2020-2021

B.S. in Forensic Science

Advising Packet

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Updated May 2020

Forensic Science Program Faculty/Staff

- **Dr. Mary Ellen O'Toole– Director**
- **Prof. Emily Rancourt – Graduate Coordinator**
- ***Prof. Kimberly Rule – Undergraduate Coordinator**
- **Prof. Kelly Knight– STEM Accelerator**
- **Dr. Joseph Dizinno- Assistant Professor**
- **Prof. Steve Burmeister- Assistant Professor**
- **Dr. Anthony Falsetti- Associate Professor**
- **Dr. Mark Wilson- Assistant Professor**
- **Mr. Chris Durac- Special Projects Manager**
- **Administrative Assistant- Front Desk (Lori Mayes)**
- **Graduate Teaching Assistant/Advisors (Sean Whitmer and Angelina Mauriello)**

❖ **Forensic Science Student Association (FSSA)**- getconnected.gmu.edu/organization/forensicscience
gmuforensicscience@gmail.com

❖ **Degrees:**
- ❖ Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Minor in Forensic Science
- ❖ Graduate: Three Graduate Certificates, Master of Science in Forensic Science (Crime Scene, Forensic Chemistry, Forensic Biology, and Forensic/Biometric Identity Concentrations)

Updated May 2020

Degree Worksheet 2020-2021

College of Science - Forensic Science, BS				
Catalog Year: 2020-2021			Grades	
Mason Core Requirements: 27 credits	**Course Information**	Credits	Earned	Needed
Written Communication:	ENGH 101 (100)	3		
Oral Communication		3		
*Quantitative Reasoning	*Satisfied by Major Requirements			
Information Technology		3		
Arts		3		
Global Understanding		3		
Literature		3		
*Natural Science	*Satisfied by Major Requirements			
*Social & Behavioral Sciences	*Satisfied by Major Requirements (CRIM 100)			
Western Civilization/World History		3		
Written Communication:	ENGH 302	3		
Synthesis/Capstone		3		
Major Requirements (86 - 89 credits) 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				
FRSC 200	Survey of Forensic Science	3		
FRSC 201	Introduction to Criminalistics	3		
FRSC 302	Forensic Trace Analysis	3		
FRSC 303	Forensic Evidence and Ethics	3		
FRSC 304	Forensic Chemistry	3		
FRSC 305	Forensic Chemistry Laboratory	1		
FRSC 401	Crime Scene Investigations	3		
FRSC 405 or FRSC 406	Independent Research Methods or Forensic Internship	3		
FRSC 460	Forensic DNA Analysis	3		
FRSC 461	Forensic DNA Analysis Laboratory	1		
FRSC 499	Comprehensive Examination	0		
CRIM 100	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3		
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function	4		
BIOL 214 or STAT 250	Biostatistics for Biology Majors or Introductory Statistics I	3-4		
BIOL 311	General Genetics	4		
BIOL 430	Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4		
CHEM 211	General Chemistry I	3		
& CHEM 213	and General Chemistry Laboratory I	1		
CHEM 212	General Chemistry II	3		
& CHEM 214	and General Chemistry Laboratory II	1		
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	4-6		
or MATH 123	Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part A			
& MATH 124	and Calculus with Algebra/Trigonometry, Part B			
PHYS 243	College Physics I (Mason Core)	3		
PHYS 244	College Physics I Lab (Mason Core)	1		
PHYS 245	College Physics II (Mason Core)	3		
PHYS 246	College Physics II Lab (Mason Core)	1		
Additional Courses (12 credits) from: FRSC 415, 418; BINF 401, 402; BIOL 305, 306, 404, 405, 431, 452, 453, 482, 484; CHEM 321, 331, 332, 336, 337, 422, 423, 427, 441, 446, 463, 464, 465				
Additional Course #1:		1-4		
Additional Course #2:		1-4		
Additional Course #3:		1-4		
Additional Course #4:		1-4		
Additional Course #5:		1-4		
Degree Notes				
Elective Credits: Approx. 4-7 remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120 with 45 of these credits at the 300/400 level.				

