FORENSIC SCIENCE, BS

Banner Code: SC-BS-FRSC

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The Bachelor of Science, Forensic Science degree is a general forensic science degree that covers various fields within forensic science including field and laboratory applications. These topics include areas such as, crime scene investigation, forensic DNA, forensic chemistry, trace evidence, firearms examination, questioned document, fingerprints, arson, and drug analysis.

This degree is intended to provide students with a well-rounded, hands-on forensic science education in order to prepare students for entrance into a graduate level educational program, and/or entry-level professional careers in public and private forensic laboratories, federal, state, or local government/law enforcement, defense, homeland security and intelligence agencies.

Unique features of this program include innovative curriculum that offers hands-on training within crime scene techniques and crime laboratory methodologies, an outdoor forensic excavation research and training facility, and courses taught by professional and distinguished faculty from various forensic agencies and laboratories.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Undergraduate Admissions Policies section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application (https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now).

Policies

Students must fulfill all Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees, including the Mason Core.

FRSC 302 Forensic Trace Analysis **and** FRSC 304 Forensic Chemistry will satisfy the writing intensive requirement.

For policies governing all undergraduate programs, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students majoring in forensic science must complete their coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.30. No more than three courses with a grade of 'D' (1.00) may be applied to the major.

Students are advised to be aware of prerequisites that may be required for each course in the curriculum.

Forensic Science Core Courses

FRSC 200	Survey of Forensic Science	3
FRSC 201	Introduction to Criminalistics	3
FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis [1]	3
FRSC 303	Forensic Evidence and Ethics	3
FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry [1]	3
FRSC 401	Crime Scene Investigations	3
FRSC 405	Independent Research Methods	3
or FRSC 406	Forensic Intership	
FRSC 460	Forensic DNA Sciences	3
FRSC 499	Comprehensive Examination	0
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice (Mason Core)	3
Total Credits		27

[1] FRSC 302 Forensic Trace Analysis **and** FRSC 304 Forensic Chemistry will satisfy this major's writing-intensive requirement.

Natural Science Core Courses

BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)	4
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	3-4
or STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	
BIOL 311	General Genetics	4
BIOL 430	Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
CHEM 211 & CHEM 213	General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 212 & CHEM 214	General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)	4
CHEM 313	Organic Chemistry I	3
CHEM 314	Organic Chemistry II	3
CHEM 315	Organic Chemistry Lab I	2
CHEM 318	Organic Chemistry Lab II	2
MATH 113	Analytic Geometry and Calculus I (Mason Core) (Quantitative Reasoning course)	4
PHYS 243	College Physics (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 244	College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	1
PHYS 245	College Physics (Mason Core)	3
PHYS 246	College Physics Lab (Mason Core)	1
Total Credits		45-46

Additional Courses

Select 14 credits from the following:		14
BINF 401	Bioinformatics and Computational Biology I	
BINF 402	Bioinformatics and Computational Biology II	
BIOL 305	Biology of Microorganisms	
BIOL 306	Biology of Microorganisms Laboratory	
BIOL 404	Medical Microbiology	
BIOL 405	Microbial Genetics	
BIOL 431	Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology II	
BIOL 452	Immunology	
BIOL 453	Immunology Laboratory	
BIOL 482	Introduction to Molecular Genetics	
CHEM 321	Quantitative Chemical Analysis	
CHEM 331	Physical Chemistry I	
CHEM 332	Physical Chemistry II	
CHEM 336	Physical Chemistry Lab I	
CHEM 337	Physical Chemistry Lab II	
CHEM 422	Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis	
CHEM 423	Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis Laboratory	
CHEM 427	Aquatic Environmental Chemistry	
CHEM 441	Properties and Bonding of Inorganic Compounds	
CHEM 446	Bioinorganic Chemistry	
CHEM 463	General Biochemistry I	
CHEM 464	General Biochemistry II	
CHEM 465	Biochemistry Lab	
Total Credits		14

Mason Core and Electives

In order to meet a minimum of 120 credits, this degree requires an additional 33-34 credits, which may be applied toward any remaining Mason Core requirements, Requirements for Bachelor's Degrees, and elective courses. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with their advisors to ensure that they fulfill all requirements.

Mason Core

Note: Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
Written Communication		6
Oral Communication		3
Quantitative Reasoning		3
Information Technology		3-7
Core Requirements		
Arts		3
Global Understanding		3
Literature		3
Natural Science		7
Social and Behavioral Sciences		3
Western Civilization/World History		3
Synthesis/Capstone Requirement [1]		
Synthesis/Capstone		3
Total Credits		40

[1] minimum 3 credits