Forensic Science, PSM

Ready to advance your career in forensic science, law enforcement, medicolegal or other closely related fields? This degree provides you with a pathway to develop new competencies in supervision and management in forensic science and related fields.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PSM Forensic Science
The PSM program in forensic science readies students for career advancement by providing them with greater educational depth and breadth in the forensic sciences, and through the development of new competencies related to laboratory supervision. This includes an understanding of how to work with regulatory bodies that provide the framework for oversight in forensic laboratories, consistent with the guiding principles of the National Professional Science Master's Association.

Students develop deeper scientific inquiry skills in biology, chemistry, genetics and related topics, as well as critical laboratory leadership skill sets.

Successful graduates are armed with the tools and experiences required for administrative and other advancement opportunities both within and beyond the forensic science laboratory, in both governmental and private sectors.

At a Glance

- College/School: New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- Location: online

Degree Requirements
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (FOR 593)

**Required Core (9 credit hours)**
FOR 525 Forensic Science and Governance (3)
FOR 550 Ethics in Forensic Science (3)
FOR 565 Laboratory Leadership, Policy and Practice (3)

**Other Requirement (15 credit hours)**
FOR 501 Forensic Toxicology (3) or FOR 532 Principles of Pharmacology (3)
FOR 502 Forensic Botany (3) or FOR 503 Forensic Entomology (3)
FOR 540 Advanced Topics in Human Forensic DNA Typing (3)
FOR 560 Quantitative Methods in Forensic Science Research (3), BMI 515 Applied Biostatistics in Medicine and Informatics (3) or HCD 501 Biostatistics and Data Management (3)
PSY 546 Advanced Forensic Psychology (3) or CRJ 537 Criminal Procedure of Investigations for Social and Forensic Scientists (3)

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**
FOR 593 Applied Project (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Other requirement courses may be substituted with approval of the academic unit.

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**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in an appropriate physical, biological, computer science or a related field from a regionally-accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants are required to submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of purpose
4. two letters of recommendation
5. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The statement of purpose should demonstrate that the applicant is currently working in the forensic science industry. It should also describe the educational background, scholarly interests, and academic and professional goals. Specifically, the applicant should address their qualifications for pursuing a professional science master's degree.

It is preferred that the letters of recommendation be from individuals in supervisory or professional roles.

Attend Online
ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Application Deadlines
Fall
Spring
Summer

Career Opportunities
The Master of Professional Science in forensic science degree opens the door to a wide variety of careers. The field of forensic psychology offers many career options, including consulting on public policy and working within the criminal justice system. Many forensic psychologists will work in the court system in order to help lawyers, judges and juries better understand the motivations behind criminal behavior. Some graduates choose this path to advocate on behalf of underserved populations, including African-Americans, Latinos, those from lower-economic areas, children or those with mental illness.

Career examples include:

- correctional counselor
- crime analyst
- forensic research psychologist
- forensic social worker
- investigative journalist
- jail supervisor
- jury consultant
- police consultant
- probation officer
- victim advocate