1. IMPORTANT

2.
- Bring to all advising sessions
- Do not lose this
- Check off each semester
- These are tracked in your Degree Evaluation "Degree Works"

3. IMPORTANT

1. Mason Core Courses (27 credit hours)

Mason Core Requirement	Course	Credits
Written Communication	ENGH 101 (100)- must obtain C or higher and	3
	ENGH 302- "Natural Sciences" section is recommended must obtain a C or higher must have completed ENGH 101/100 and Mason Core Literature 45 credits recommended	3
Oral Communication	COMM 100 or 101, COMM 100 recommended	3
Western Civilization/World History	HIST 100 or 125; transfer students may substitute other courses refer to catalog	3
*Quantitative Reasoning	*Satisfied by Major Requirements (MATH/STAT)	3
*Natural Science	*Satisfied by Major Requirements (CHEM/BIOL/PHYS)	3
*Social & Behavioral Sciences	*Satisfied by Major Requirements (CRIM 100)	3
Information Technology	refer to catalog for full listing	3
Arts	refer to catalog for full listing	3
Global Understanding	refer to catalog for full listing	3
Literature	refer to catalog for full listing	3
Synthesis/Capstone	refer to catalog for full listing should be last Mason Core class taken check pre-requisites for eligible options	3

2. Major Requirements (86-89 credits)

***IMPORTANT!* Must obtain a C or higher in all College of Science (COS) pre-requisite courses**

Note: All pre- and co-requisites listed are as published as of the date listed below- students are responsible for checking for changes

Forensic Science Course: 29 credits

Course	Credits	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites
FRSC 200- Survey of Forensic Science	3	No pre-reqs.	
FRSC 201- Intro to Criminalistics	3	No pre-reqs.	
FRSC 302- Forensic Trace Analysis	3	Minimum of C in FRSC 200 and FRSC 201.	
FRSC 303- Forensic Evidence and Ethics	3	Minimum of C in FRSC 200 and CRIM 100.	
FRSC 304- Forensic Chemistry	3	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, and CHEM 214.	
FRSC 305- Forensic Chemistry Lab	1	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, FRSC 304, CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, and CHEM 214.	FRSC 304 may be taken concurrently
FRSC 401- Crime Scene Investigations	3	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, FRSC 302, and FRSC 303. Majors only.	
FRSC 405*- Independent Research Methods	3	Completion of 90 credits or permission of instructor. Majors only.	
FRSC 406*- Forensic Internship **	3	Completion of 60 credits or permission of instructor. Majors only.	
FRSC 460- Forensic DNA Analysis	3	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, BIOL 213, and BIOL 311.	FRSC 461 recommended
FRSC 461- Forensic DNA Analysis Lab	1	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, FRSC 460, BIOL 213, and BIOL 311	FRSC 460 may be taken concurrently
FRSC 499- Comprehensive Examination	0	Minimum of C in FRSC 200, FRSC 201, FRSC 302, FRSC 303. Majors only. (Should be last FRSC course taken)	FRSC 304, 401, 460 recommended
CRIM 100- Into to Criminal Justice	3	No pre-reqs.	

* take one or the other FRSC 405 or 406

** FRSC 406 Internships- must be forensic related, must complete 135 hours in the semester, apply to several, obtain guide from FSP, deadlines are approx. a semester in advance, up to student to obtain internship (background check, interview, polygraph, etc.)

