



# Program Approval Form

For approval of new programs and deletions or modifications to an existing program.

### Action Requested:

- Create New (SCHEV approval required except for minors)
- Inactivate Existing
- Modify Existing (check **ALL** that apply)
  - Title (SCHEV approval required except for minors)
  - Concentration** (Choose one):  Add  Delete  Modify
  - Degree Requirements
  - Admission Standards/ Application Requirements
  - Other Changes: \_\_\_\_\_

### Type (Check one):

- B.A.  B.S.  Minor (req. C3 approval)
- M.A.  M.S.  M.Ed.
- Ph.D.
- Undergraduate Certificate\* (req. C3 approval)
- Graduate Certificate\*
- Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's  Other:

**College/School:**  **Department:**   
**Submitted by:**  **Ext:**  **Email:**

**Effective Term:** Fall  **Please note:** For students to be admitted to a new degree, minor, certificate or concentration, the program must be fully approved, entered into Banner, and published in the University Catalog.

### Justification: (attach separate document if necessary)

**Program Title:** (Required)  
Title must identify subject matter. Do not include name of college/school/dept.

### Concentration(s):

**Admissions Standards / Application Requirements:** (Required only if different from those listed in the University Catalog)

**Degree Requirements:**  
Consult University Catalog for models, attach separate document if necessary using track changes for modifications

**Courses offered via distance:**  
(if applicable)

**TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED:**

Existing	New/Modified
Forensic Science, MS	
None	Crime Scene Investigation Forensic Biology Analysis Forensic Chemistry Analysis Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis
BA or BS degree in a related field	Forensic Biology Analysis and Forensic Chemistry Analysis Concentrations, a Bachelor's of Science Degree in a forensic or natural science, computer science, computer electronic or electrical engineering, information systems or information technology (or its equivalent coursework in a relevant field).  Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis Concentration, a Bachelor's of Science or Bachelor's of Arts Degree in a forensic or natural science, computer science, computer electronic or electrical engineering, information systems or information technology (or its equivalent coursework in a relevant field).  Crime Scene Investigation Concentration: BA or BS degree in a related field.
1. Forensics Electives (12 credits) options including SOCI 607 and BIOL 510	1. Forensics Electives (12 credits) excluding SOCI 607 and BIOL 510 as options 2. See details on each concentration in the attached pages below.
33 credits	36 credits

\*For Certificates Only: Indicate whether students are able to pursue on a  Full-time basis  Part-time basis

## Approval Signatures

Department \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ College/School \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Provost's Office \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
*Required for Minors and Interdisciplinary Programs*

If this program may impact another unit or is in collaboration with another unit at Mason, the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date
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**For Minors and UG Certificates only (Cross-College Curriculum Committee Approval)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
C3 Committee Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
C3 Committee Approval Date

**For Graduate Programs Only**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Council Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provost Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Council Approval Date

**For Registrar Office's Use Only:** Received \_\_\_\_\_ Banner \_\_\_\_\_ Catalog \_\_\_\_\_ revised 7/1/15

**Program Proposal Submitted to the College of Science Curriculum Committee (COSCC)**

The form above is processed by the Office of the University Registrar. This second page is for the COSCC's reference. Please complete the applicable portions of this page to clearly communicate what the form above is requesting.

**FOR ALL PROGRAMS (required)**

Program Title: Forensic Science, MS

Date of Departmental Approval: 11/23/15

**FOR INACTIVATED PROGRAMS (required if inactivating a program)**

- Reason for Inactivation:

**FOR MODIFIED PROGRAMS (required if modifying a program)**

- Summary of the Modification: Adding concentrations to the MS degree. Students must choose a concentration upon admission into the program.
- Text before Modification (title, degree requirements, etc.): Concentrations weren't available.
- Text after Modification (title, degree requirements, etc.): See details on each concentration in the attached pages below.
- Reason for the Modification: As the Forensic Science MS is currently configured, all graduate students are required to take 17 credit hours of the same core courses, 12 credit hours of various elective courses and all MS students must complete a 4.0 credit hour research project. The students who have been and continue to be enrolled in the Forensic Science MS Program have a wide range of undergraduate degrees ranging from criminology (with no/few basic science courses) to undergraduate biology and chemistry majors.

