

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/23/24 4:15 pm

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

Last approved: 04/24/23 9:07 pm

Last edit: 03/01/24 9:41 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages
Using this Program

[Forensics Graduate Certificate](#)

No Longer 2024-2025

Anticipated closure
date (i.e., calendar

Rationale for

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

No

Effective Catalog:
2024-2025

Program Level: Graduate

Program Type: Certificate

Degree Type: Graduate Certificate

Title: Forensics Graduate Certificate

Approval Criteria

1. What was the process used within your academic
2. Who was involved in approving the badge?
3. What evidence was used to identify need/demand
4. Please attest to the following statements regarding your badge:
 - a. Have you ensured there are no other existing badges
 - b. Has CPE confirmed the proposed badge does not
 - c. Has the instructor(s) for this badge experience been
 - d. Is there a contact hour minimum?
 - e. Is an assessment required?
 - f. Does this badge provide a benefit for current or
5. Is this badge co-sponsored with another organization, association, or unit? (If you would like an

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 02/24/24 6:21 pm
Mary O'Toole
(motoole2):
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)
7. Apr 24, 2023 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)

Earning Criteria

Course:
Badge:
Participant:
Payment:
Portfolio:
Presentation:
Assessment:
Credential:
Education

Other:
Project:
Professional

Schedule/Registration:
Volunteer:

Skills Tag

Skills Tag

Badge Attributes

Please select one from each category:

Achievement Type:
Mastery Level:
Time Commitment:
Cost:
Industry Standards:
Recommendations:

Issuance information and Pricing

Pricing: See https://cpe.amu.edu/digitalbadgenpricing/ for more information.

Estimated Number of Badges Expected to be Issued:

Notes:

- All badge requests will be routed to CPE for review and approval. Please allow 7 business days for processing. A draft badge template and design will be provided
• A Mason Digital Credentials Advisory Group may be developed to review badge development on an annual basis to determine which badges are underutilized and may need to be archived. Earners for any archived badges will always retain
• To view examples of all active badges at Mason, please see:

Banner Title: Forensic Science Grad Cert

Is this a retitling of an existing program?

Existing Program

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

INTO Major(s):

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Concentration CIP Code

College/School: College of Science

Department / Academic Unit: Forensic Science Program

Jointly Owned Program? No

Participating

Participating

Justification

What: Referring applicants to central admissions language and removing extraneous wording.
 Why: To make the program more adaptable to changes in university policies.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 18

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. ~~International~~ ~~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 Students Application Procedures for additional requirements.~~

Eligibility

Applicants should hold a ~~bachelor's~~ ~~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.

Application Requirements

To apply for this certificate, prospective students should [submit the George Mason University Admissions Application and its required supplemental documentation, and: 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, and
 - 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. ~~aspirations, and~~
- The GRE is not required for admission into this program.

~~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.~~ 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.

Program-Specific
Policies:

Policies

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

Transferring Previous Graduate Credit into this Certificate

Previously earned and relevant graduate credits may be eligible for transfer into this certificate; details can be found in the Credit by Exam or Transfer section of this catalog.

Premium Tuition

Students enrolled in this professional [certificate program](#) are charged at a differential (premium) tuition rate. Therefore, any courses or secondary programs that [students](#) ~~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 [certificate 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
Information:**

**Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree
Description:**

**INTO-Mason
Requirements:**

**College
Requirements &
Policies:**

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Policies:

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

Please explain:

Are you adding or removing a licensure component?

No

Please explain:

Additional SCHEV & SACSCOC Information

Is the content of the new program closely related to that of an existing approved program at the same instructional level (i.e., baccalaureate, master's, doctoral)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "advancing the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at lower degree level, new content is at the higher degree level)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this new program considered to be "lowering the degree level of a currently approved program" (i.e. existing content is at higher degree level, new content is at the lower degree level)?

Which existing approved program(s)?

Is this a re-opening of a program that was closed to admission within the last five years?

Date of Program Closure

What are the methods of delivery for the program?

Does this program include a course/credit-based competency-based education delivery option?

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(s)?

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 Designation

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated substance equivalent to a sustainability focused course.

Relationship to Existing Courses

Relationship to Existing Programs

List sustainability-focused courses

currently required

Sustainability-related academic programs either require at least one sustainability-related course or else offer any green leaf course as an option or elective *

List sustainability-related courses currently required in the degree

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Impacted Departments

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 Document [%attach_document.eshtml%](#)