2. Major Requirements (86-89 credits) Continued

Natural Science Courses: 45-48 credits

Reminder: Grade of C or higher in all pre-reqs

Course	Credits	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites
BIOL 213- Cell Structure and Function	4	No pre-reqs. ***Note: Recommended to take BIOL 103 first if high school biology was not taken within the past two years***	CHEM 211 recommended
BIOL 214*- Biostatistics	4	No pre-reqs.	BIOL 213 recommended
STAT 250* - Intro Statistics	3	High school algebra recommended	
BIOL 311- General Genetics	4	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 213. BIOL 214 recommended.	
BIOL 430- Advanced Anatomy and Physiology I ***Note: Fall only***	4	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 213. 60 credits recommended.	
CHEM 211- General Chemistry I	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 213, may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 213
CHEM 213- General Chemistry I Lab	1	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 211
CHEM 212- General Chemistry II	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211 CHEM 213, and CHEM 214. CHEM 214 may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 214
CHEM 214- General Chemistry II Lab	1	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, CHEM 212 and CHEM 213. CHEM 212 may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 212
CHEM 313- Organic Chemistry I	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, and CHEM 214.	CHEM 315 recommended
CHEM 314- Organic Chemistry II	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, CHEM 214, and CHEM 313.	CHEM 318 recommended
CHEM 315- Organic Chemistry I Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, CHEM 214, and CHEM 313. CHEM 313 may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 313
CHEM 318- Organic Chemistry II Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, CHEM 212, CHEM 213, CHEM 214, CHEM 313, CHEM 314, and CHEM 315. CHEM 314 may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 314 recommended
MATH 113 (4)- Analytical Geometry/Calculus or ***MATH 123/124 (3,3)***	4 or 6	Minimum of C in MATH 104 or 105, or specified score on placement test.	
PHYS 243- College Physics I	3	No pre-reqs.	PHYS 244 recommended
PHYS 244- College Physics I Lab	1	Minimum grade of C in PHYS 243, may be taken concurrently.	PHYS 243
PHYS 245- College Physics II	3	Minimum grade of C in PHYS 243.	PHYS 246 recommended
PHYS 246- College Physics II Lab	1	Minimum grade of C in PHYS 245, may be taken concurrently	PHYS 245

* one or the other STAT 250 or BIOL 214, BIOL 214 is recommended

2. Major Requirements (86-89 credits) Continued

Additional Science Courses: 12 credits

Note: some courses have additional pre-reqs beyond what is required for the major

Course	Credits	Pre-requisites	Co-requisites
FRSC 415- Selected Topics in Forensic Science	1-3	Permission of instructor (POI). May take up to 6 credits.	
FRSC 418- Analytical Thinking and Violent Crime Profiling	3	Minimum grade of C in FRSC 200 and FRSC 201. And completion of 60 credits or POI.	
BINF 401- Bioinformatics and Computational Biology I	3	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 213, 214 and CDS 130 recommended or POI.	
BINF 402- Bioinformatics and Computational Biology II	3	BINF 401 recommended.	
BIOL 305- Microorganisms	3	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 213.	BIOL 306 recommended
BIOL 306- Microorganisms Lab	1	See co-reqs.	BIOL 305 or BIOL 246 recommended
BIOL 404- Medical Microbiology	3	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 305 or BIOL 246.	
BIOL 405- Microbial Genetics	4	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 305 and 306.	
BIOL 431- Advanced Anatomy/Physiology II (Spring only)	4	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 430.	
BIOL 452- Immunology	3	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 213, and BIOL 305 or BIOL 246. BIOL 311 is recommended.	
BIOL 453- Immunology Lab	1	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 306. BIOL 452 recommended (concurrent enrollment is permitted).	
BIOL 482- Intro to Molecular Genetics	3	BIOL 213, 311, or POI is recommended.	
BIOL 484- Cell Signaling and Disease	3	Minimum grade of C in BIOL 311. BIOL 483 or POI recommended.	
CHEM 321- Quantitative chemical Analysis	4	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, 212, MATH 113, and 114. MATH 114 may be taken concurrently.	
CHEM 331- Physical chemistry I	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 211, 212, 213, 214, MATH 114 or 116, and PHYS 243 or 160. PHYS 243 or 160 may be taken concurrently.	
CHEM 332- Physical Chemistry II	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 331, MATH 114, PHYS 243 or 160, and PHYS 244 or 260. PHYS 244 or 260 may be taken concurrently.	
CHEM 336- Physical Chemistry I Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 212, 321, 331, MATH 114 or 116, and PHYS 243 or 160. CHEM 331 and PHYS 243 or 160 may be taken concurrently.	
CHEM 337- Physical Chemistry II Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 331, 332, and 336. CHEM 332 may be taken concurrently.	
CHEM 422- Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 321, 332, and 337.	
CHEM 423- Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 422.	
CHEM 427- Aquatic Environmental Chemistry	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 321.	
CHEM 441- Properties and Bonding of Inorganic Compounds	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 332 and 337.	
CHEM 446- Bioinorganic Chemistry	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 463 or BIOL 483, CHEM 331 and 336.	
CHEM 463 or BIOL 483- General Biochemistry I	4	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 313 and BIOL 213.	
CHEM 464- General Biochemistry II	3	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 463/BIOL 483 and CHEM 314.	
CHEM 465- Biochemistry Lab	2	Minimum grade of C in CHEM 463/BIOL 483 and CHEM 315. CHEM 463 may be taken concurrently.	CHEM 463

