

FORENSIC SCIENCE MINOR

Banner Code: FRSC

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This minor addresses the growing national and regional interest in forensic science by introducing students to the technical, scientific, and legal aspects of the field. The minor provides an attractive option for students with majors in the natural sciences, criminology, psychology, or computer science, and the curriculum structure makes it particularly suitable for students with majors in biology and chemistry.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

At least 8 credits must be applied only to this minor and may not be used to fulfill requirements of the student's major, concentration, or another minor or undergraduate certificate.

For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Requirements

Minor Requirements

Total credits: 20-21

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

Students must complete at least 6 credits in their minor at George Mason University and achieve a minimum GPA of 2.00 in courses applied to the minor.

Foundation Science Courses

Select two courses or course/lab pairings from the courses below. Please pay attention to the prerequisites for each course: 8

BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core)
BIOL 305 & BIOL 306	Biology of Microorganisms and Biology of Microorganisms Laboratory
BIOL 311	General Genetics
CHEM 211 & CHEM 213	General Chemistry I (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory I (Mason Core)
CHEM 212 & CHEM 214	General Chemistry II (Mason Core) and General Chemistry Laboratory II (Mason Core)

PHYS 160 & PHYS 161	University Physics I (Mason Core) and University Physics I Laboratory (Mason Core)
PHYS 243 & PHYS 244	College Physics (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)
PHYS 245 & PHYS 246	College Physics (Mason Core) and College Physics Lab (Mason Core)
PHYS 260 & PHYS 261	University Physics II (Mason Core) and University Physics II Laboratory (Mason Core)

Total Credits 8

Forensic Science Core Courses

FRSC 200	Survey of Forensic Science	3
FRSC 201	Introduction to Criminalistics	3
Total Credits		6

Forensic Science Electives

Select one course from the following. Please pay attention to prerequisites for each course: 3

FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis	
FRSC 303	Forensic Evidence and Ethics	
FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry	
FRSC 460	Forensic DNA Sciences	
Total Credits		3

Supporting Courses

Select one course from the following. Please pay attention to prerequisites for each course: 3-4

Select one FRSC course if not chosen above:	
FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis
or FRSC 303	Forensic Evidence and Ethics
or FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry
or FRSC 460	Forensic DNA Sciences
GEOL 302	Mineralogy
GEOL 306	Soil Science
CRIM 400	Applied Criminal Psychology
CRIM 410	Criminal Investigations
PSYC 380	Introduction to Forensic Psychology
PSYC 441	Criminal Behavior: Psychological and Neurological Aspects

Total Credits 3-4