THE FORENSIC CHEMISTRY SPECIALIZATION
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
WHY YOU NEED TO KNOW!
WHAT IS IT?
A Specialization is similar to a minor. To complete it, classes are taken in addition to courses for the major, requiring no additional time in the program, allowing the student to focus on an area of study. While many schools put together Forensic Science Majors, by bundling courses already available, graduates of these programs have a difficult time finding jobs because they had a few courses in a lot of areas but are not sufficiently trained in one area, such as Chemistry.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM-
This program is unique in the state, designed to train the student in chemical aspects of the field of Forensic Science. There is a general course, CHEM 360 Forensic Chemistry, and two Advanced Electives taught at the Senior level. To complete the program, two Criminal Justice courses are required as well. The degree you will receive will be a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry with a Forensic Chemistry Specialization. Having this unique set of courses will enhance your transcript, compared to those for thousands of other graduating seniors, if you are looking for a job or a graduate program. There are few undergraduate programs in the country that teach such courses.

IF YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM-
Forensic Chemistry is useful because it is an opportunity to see Chemistry being applied in a real world application. The CSI-type shows continue to be successful on television because people are becoming more interested in the sciences, and the use of science to solve problems. You don't need to take the complete suite of courses and complete the Specialization. You're invited to just take one! This will help you understand the field and determine if you have an interest in pursuing a career in this area. Many Chemistry majors take one of the advanced electives such as CHEM 472, Forensic Applications of Mass Spectrometry. Some are hired based on having this course - which is unusual to find in many graduate programs and unique in our undergraduate program.

IF YOU ARE JUST INTERESTED IN CHEMISTRY-
It is important to understand that the Specialization is here! It is an example of what the Department and College can do when there is a clear educational need in the student population. We hope to have other specializations in the future. The development of this specialization serves as a "footprint" from which others in the sciences can be developed.
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TCNJ -
This program is an example of the great things TCNJ can do. The program was created with federal assistance, to create a state-of-the-art forensic laboratory. This brought new equipment onto campus, that could be used for both teaching and research. It is a well-conceived plan, where professionals in the field assisted in course design, to make the students well-prepared for careers in the discipline. In the short time that it has existed, TCNJ is now clearly on the "Forensics Map", with our graduates going to graduate schools for advanced degrees in the Forensic Sciences, getting jobs in the Forensic Sciences, and even getting jobs in related areas, such as the Pharmaceutical Industry, because of the Forensic Specialization that they completed.

TCNJ offers all students the flexibility to pursue a major, a minor, specializations, even self-designed majors. This program shows that the options are real, are healthy, and being supported, even in this complex, changing economy.

TO LEARN MORE -
Check out our web sites at

www.tcnj.edu/~chem/
www.tcnj.edu/~csiewing/

CAREERS IN CHEMISTRY BEGIN AT TCNJ!