3. General Electives (4-7 credit hours)

- General Electives are the remaining credits to total 120 credits.
- These credits can be used towards a minor, i.e. Criminology, Psychology, Biology, Chemistry, Photography, Anthropology, etc.
- Take any courses that you are interested in. Keep in mind the prerequisites and co-requisites.
- Only up three credits of Activity-Based courses (RECR) will count towards your 120 hours. Only MLSC 400 and 402 may be used for credit.

Sample Schedule

2020-21 B.S. in Forensic Science
Sample 4 Year Graduation Plan, George Mason University

First Year- Fall	14-16 Credits
Chem 211/213	4
Biol 213	4
*Math 113 (4) *(Must take Placement Test) or Crim 100 (3)*	3 or 4
Mason Core *Engh 101 or Comm 100/101 preferred*	3
Elective (1) *Univ 100 recommended*	1

First Year- Spring	14-16 Credits
Chem 212/214	4
Stat 250 (3) or Biol 214 (4)	3 or 4
Crim 100 (3) or *(*Math 113 (4) if not taken in Fall)*	3 or 4
Mason Core *Engh 101 or Comm 100/101 preferred*	3
Elective *Univ 100 recommended if not taken in fall*	1

Total: 30 or more

Second Year- Fall	15 Credits
Chem 313	3
Chem 315	2
Frsc 200	3
Phys 243	3
Phys 244	1
Mason Core ex. Literature	3

Second Year- Spring	15 Credits
Chem 314	3
Chem 318	2
Frsc 201	3
Phys 245	3
Phys 246	1
Mason Core ex. Arts	3

Total: 60 or more

Third Year- Fall	14-16 Credits
Additional Science	3-4
Biol 430 *Fall only course*	4
Frsc 302	3
Mason Core ex. IT	3
Elective	1-3

Third Year- Spring	14-16 Credits
Additional Science	3-4
Biol 311	4
Frsc 303	3
Mason Core ex. Engh 302	3
Elective	1-3

Total: 90 or more

Fourth Year- Fall	16-17 Credits
Additional Science	2-3
Frsc 304 and Frsc 305	4
Frsc 460 and Frsc 461	4
Mason Core ex. West Civilization and Global Understanding	6

Fourth Year- Spring	13-16 Credits
Additional Science	3-4
Frsc 405/406	3
Frsc 401	3
Mason Core Synthesis *(must be last Mason Core class taken)*	3
Elective	1-3
Frsc 499	0

Total: 120

Students must ensure they are completing the following minimum credits; refer to your Degree Worksheet:

- Mason Core: 27 credits (not including courses fulfilled by major)
- Forensic Science Core: 29 credits
- Natural Science Core: 45-48 credits *Math 113 (3) **or** Math 123 (3) and Math 124 (3)
- Additional Sciences: 12 credits
- General Electives: 4-7 credits

PLEASE NOTE: This is an example of a graduation plan based on the assumption that the student has zero credits at point of matriculation. It is the student's responsibility to know and understand his/her degree requirements and how they plan to complete them in a timeline fashion – your advisor is a resource to assist you.

