

**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES**  
**GRADUATE PROGRAM IN FORENSIC SCIENCES: CURRICULUM**

*Revised 7/15/09*

**Master of Science in Forensic Sciences: Research and Thesis**

The M.S. program trains students for research, specialization, or teaching in one of four forensic sciences--biology/DNA, pathology, psychology, or toxicology. Students complete 39 credit hours, taking two semesters of online courses followed by advanced courses and research on campus. Satisfactory completion of a two-part comprehensive examination is required. The Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences has accredited the forensic biology/DNA and forensic toxicology areas, the only two areas that FEPAC accredits. *This program does not produce forensic pathologists or forensic psychologists.*

**M.S. Required Courses for Research and Thesis Program (29 credit hours)**

FRNS 5000 Supervised Forensic Research Project (6 credit hours, taken in one- to three-hour segments)

FRNS 5013 Survey of Forensic Sciences (3)\*<sup>1</sup>

FRNS 5063 Scientific Research, Writing, and Presentation (3)\* *or equivalent course*

FRNS 5073 Quality Assurance in Forensic Science<sup>2</sup> (3)\*

FRNS 5413 Forensic Pathology and Medicine<sup>2</sup> (3)\*

FRNS 5613 Criminalistics and Evidence Analysis (3)\*

FRNS 5622 Advanced Criminalistics (2)

FRNS 5653 Scientific Evidence (3)\*

STAT 5013 Statistics for Experimenters I<sup>3</sup>(3)

**M.S. Elective Courses for Research and Thesis Program (10 credit hours, as designated for specialty or directed by advisor)**

FRNS 5083 Ethics in Forensic Leadership (3)\*

FRNS 5213 Molecular Biology (3)\*

FRNS 5242 Population Genetics (2)

FRNS 5282 Methods in Forensic Biology and Forensic Toxicology (2)

FRNS 5513 Bioscience (3)\*

FRNS 5523 Forensic Toxicology (3)\*

FRNS 5533 Drug Toxicity (3)\*

FRNS 5713 Forensic Psychology (3)\*

FRNS 5723 Advanced Forensic Psychology (3)\*

FRNS 6010 Forensic Specialization (1-3) *advanced options, including internships, in specialty*

FRNS 6043 Forensic Management and Organizational Development (3)\*

BIOM 5013 Medical Biostatistics (3) *may be substituted for Statistics for Experimenters I, with advisor permission*

BIOM 6543 Neurochemical Toxicology (3)

HCA 5023 Human Resources in Health Care and Public Administration (3)\* *(also available on-campus)*

Courses offered on the Stillwater campus: SOC 5573 Seminar on Victimology (3) and SOC 5990 Criminal Behavior Analysis (3)

**Master of Science in Forensic Sciences: Forensic Science Administration**

The M.S. option in Forensic Science Administration helps practitioners to increase knowledge of forensic disciplines and management issues specific to the profession. Requirements include 39 credit hours, available entirely online, and a comprehensive examination.

Students in this option from Academic Common Market states may qualify for tuition waivers. See <http://www.cep.unt.edu/ACM.html>.

**M.S. Required Courses for option in Forensic Sciences Administration (27 credit hours)**

FRNS 5013 Survey of Forensic Sciences (3)\*

FRNS 5073 Quality Assurance in Forensic Science (3)\*

FRNS 5083 Ethics in Forensic Leadership (3)\*

FRNS 5213 Molecular Biology for the Forensic Scientist (3)\* **OR** FRNS 5523 Forensic Toxicology (3)\*

FRNS 5413 Forensic Pathology and Medicine (3)\*

FRNS 5613 Criminalistics and Evidence Analysis (3)\*

FRNS 5653 Scientific Evidence (3)\*

FRNS 6043 Forensic Management and Organizational Development (3)\*

HCA 5023 Human Resources in Health Care and Public Administration (3)\* *(also available on campus)*

**M.S. Elective Courses for option in Forensic Sciences Administration (12 credit hours, as approved by advisor)**

FRNS 5023 Forensic Examination of Questioned Documents (3)\*

FRNS 5053 Historical Aspects of Forensic Document Examination (3)\*

FRNS 5063 Scientific Research, Writing, and Presentation (3)\*

FRNS 5513 Forensic Bioscience (3)\*

FRNS 5523 Forensic Toxicology (3)\*

FRNS 5533 Drug Toxicity (3)\*

FRNS 5622 Advanced Criminalistics (2) (on-campus course)

FRNS 5713 Forensic Psychology (3)\*

FRNS 5723 Advanced Forensic Psychology (3)\*

FRNS 5913 Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation (3)\*

<sup>1</sup> The number in parenthesis (3) reflects the number of credit hours. The asterisk (\*) indicates a Web-based course.

