

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN THE FIELD OF CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

Increased proficiency in crime scene investigation is essential to all forensic sciences. GW's master of science in crime scene investigation program teaches the scientific knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to investigative work. Designed for investigators, detectives, lawyers, special agents, medicolegal death investigators, crime scene technicians, and aspiring forensic investigators, the program trains students in techniques used to document crime scenes and collect evidence. Students emerge from the program with skills in homicide investigation, forensic pathology, trace evidence analysis, crime scene photography, and examination of questioned documents, among other areas.

This is a STEM-designated program.

Visit the program website (<https://forensicsciences.columbian.gwu.edu/programs/ms-crime-scene-investigation/>) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Deadlines: Fall - February 1: Priority consideration for admission and funding; April 1: Guaranteed review for admission and consideration for funding, if available. (Applications for admission will continue to be accepted after April 1, when space remains available in the program.)

Spring - October 1

Standardized GRE not required.
test scores:

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 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or

- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or

- PTE Academic: 68

Applicants who do not meet minimum English language requirements may be eligible for our full-time Applied English Language program.

Recommendations: Two (2) recommendations required:

Prerequisite: A bachelor's degree from an accredited university with at least one semester in chemistry and one semester of biology or permission of the department.

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 your chosen field. 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.

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.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Graduate Studies
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/>) page.

Contact:

askccas@gwu.edu
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

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

36 credits, including 27 credits in required courses and 9 credits in elective courses, and successful completion of a master's comprehensive examination.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Required | | |
| FORS 6005 | Fundamentals of Forensic Science II | |
| FORS 6207 | Photography in the Forensic Sciences | |
| FORS 6215 | Science of Fingerprints | |
| FORS 6219 | Digital Image Processing | |
| FORS 6224 | Criminal Law for Forensic Scientists | |
| FORS 6251 | Crime Scene Investigation I | |
| FORS 6252 | Crime Scene Investigation II | |
| FORS 6256 | Forensic Pathology | |
| FORS 6257 | Medicolegal Death Investigation | |

Electives

9 credits selected in consultation with the departmental advisor.
Suggested electives include:

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------|--|
| FORS 6010 | Bloodstain Pattern Analysis I | |
| FORS 6203 | Examination of Questioned Documents | |
| FORS 6204 | Firearms and Toolmark Identification | |
| FORS 6255 | Investigation of Child Abuse | |
| FORS 6290 | Selected Topics (Crime Scene Investigation III) | |

Other requirements

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