Important Notes About Your Schedule

YOU MUST TAKE 15-16 CREDITS EACH SEMESTER TO GRADUATE IN 4 YEARS.

ENGH 101 AND COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN THE FIRST YEAR.

YOU SHOULD BALANCE EACH SEMESTER WITH SOME MASON CORE COURSES AND GENERAL ELECTIVES, AND SOME MAJOR REQUIREMENTS. DON'T TAKE ALL MASON CORE/GENERAL ELECTIVES ALL AT ONCE.

MAKE SURE YOU ARE FOLLOWING THE APPROPRIATE PRE-REQUISITES AND CO-REQUISITES FOR EACH COURSE; STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING ALL PRE-REQS AND CO-REQS PRIOR TO REGISTRATION TO AVOID BEING KICKED OUT OF CLASSES; REFER TO HANDOUT.

HOMEWORK

B.S. in Forensic Science
George Mason University
Student Projected Degree Schedule

	Fall (credits)	Spring (credits)	Summer (credits)	
First Year	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for year
Second Year	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for year
Third Year	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for year
Fourth Year	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	( )	( )	( )	
	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for semester	____ credits for year

____ TOTALCREDITS

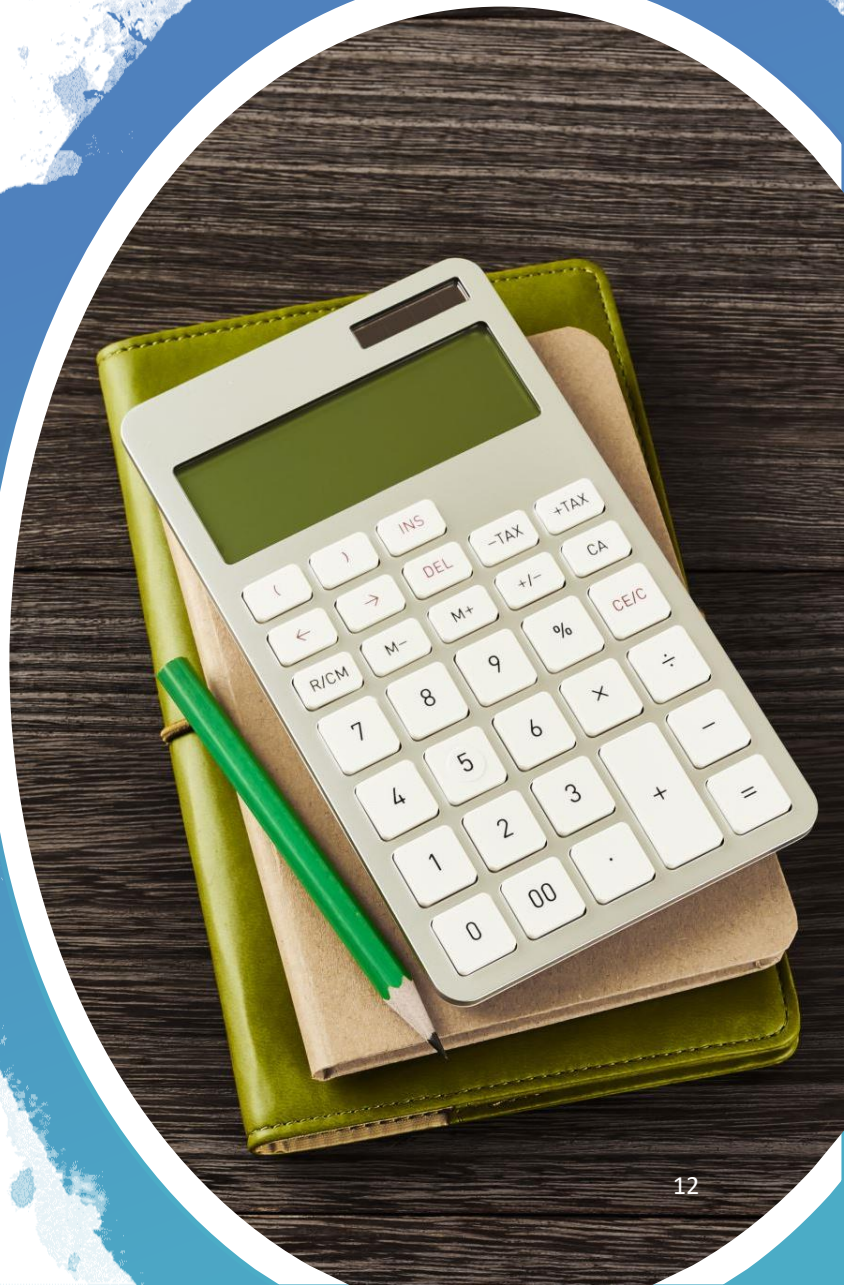
Advisor Name: _____ Approval Date: _____

