FORENSIC INVESTIGATIONS (MASTER OF APPLIED SCIENCE, M.A.S.)

Overview

Dr. Monty Smith, Program Director
msmith84@missouriwestern.edu
(816) 271-4434
missouriwestern.edu/criminal-justice-legal-studies/forensic-investigation/ (https://www.missouriwestern.edu/criminal-justice-legal-studies/forensic-investigation/)

The Master of Applied Science Forensic Investigations degree is designed to expose the student to broad based forensic investigations, to provide advanced training in crime scene investigation, evidence evaluation, collection and documentation, case management, data analysis, critical thinking, and professional writing. Students are challenged in an academic setting as well as practical application of skills required to process crime scenes, collect evidence, and analyze various types of evidence to understand the sequence of events at a crime scene.

The Master of Applied Science Forensic Investigations program will prepare the student for careers as crime scene investigators, crime laboratory personnel, police detectives, evidence technicians, and other fields related to forensic investigations. The Master of Applied Science Forensic Investigations program will also benefit those currently employed in law enforcement or forensic fields by improving their knowledge and skills necessary to perform their duties and prepare them for professional advancement.

Admission
Admission Requirements

- Submission of application for admission to the MWSU Graduate School.
- Completion of a B.A. or B.S. degree in any discipline from an accredited college or university.
- Minimum overall G.P.A. of 2.75.
- Completion of a 300 or 400 level undergraduate research course with a grade of C or higher as approved by the Program Director.
- Personal Statement describing how the Forensic Investigations degree will further their career goals.
- Two letters of reference; one from an academic source and another from an employer.
- Application reviewed and approved by the MAS Forensic Investigations Admissions Committee.

Requirements

Students who are accepted to this degree program will have no more than 6 years from admission or subsequent declaration to meet the requirements listed below. If certification, accreditation or statutory requirements change and additional requirements become effective during this time, the new requirements take precedence.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirements		
CRJ 500	Death Investigation	3
CRJ 560	Administration, Planning, and Ethics	3
CRJ 570	Criminal Investigative Methods	3
CRJ 600	Criminal Law, Evidence and Legal Procedures	3
CRJ 610	Courtroom Testimony and Procedure	3
CRJ 695	Forensic Capstone	2
Restricted Electives		
Select fifteen credit hours from the following courses (at least nine credit hours must be 600 level)		15
ACC 613	Forensic Accounting	
ACC 623	Auditing for Fraud	
CRJ 504	Crime Scene Investigation	
CRJ 510	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis in Violent Crimes	
CRJ 525	Forensic Anthropology for Law Enforcement	
CRJ 530	Human Remains: Search, Recovery, and Identification	
CRJ 540	Forensic Entomology	
CRJ 550	Profiling and Behavioral Analysis	
CRJ 596-599: Special Topics		
CRJ 615	Forensic Photography and Crime Scene Investigation	
CRJ 620	Analysis of Biological Evidence	
CRJ 630	Analysis of Physical Evidence	
CRJ 635	Internet Commerce Fraud and Investigation	
CRJ 640	Computer Forensics	
CRJ 645	Forensic Interviewing	
CRJ 650	Advanced Research Methods	
CRJ 670	Graduate Internship	
CRJ 680	Research and Publication	
CRJ 696-699: Special Topics		
Total Credit Hours		**32**

Program Graduation Requirement

1. Earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.0, with no more than 6 credit hours of C in all required coursework.

University Graduation Requirements

1. Satisfactorily complete all required coursework in the program;
2. Earn a minimum of 30 credit hours;
3. Satisfactorily complete the required capstone experience.