

Forensic and Investigative Science, M.S.

Degree Requirements

- **Credit Hours:** Students are required to complete a minimum of 42 graduate credit hours in Forensic and Investigative Science at the 500 and 600 level.
- **Grade Point Average:** Students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in courses applied to the degree.
- **Graduation Requirement:** Students are required to complete a thesis. Details, requirements, and timelines are provided in the department's Graduate Student Handbook.
- **Benchmarks:** Ideally, the Plan of Study Form should be completed and submitted to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies before the end of the first semester. Failure to complete the Plan of Study by the end of the second semester will result in the student being placed on probation.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		22
FIS 501 & 501L	Foundations of Criminalistics and Foundations of Criminalistics Laboratory	
FIS 502 & 502L	Forensic Laboratory Management and Forensic Laboratory Management Laboratory	
FIS 602 & 602L	Forensic Informatics and Forensic Informatics Laboratory	
FIS 614 & 614L	Trace Evidence Examination and Laboratory Trace Evidence Examinations	
FIS 620	Forensic Casework Practicum	
FIS 632 & 632L	Advanced Forensic Biology and Advanced Forensic Biology Laboratory	
STAT 512	Statistical Methods 2 *	
Forensic Chemistry Requirement		4
Please select one of the following lecture and lab pairs:		
FIS 451 & 451L	Arson and Explosives Analysis and Arson and Explosives Analysis Laboratory	
FIS 460 & 460L	Analysis of Seized Drugs and Analysis of Seized Drugs Laboratory	
FIS 470 & 470L	Analytical Forensic Toxicology and Analytical Forensic Toxicology Laboratory	
Seminar		4
FIS 696	Graduate Seminar **	
Research		6
FIS 697	Research	
Electives *		6
Any FIS course at the 400 level or above		
Total Hours		42

*
Or equivalent graduate class as approved by Graduate Studies Committee

**
Each attempt at FIS 696 is worth one credit hour; students must successfully complete one credit per semester over four semesters.

Major Learning Outcomes

FORENSIC AND INVESTIGATIVE SCIENCE

As a result of completing the MS in Forensic and Investigative Science, students will be able to:

2 *Forensic and Investigative Science, M.S.*

·Assess the value of evidence in different circumstances, describe best practices for its examination and demonstrate competency in performing a variety of different examinations of evidence

·Identify the limitations in the knowledge and capabilities of forensic science, describe creative solutions and conduct scientifically sound experiments to overcome the identified limitations

·Execute persuasive communications, in written and oral formats, of his/her test results and research discoveries