Advisor Use Only

- Complete your projected schedule and return it to an advisor. This is not a permanent schedule, changes may be made as needed.

Math Placement Test

- MATH 113 is required: The Math Placement Test is REQUIRED to register for this course. MATH 123 and 124 is the same as MATH 113 but taught over two semesters.
- The Placement Test is offered on the Fairfax campus only and may only be taken twice a year. Your score is good for one year.
- " Guide" is available at the bookstore in Johnson Center Score with practice exercises.
- What if I don't place into MATH 113? If you place into MATH 105 you may take this course, as long as you obtain a C or better in MATH 105 you will be able to continue to MATH 113 without retaking the Placement Test.
- Or, you can study and retake the test (only twice a year).
- What if I don't place into any of the MATH courses? Please visit the Math Learning Center for resources to assist you; located in the Johnson Center, Room 344



http://math.gmu.edu/placement_test.php

Exploratory Hall 4th Floor

Careers in Forensic Science: Field and Laboratory

Career Groups:		
Crime Scene Investigators	Private Lab Examiners	Question Document Examiners
Forensic Toxicologist	Trace Evidence Examiner	Police Officer / Detective
Facial Reconstruction / Forensic Artist	Digital Forensics	Crime Analyst
Shoe and Tire Impression Examiner	Forensic Firearms Examiner	Criminal Profiling
Medico-legal Death Investigators	Forensic Fiber Examiner	Behavioral Science
Forensic Scientists	Forensic Photographer	Evidence Technicians
Forensic Chemists	Forensic Anthropology	Wildlife Inspectors
Forensic DNA Analyst	Special Agents	Latent Print Examiner
Foreign Service Officers	Forensic Anthropologist	Biometrics Examiner

Career Agencies:		
Department of Agriculture (USDA)	Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)	Department of Justice (DOJ)
Department of Energy (DOE)	U.S. Department of State (DOS)	Health and Human Services (HHS)
National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)	Defense Criminal Investigations Services (DCIS)	Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)	U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	Department of Defense (DOD)
U.S. Postal Inspection Service	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
Department of Commerce (DOC)	National Institute of Standards (NIST)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
National Security Agency (NSA)	Virginia Department of Forensic Science	National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
U.S. National Park Service	Department of Interior	State Crime Labs
Private Laboratories	State Medical Examiners Office	Local, State, and Sheriff's Office

Many of these agencies offer internship opportunities

Qualifications for Careers in Forensic Science

- **Each career within Forensic Science may have specific coursework qualifications; it is the student's responsibility to take appropriate coursework for their desired career choice.**

- **Forensic DNA Analyst Career:** Students interested in a career as a DNA analyst are recommended to take courses covering the following topics: Genetics, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and a course involving Statistics. It is the responsibility of the student to fulfill these courses if this is a desired career path. *The following courses are recommended:*