<sup>2</sup> FRNS 5713 Forensic Psychology and FRNS 5723 Advanced Forensic Psychology required instead for the forensic psychology track; FRNS 5413 is not required in the forensic biology/DNA track but may serve as an elective.

<sup>3</sup> STAT 5013 meets on the OSU Tulsa or Stillwater campus; also available through OSU A&S at a flat (state-resident) rate.

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**Master of Science in Forensic Sciences: Forensic Document Examination**<sup>4</sup>

The M.S. option in Forensic Document Examination offers academic support for apprenticeship/journeyman programs that prepare document examiners, trainees, and laboratory interns for certification. Participation requires associated training or experience and permission from the lead instructor in this area. Attainment of the degree requires 39 credit hours, available entirely online, and a comprehensive examination. Students in this option who reside in states in the Academic Common Market may qualify for tuition waivers. For details, see <http://www.ccp.unt.edu/ACM.html>.

**M.S. Required Courses for option in Forensic Document Examination** (27 credit hours)

FRNS 5013 Survey of Forensic Sciences (3)\*  
FRNS 5023 Forensic Examination of Questioned Documents (3)\*  
FRNS 5033 Forensic Handwriting Examination: Theory and Practice (3)\*  
FRNS 5043 Technical Aspects of Forensic Document Examination (3)\*  
FRNS 5053 Historical Aspects of Forensic Document Examination (3)\*  
FRNS 5073 Quality Assurance in Forensic Science (3)\*  
FRNS 5613 Criminalistics and Evidence Analysis (3)\*  
FRNS 5653 Scientific Evidence (3)\*  
FRNS 5913 Forensic Accounting and Fraud Investigation (3)\*

**M.S. Elective courses for option Forensic Document Examination** <sup>5</sup> 12 credit hours, as approved by advisor)

FRNS 5063 Scientific Research, Writing, and Presentation (3)\*  
FRNS 5083 Ethics in Forensic Leadership (3)\*  
FRNS 5213 Molecular Biology for the Forensic Scientist (3)\*  
FRNS 5413 Forensic Pathology and Medicine (3)\*  
FRNS 5523 Forensic Toxicology (3)\*  
FRNS 5533 Drug Toxicity (3)\*  
FRNS 5413 Forensic Pathology (3)\*  
FRNS 5513 Forensic Bioscience (3)\*  
FRNS 5622 Advanced Criminalistics (2)  
FRNS 5713 Forensic Psychology (3)\*  
FRNS 5723 Advanced Forensic Psychology (3)\*  
FRNS 6043 Forensic Management and Organizational Development (3)\*  
HCA 5023 Human Resources in Health Care and Public Administration (3)\* (also available on campus)

**Graduate Certificate in**  
**Forensic Examination of Questioned Documents**<sup>6</sup>

The Graduate Certificate in Forensic Examination of Questioned Documents, established in cooperation with the American Board of Forensic Document Examiners, supports apprenticeship/journeyman programs that prepare document examiners, trainees, and laboratory interns for certification. Associated training or experience is required. Admission requires approval of the lead instructor for this area, and credits may apply toward the M.S. degree.

**Graduate Certificate Required Courses** (12 credit hours required)

FRNS 5023 Forensic Examination of Questioned Documents (3)\*  
FRNS 5033 Forensic Handwriting Examination: Theory and Practice (3)\*  
FRNS 5043 Technical Aspects of Forensic Document Examination (3)\*  
FRNS 5053 Historical Aspects of Forensic Document Examination (3)\*

For the certificate program only, students who serve as employees of municipal, county, state, or federal government agencies within the U.S. qualify for partial tuition waivers. Current proof of employment is required.

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<sup>4</sup> Individuals in the Forensic Document Examination option of the M.S. receive the printed Graduate Certificate upon successful completion of designated courses and then receive the graduate diploma upon completion of the degree program. The M.S. transcript reflects achievement of the degree rather than of the certificate.

<sup>5</sup> With advisor approval, other courses may be substituted for directed electives in the M.S. options in document examination and administration.

<sup>6</sup> The Graduate Certificate is printed and awarded upon successful completion of the required courses, with the achievement noted on the transcript for those participating only in the Certificate program.