In addition to the wide range of undergraduate degrees possessed by the students enrolled in the Forensic Science MS program, the career goals of the MS students also vary widely. Many of the MS students without an undergraduate degree in one of the basic sciences wish to pursue a career as a law enforcement officer or a crime scene investigator. The students in the Forensic Science MS degree program with undergraduate degrees in a basic science mainly wish to pursue a career working in a crime laboratory as a scientific analyst. In addition, there is a growing need in the law enforcement, defense and homeland security agencies for individuals who have been trained to analyze forensic/biometric data from fingerprints, DNA and photos/videos and provide the identification of an individual based upon their analysis of the forensic/biometric data.

Therefore, in order to appropriately build upon the varied undergraduate degrees of the students enrolled in the Forensic Science MS program, better prepare them for work in their desired career and address the emerging need in the law enforcement, defense and homeland security agencies

for individuals who have been trained in forensic/biometric identity analysis, it is necessary to create four separate concentrations in the Forensic Science MS Program. The four program concentrations are listed below:

- Crime Scene Investigation
  - Forensic Biology Analysis
  - Forensic Chemistry Analysis
  - Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis
- Finally, the GMU Forensic Science Program will be submitting an application for accreditation with the Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC). The changes included in the newly-created concentrations for Forensic Science MS Program will facilitate attaining FEPAC accreditation.
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## GMU Masters of Forensic Science Core Course Concentrations

### Required Pre-Requisites:

- For the Forensic Biology Analysis and Forensic Chemistry Analysis Concentrations, a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in a forensic or natural science, computer science, computer electronic or electrical engineering, information systems or information technology (or its equivalent coursework in a relevant field).
- For the Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis Concentration, a Bachelor’s of Science or Bachelor’s of Arts Degree in a forensic or natural science, computer science, computer electronic or electrical engineering, information systems or information technology (or its equivalent coursework in a relevant field).
- For the Crime Scene Investigation Concentration, a Bachelors’ of Science or Bachelor’s of Arts Degree in a related field.

### Concentration Selection: (Courses listed in red below are new courses)

Students must declare their intended concentration upon application. In the event that a student wishes to change their concentration, students may request to change their concentration by submitting a letter to the Forensic Science Program Director detailing the request and justification. These requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and only when the appropriate admissions requirements are met. However, if a student chooses to change concentrations, course substitutions/waivers will not be accepted.

	<b>Original Program</b>	<b>Crime Scene Investigation</b> Education for a career as a Crime Scene Investigator	<b>Forensic Biology Analysis</b> Education for a career as a Forensic Biology Laboratory Analyst	<b>Forensic Chemistry Analysis</b> Education for a career as a Forensic Chemistry Laboratory Analyst	<b>Forensic/Biometric Identity Analysis</b> Education for a career as an Identity Intelligence Analyst
<b>Core Courses</b>	<a href="#">FRSC 500 -Introduction to Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 510 - Basic Crime Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 530 – Law and Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 570 - Introduction to Biochemical Forensics</a>	<a href="#">FRSC 500 -Introduction to Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 510 - Basic Crime Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 511 - Advanced Crime Scene Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 530 – Law and Forensic Science</a> Credits:	<a href="#">FRSC 500 - Introduction to Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 510 - Basic Crime Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 512 - Physical Evidence Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 530 – Law and Forensic Science</a> Credits:	<a href="#">FRSC 500 - Introduction to Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 510 - Basic Crime Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 512 - Physical Evidence Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 530 – Law and Forensic Science</a> Credits:	<a href="#">FRSC 500 - Introduction to Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 510 - Basic Crime Analysis</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 530 – Law and Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 560 - Forensic DNA Sciences</a> Credits: 3

	<p>Credits: 3 Or <a href="#">FRSC 540 - Forensic Chemistry</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1 (taken 2 times)</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 690 - Forensic Capstone Course</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 610 - Forensic Research Project</a> Credits: 1-3 (4 Total)</p>	3	<p><a href="#">FRSC 513 - Forensic Photography</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 570 - Introduction to Biochemical Forensics</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 600 – Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 690 - Forensic Capstone Course</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 610 - Forensic Research Project</a> Credits: 1-3 (4 Total)</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 590 – Medicolegal Death Investigation / Pathology</a> Credits: 3</p>	3	<p><a href="#">FRSC 540 - Forensic Chemistry</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 560 - Forensic DNA Sciences</a> Credits: 3 and <a href="#">FRSC 561 – Forensic DNA Laboratory</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 570 - Introduction to Biochemical Forensics</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 610 - Forensic Research Project</a> Credits: 1-3 (4 Total)</p>	3	<p><a href="#">FRSC 540 - Forensic Chemistry</a> Credits: 3 and <a href="#">FRSC 541 – Forensic Chemistry Laboratory</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 560 - Forensic DNA Sciences</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 570 - Introduction to Biochemical Forensics</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 520 - Forensic Toxicology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 610 - Forensic Research Project</a> Credits: 1-3 (4 Total)</p>	<p><a href="#">FRSC 620 – Face and Biometric Pattern Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 630 – Fingerprint Identification</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 640 – Legal/Privacy/Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 650 – Identity Analysis Applications</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 600 – Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 610 - Forensic Research Project</a> Credits: 1-3 (4 Total)</p> <p><a href="#">AIT 675 - Overview of the National Intelligence Community</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">AIT 678 – National Security Challenges</a> Credits: 3</p>
<b>Total Core</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>			
<b>Elective Courses</b>	<a href="#">FRSC 511 - Advanced Crime Scene Analysis</a> Credits: 3	<a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1	<a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1	<a href="#">FRSC 600 - Forensic Seminar</a> Credits: 1	<a href="#">FRSC 511 - Advanced Crime Scene Analysis</a> Credits: 3			