  - ✓ *BIOL 213 Cell Structure and Function (required)*
  - ✓ *BIOL 311 Genetics (required*
  - ✓ *FRSC 460 and 461 Forensic DNA Analysis and Lab (required)*
  - ✓ *BIOL 214 or STAT 250 Biostatistics/Statistics (required, BIOL 214 highly recommended)*
  - ❑ *BIOL 483/CHEM 463 General Biochemistry I (additional science option)*
  - ❑ *BIOL 482 Introduction to Molecular Genetics (additional science option)*
  - ❑ *BIOL 484 Cell Signaling and Disease (additional science option)*

- **Forensic Chemistry Career**: Students interested in a career in Forensic Chemistry are recommended to take courses covering the following topics: General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Calculus, and Quantitative Chemical Analysis. *The following courses are recommended:*

  - ✓ CHEM 211/212/213/214 General Chemistry I & II and Labs (required)
  - ✓ CHEM 313/314/315/318 Organic Chemistry I & II and Labs (required)
  - ✓ MATH 113 or MATH 123/124 Calculus I (required)
  - ❑ CHEM 321 Quantitative Chemical Analysis (additional science option)
  - ❑ MATH 114 Calculus II (general elective, prerequisite for CHEM 321)

Note: GMU can't guarantee **every** agency will accept that these courses fulfill their requirements.

I have a question!

- Always check the Academic Policies in the Catalog: http://catalog.gmu.edu/

  Make sure you have the correct catalog year

Examples:

- Can I repeat a class?
- I'm on academic warning, what does that mean?
- How do I withdraw from a class?
- When is the deadline to drop a class?

Please do NOT contact an advisor/faculty before checking the catalog for information!!

How do I get advising??

- Advising appointments will be scheduled on-line: http://forensicscience.gmu.edu/
- You MUST bring your "Homework"/ Projected Schedule AND Degree Worksheet or Degree Evaluation.
- Failure to do so may result in a cancelled appointment.

Check your **Degree Evaluation**!
Be your own advocate!!!

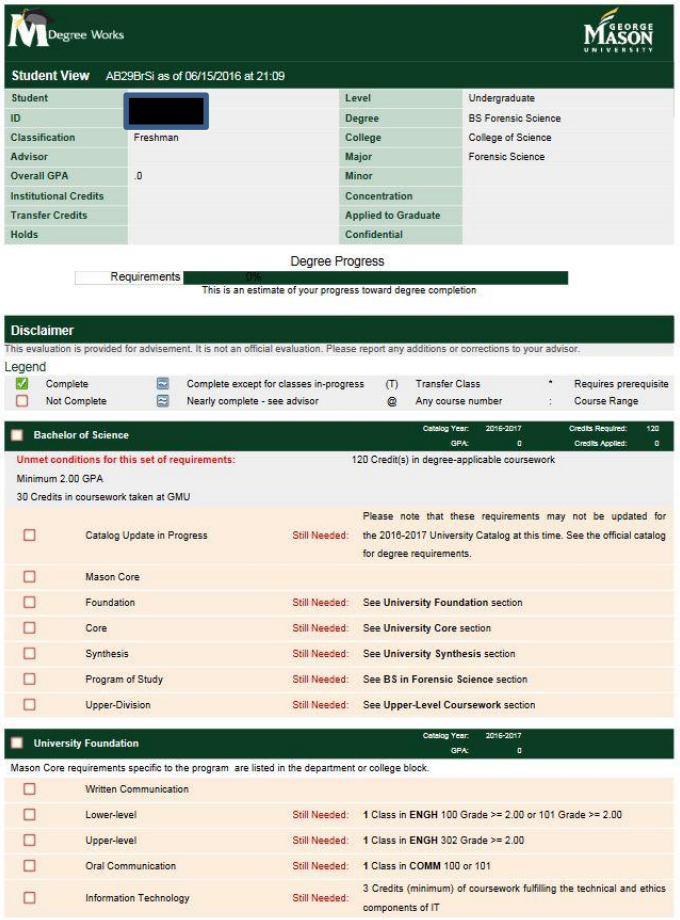
Degree Works: Generates a report to show which requirements have/have not been met to complete your current degree

Log into Patriot Web and Click "Student Services" tab

- Click "Student Records"
- Click "Degree Evaluation Menu"
- Click "Degree Works"

Do this every semester to track your progress!

