

# MASTER OF ARTS IN THE FIELD OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

The Forensic Psychology program offers two tracks: Applied Forensics, which prepares students for careers in law enforcement or homeland security; and Applied Psychology, which prepares students for careers as providers of direct services to clients in organizations such as correctional facilities and community action organizations and can serve as a springboard for clinical work at the doctoral level. Students are required to complete 250 hours of externship training, tailored to their professional interest. Day, evening and weekend classes are offered to accommodate both full-time students and working professionals.

Visit the program website (<https://forensicpsychology.columbian.gwu.edu>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

**Admission deadlines:** Fall - Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis beginning in January, with a final deadline of April 1 (February 1 for fellowship consideration).

Spring - Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis beginning in August, with a final deadline of October 1.

Applications submitted after the deadlines indicated above will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Standardized test scores:** GRE general test (institutional code 5246). Waived for applicants who hold a JD, MD, or PhD.

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:

- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 6.0 with no individual score below 5.0; or

- TOEFL: 550 on paper-based or 80 on Internet-based; or

- PTE Academic: 53

**Recommendations:** One (1) recommendation required.

**Prior academic records:**

Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

**Statement of purpose:** In an essay of 250-500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in forensic psychology. Include your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application.

**Additional requirements:** An interview is required for those applicants whose application is deemed by the faculty to indicate a high probability of success in the program. Applicants for whom a personal interview would create an undue hardship may request that the interview be conducted telephonically.

**Interview:** An interview is required.

**International applicants only:** Please follow this link - <https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants> (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/>) - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW.

**For more information on the admission process,** please visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<http://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate/admissions/faqs/>) page.

### Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Graduate Admissions Office

The George Washington University  
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 215  
Washington DC 20052

### Contact for questions:

[askccas@gwu.edu](mailto:askccas@gwu.edu) ~ 202-994-6210 (phone) ~ 202-994-6213 (fax)

8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday

# REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext>).

37 credits, including 25 credits in required courses, 12 credits in elective courses, and successful completion of a comprehensive examination.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
FORP 6101	Psychology and the Legal System I	
FORP 6102	Psychology and the Legal System II	
FORP 6103	Theories of Criminal Behavior	
FORP 6104	Psychopathology	
FORP 6105	Basics of Psychological Assessment	
FORP 6106	Ethics in Forensic Psychology	
FORP 6107	Research and Statistics	
FORP 6108	Consultation and Testimony	
FORP 6130	Practicum/Externship	

## Potential curriculum paths

### Applied forensics

Four of the following recommended elective courses:

FORP 6117 Interrogation and Interviewing

FORP 6118 Psychological Profiling

FORP 6119 Police Psychology

FORP 6120 Counterintelligence

FORP 6128 Terrorism and Counterterrorism

FORP 6129 Investigative Psychology

FORP 6150 Advanced Topics in Forensic Psychology

### Applied psychology

Four of the following recommended elective courses:

FORP 6109 Evaluation and Treatment of Offenders

FORP 6110 Forensic Psychological Assessment

FORP 6111 Evaluation and Treatment of Sex Offenders

FORP 6112 Substance Abuse Evaluation and Treatment

FORP 6113 Victimology

FORP 6115 Children and Adolescents in the Legal System

FORP 6131 Individuals with Mental Illness in the Legal System

FORP 6150 Advanced Topics in Forensic Psychology

## Other requirements

Successful completion of a master's comprehensive examination is required.