<p><a href="#">FRSC 512 - Physical Evidence Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 513 - Forensic Photography</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 515 – Selected Topics in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 520 - Forensic Toxicology</a></p> <p>Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 550 - Issues in Forensic Anthropology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 560 - Forensic DNA Sciences</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 580 – Facial Reconstruction</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 790 - Internship in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 1-3</p> <p><a href="#">BIOL 510 - Forensic DNA Analysis Laboratory</a> Credits: 1</p> <p><a href="#">SOCL 607 - Criminology</a></p>	<p><a href="#">FRSC 512 - Physical Evidence Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 550 - Issues in Forensic Anthropology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 580 – Facial Reconstruction</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 790 - Internship in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 1-3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 620– Face and Biometric Pattern Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 630– Fingerprint Identification</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 640 – Legal/Privacy/Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 515 – Selected Topics in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 520 - Forensic Toxicology</a> Credits: 3</p>	<p><a href="#">FRSC 511 - Advanced Crime Scene Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 550 - Issues in Forensic Anthropology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 580 – Facial Reconstruction</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 790 - Internship in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 1-3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 690 - Forensic Capstone Course</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 590 – Medicolegal Death Investigation / Pathology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 620 – Face and Biometric Pattern Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 630 – Fingerprint Identification</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 640 – Legal/Privacy/Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p>	<p><a href="#">FRSC 511 - Advanced Crime Scene Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 550 - Issues in Forensic Anthropology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 580 – Facial Reconstruction</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 790 - Internship in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 1-3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 690 - Forensic Capstone Course</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 590– Medicolegal Death Investigation / Pathology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 620 – Face and Biometric Pattern Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 630 – Fingerprint Identification</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 640 – Legal/Privacy/Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p>	<p><a href="#">FRSC 550 - Issues in Forensic Anthropology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 512 - Physical Evidence Analysis</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 790 - Internship in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 1-3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 690 - Forensic Capstone Course</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 590 – Medicolegal Death Investigation / Pathology</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 570 - Introduction to Biochemical Forensics</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 513 - Forensic Photography</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 515 – Selected Topics in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3</p> <p><a href="#">FRSC 517 - Questioned Document Examination</a> Credits: 3</p>
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	Credits: 3	<a href="#">FRSC 517 – Questioned Document Examination</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 540 - Forensic Chemistry</a> Credits: 3 and <a href="#">FRSC 541 – Forensic Chemistry Laboratory</a> Credits: 1  <a href="#">FRSC 560 - Forensic DNA Sciences</a> Credits: 3 and <a href="#">FRSC 561 – Forensic DNA Laboratory</a> –Credits: 1  <a href="#">FRSC 650 –Identity Analysis Applications</a> Credits: 1	<a href="#">FRSC 515 – Selected Topics in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">CHEM 563 – General Biochemistry</a> Credits: 4  <a href="#">FRSC 517 – Questioned Document Examination</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 650 –Identity Analysis Applications</a> Credits: 1  <a href="#">BIOL 574 – Population Genetics</a> Credits: 4 (Course not currently being offered by BIOL)	<a href="#">CHEM 563 – General Biochemistry I</a> Credits: 4  <a href="#">CHEM 564 – General Biochemistry II</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 515 – Selected Topics in Forensic Science</a> Credits: 3 <a href="#">CHEM 624 – Principles of Chemical Separation</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 517 – Questioned Document Examination</a> Credits: 3  <a href="#">FRSC 650 –Identity Analysis Applications</a> Credits: 1	
<b>Total Elective</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>