"What If Analysis": Located in Degree Works. Generates a report to show which requirements have/have not been met to complete your degree after you manually input your major, minor, etc. *This is helpful if you would like to add minor(s) to see what additional courses are required.*



IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **IMPORTANT! Forensic Science Internships and Jobs will typically require a background check**
  - Students should be advised that background checks similar to those required for law enforcement officers are likely to be a condition of employment (Reference: NIJ Report NCJ 203099 – "Qualifications for a Career in Forensic Science," pp.7-10)

- **All Honor Code and Code of Student Conduct violations will be reported**

- **GMU Policy- all students are limited to 3 attempts in all classes**

- All FRSC courses are offered in the Fall and Spring. Only FRSC 201, 405, and 406 are currently offered in the Summer.

- **Taking Courses Elsewhere**: Students must be given permission BEFORE taking classes at any other institution if they wish to have the credit(s) transfer back to GMU; please complete form on registrar's website.

  **FRSC courses may not be taken elsewhere*

- **Financial Aid**: Must maintain a 2.0 to receive financial aid.

  Check your financial aid institutions polices

RESOURCES:

- **COS Scholarships:** For COS students, go to cos.gmu.edu/scholarships

  (Scholarships at Mason are open to all continuing undergraduates, admitted transfers, and graduate students.)

- **Credit By Exam**: AP, IB, CLEP, Language Placement, etc.

  http://admissions.gmu.edu/exams/

- **Evaluation of Transfer Credit:**

  http://admissions.gmu.edu/transfer/transferCreditEvaluation.asp

HELPFUL TIPS:

- ✓ Check your Mason email FREQUENTLY!
- ✓ Keep an eye out for registration dates and know what you are planning to take.
- ✓ Check the availability of courses to make sure that you are not trying to register for a Fall only class in the spring.
- ✓ **See your advisor at least once a year. It is your responsibility to seek out your advisor.**
- ✓ Do not skip classes! Be responsible and prepared!
- ✓ Get HELP when you do not understand class material. Do not get behind.

Have fun and get involved with organizations on campus!

Course Alternative Worksheet

(For Freshman Only: in the Orientation booklet)

Option # 1

1. BIOL 213 (4) or BIOL 103 (4)
(BIOL 103 is recommended for students who have not taken high school biology within the last 2 years; this will count as a general elective; BIOL 213 is required)
2. CHEM 211/213 (4)
3. MATH 113 (4) *or* CRIM 100 (3) or BIOL 214 (4) or STAT 250 (3) *(Placement test for Math 113)*
4. Pick one of the following: (3)
   ENG 101 or COMM 100/101 or HIST 100/125
5. UNIV 100 (1) Freshman only *(Optional)*

Option # 2

1. PHYS 243 & 244 (3,1)
2. CHEM 211/213 (4)
3. MATH 113 (4) *or* CRIM 100 (3) or BIOL 214 (4) or STAT 250 (3)
   (Placement test for Math 113)
4. Pick one of the following: (3)
   ENG 101 or COMM 100/101 or HIST 100/125
5. UNIV 100 (1) Freshman only *(Optional)*

Option # 3

1. BIOL 213 (4) or BIOL 103 (4)
(BIOL 103 is recommended for students who have not taken high school biology within the last 2 years; this will count as a general elective; BIOL 213 is required)
2. PHYS 243 & 244 (3,1)
3. MATH 113 (4) *or* CRIM 100 (3) or BIOL 214 (4) or STAT 250 (3) *(Placement test for Math 113)*
4. Pick one of the following: (3)
   ENG 101 or COMM 100/101 or HIST 100/125
5. UNIV 100 (1) Freshman only *(Optional)*

15-16 credits total