

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 03/21/23 10:18 am

Viewing: **SC-CERG-FORS : Forensics Graduate Certificate**

Last approved: 05/26/22 12:54 pm

Last edit: 03/21/23 10:18 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages

Using this Program

[Forensics Graduate Certificate](#)

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

Yes

Requestor:

In Workflow

1. **FRSC Chair**
2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
3. SC Associate Dean
4. Assoc Provost-Graduate
5. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

1. 03/23/23 1:44 pm
Kimberly Rule
(kcarisi): Approved for FRSC Chair

History

1. Nov 8, 2017 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Feb 26, 2018 by rzachari
3. Feb 23, 2021 by jriemen
4. Mar 8, 2021 by Tori Blocker (vblocke)
5. Apr 8, 2022 by Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz)
6. May 26, 2022 by Tory Sarro (vsarro)

Name	Extension	Email
Kimberly Rule	5338	kcarisi

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Certificate
Degree Type: Graduate Certificate
Title: Forensics Graduate Certificate
Banner Title: Forensic Science Grad Cert

Is this a retitling of an existing

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Status Approved

Registrar’s Office Use Only – Program Start Term Fall 2018

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SCHEV Letter

Registrar/OAPI Use Only – SACSCOC Status

Concentration(s):

	Associated Concentrations	Registrar's Office Use Only: Concentration Code
1	Crime Scene Investigation	CSCN
2	Forensic Biometric Identity Analysis	FRBI
3	General Forensic Science	FRSG

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Forensic Science Program

Jointly Owned Program? No

Justification

What: Modify wording for International Student applicants and direct Certificate students to an advisor if they have questions regarding continuing in the MS degree.

Why: Update the International Student requirements for better clarity. Directing Certificate

students to an advisor since the webpage listed does not provide adequate clarity and is best handled via advising.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits

Total credits: 18

Required:

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code:

SC-CERG-FORS

Registrar/IRR Use

Only – Program CIP

Code

Admission

Requirements:

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the [Graduate Admissions Policies](#) section of this catalog.

Applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent with a minimum GPA of 3.00.

To apply for this certificate, prospective students should submit:

- A completed [George Mason University Admissions Application](#),
- Official transcripts from all institutions attended,
- Two letters of recommendation from academic references or references in the industry or government who are familiar with the applicant's academic and/or professional accomplishments,
- A detailed goal statement to include why the applicant is interested in applying to this certificate, their career and professional goals, and their educational aspirations, and
- A current résumé.

In addition to the general admission requirements, international students and students having earned international degrees should also refer to [Admission of International Students and International Application Procedures](#) for additional requirements. Non-native English-speaking applicants are required to meet the university's [English Language Proficiency Requirements](#).

~~TOEFL scores are required of all international applicants who do not hold at least a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited by a Mason-recognized U.S. institutional accrediting agency or international equivalent.~~ Pursuing the Forensic Science, MS

Students who wish to continue their studies may apply to the [Forensic Science, MS](#); **please contact an advisor for details.** :

~~Please see AP.6.9 Requirements for Master's Degrees and contact an advisor for details.~~

**Program-Specific
Policies:**

Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see [AP.6 Graduate Policies](#).

Premium Tuition

Students enrolled in this professional program are charged at a differential (premium) tuition rate. Therefore, any courses or secondary programs that they may enroll in are subject to the differential tuition rate. The [Forensic Science, MS](#) has the same premium tuition rate, making it the ideal program for concurrent enrollment (if desired).

Degree Requirements:

This certificate may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

Students should refer to the [Admissions & Policies](#) tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must complete all core courses and select one concentration.

Forensic Core Courses

FRSC 500	Introduction to Forensic Science	3
FRSC 510	Basic Crime Analysis	3
Total Credits		6

Concentration in Crime Scene Investigation (CSCN)

Choose 12 credits from the following: 12

FRSC 511	Advanced Crime Scene Analysis	
FRSC 513	Forensic Photography	
FRSC 530	Law and Forensic Science	
FRSC 550	Issues in Forensic Anthropology	
FRSC 590	Medicolegal Death Investigation and Pathology	
FRSC 690	Capstone - Moot Court Expert Testimony	
Total Credits		12

Concentration in Forensic Biometric Identity Analysis (FRBI)

FRSC 514	Survey of Forensic Chemistry, Biology, and DNA Analysis	3
FRSC 620	Face and Biometric Pattern Analysis	3
FRSC 630	Fingerprint Identification	3
FRSC 640	Legal, Privacy and Ethical Issues in Identity Analysis	3
Total Credits		12

Concentration in General Forensic Science (FRSG)

Choose 12 credits from the following:

12

- [FRSC 514](#) Survey of Forensic Chemistry, Biology, and DNA Analysis
- [FRSC 517](#) Questioned Document Examination
- [FRSC 520](#) Toxicology
- [FRSC 530](#) Law and Forensic Science
- [FRSC 570](#) Trace and Physical Evidence Concepts
- [FRSC 580](#) Facial Reconstruction
- [FRSC 630](#) Fingerprint Identification
- [FRSC 690](#) Capstone - Moot Court Expert Testimony

Total Credits

12

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study:

Honors
 Accelerated
 INTO-1
 College
 Department
 Academic

Program Outcomes

Additional Program Information

This information is required by the Office of Accreditation and Program Integrity.

Courses offered via distance (if applicable):

Indicate whether students are able to pursue on a: Both Full and Part-time basis

What is the primary delivery format for the program? Face-to-Face Only

Does any portion of this program occur off-campus? Yes

Off-campus details:

The following courses are taught off site:

- 1. FRSC 520, 3 credits
- 2. FRSC 590, 3 credits

Are you working with a vendor / other collaborators to offer your program?

Yes

Please explain:

The off site courses are taught at the Virginia Department of Forensic Science Laboratory.

**Related
Departments**

Could this program prepare students for any type of professional licensure, in Virginia or elsewhere?

No

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

*Is this a new program?
Is this a new course?
Is this a new program?
Which existing approved program?
Is this a re-opening of a program?
Date of Program Closure
What are the methods of delivery?
Does this program include a*

Is this change a simple retitling of an existing program, with no other changes, to any existing program content, curriculum requirements, etc?

No

Does this change represent a repackaging of content in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral)?

No

Which existing approved program?
Percentage of total credits containing new course content. ("New course content" is defined by SACSCOC as content that is not currently included in an existing approved degree/certificate program at the same instructional level. Do not exclude gen ed credits in calculations for undergraduate programs.)

0%-24%

Does this change include the addition of a distance education or face-to-face method of delivery for this program?

No

What is the new method of delivery?
Does this change include the addition of a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

No

Will any additional equipment/facilities be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional faculty be required?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Will any additional financial resources be needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

Additional library/learning resources needed?

No

Description of institutional impact:

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf program? No

Green Leaf

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one

Relationship to

Relationship to

List sustainability-focused courses

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least

List sustainability-related courses

currently required

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Impacted

Additional Attachments

[GCForensics.pdf](#)

SCHEV Proposal
Executive Summary

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eshtml%

Attached

Key: 192