilled professionals in forensic and legal sectors. Career pathways include positions in state and central forensic laboratories, police services, investigative agencies, the judiciary, corporate cybersecurity teams, and academia. By offering interdisciplinary training that spans science, technology, and law, UPSIFS ensures its alumni are adaptable and relevant in an evolving professional landscape.

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The institute's role extends beyond education—it actively supports the justice system of Uttar Pradesh and India by serving as a resource hub for expert analysis, policy recommendations, and specialized training for law enforcement and judiciary members. As it continues to grow, UPSIFS aims to establish itself as a global leader in forensic education and research, leveraging its affiliation with NFSU and its strong governance to expand academic offerings, enhance research capabilities, and build stronger industry partnerships.

By combining rigorous academic training, state-of-the-art facilities, experienced leadership, and a strong ethical foundation, UPSIFS positions itself at the forefront of efforts to integrate science with law. Its graduates are poised to play pivotal roles in advancing justice, equity, and security in India and globally, embodying the institute's mission to deliver “Law with Labs” in service of truth and justice.