

**Program:** Forensic Science **Dept:** Forensic Science Institute  
**Major:** Forensic Science - Molecular Biology **College:** Forensic Science Institute  
**Degree:** Master of Science (M.S.) **Major Code:** 7600

**Forensic Science — Molecular Biology, M.S.**

The M.S. Forensic Science - Molecular Biology degree is a research-oriented, graduate degree program. Students must complete a minimum of 36 hours of graduate level work, including a core of 30 hours and six hours of thesis research or three hours of graduate capstone plus an additional three hour guided elective.

**Graduate Advisor:** Dr. James Creecy  
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 Office: FSI 110B  
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**Admission Requirements**

Submit the following items to:  
 Jackson College of Graduate Studies  
 100 N. University Drive, NUC 404  
 Edmond, OK 73034

**Application deadline is April 15.**

*Admission into the Graduate Forensic Science Program is for the Fall semester only. Priority Admission will be considered for completed applications received in the Forensic Science Institute by April 15. Regular Admission will be considered after April 15, but before the first day of school in the Fall semester or until capacity is reached.*

- Online application for admission ([www.uco.edu/graduate/](http://www.uco.edu/graduate/)).
- Official copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts from each institution attended with all degrees posted. All transcripts must be from accredited institutions. Undergraduate transcripts must show:
  - A bachelor’s degree in forensic science or natural science is required.
  - A minimum of 3.0 overall undergraduate GPA.
  - Completion of nine undergraduate hours and other prerequisites (if any), as determined by the graduate program advisor: FRSC 3043, STAT 2103, and FRSC 2503. These courses may be completed during the first year of graduate college at UCO. In addition, in order to meet the FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic DNA Testing Laboratories, students will be required to complete (if not already completed) course work in Genetics and Biochemistry.

Applications for the Graduate Forensic Science Program will be reviewed by the Forensic Science Institute. Applicants should submit one or more of the requirements below to be considered for admission:

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. A GRE score with a preferred minimum 50th percentile ranking (quantitative + verbal sections).
- Sufficient professional experience (2+ years) in Forensic Science -Molecular Biology or similar field.
- Scholastic achievement at the undergraduate level with a 3.5 GPA or above in a relevant major to include Forensic Science -Molecular Biology, Biology, Biochemistry or similar degree.

A one-page description of an area of interest in Forensic Science research should be submitted with the application material.

*\*Students falling below these standards may qualify for conditional admission. See [Admission to Graduate Studies \(p.17\)](#).*

**Other Requirements**

- Plan of Study. Each student must file a plan of study with their graduate program advisor and the Jackson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS) by the end of the first semester during which they complete their twelfth hour of graduate work. The plan must be signed and dated by the student and the graduate program advisor before it can be considered official.
- Academic Standards. Meet the following course work standards:
  - Overall GPA of 3.00 or higher.
  - No more than six hours of “C”.
  - No more than six advisor-approved hours from traditional correspondence courses.
- Completion of 36 credit hours
- Thesis or Capstone Project. Enroll in six hours of Thesis (FRSC 5990) and complete an acceptable thesis and successfully defend it in public, two paper copies of the thesis and one electronic copy to the library through Proquest and the thesis’ title page, original signature page, summary and abstract page to the JCGS or enroll in three hours of Graduate Capstone (FRSC 5930) plus an additional three hour guided elective..

Final Requirements. Apply for graduation through the JCGS by advertising deadline.

**Graduation Requirements**

**Required Courses.....36 Hours**

**Forensic Science Core..... 15 Hours**

Course Prefix	Course No.	Course Title
FRSC	5143	Advanced Crime Scene Processing and Investigations
FRSC	5253	Forensic Science Analysis and Lab
FRSC	5863	Expert Witness
FRSC	5873	Research Methods in Forensic Science
FRSC	5881	Graduate Seminar
FRSC	5892	Professional Issues in Forensic Science

**Forensic Science - Molecular Biology..... 15 Hours**

Course Prefix	Course No.	Course Title
FRSC	5333	Forensic Molecular Biology and Lab
FRSC	5343	Forensic Serology and Lab
FRSC	5513	Forensic Chemistry and Lab <b>OR</b>
FRSC	5323	Forensic Toxicology and Lab
FRSC	5533	Forensic Microscopy and Lab
FRSC	5613	Advanced Forensic DNA Analysis and Lab

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**Capstone or Thesis Option..... 3 or 6 Hours**

Course Prefix	Course No.	Course Title
FRSC	5930	Graduate Capstone (3 hours) <b>OR</b>
FRSC	5990	Thesis (6 hours)

**Guided Electives..... 0 or 3 Hours**  
*(3 hours — Capstone; 0 hours — Thesis option)*

Course Prefix	Course No.	Course Title
FRSC	5373	Cold Case Review and Analysis
FRSC	5413	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis
FRSC	5910	Seminar
FRSC	5930	Individual Study
FRSC	5940	Field Study
FRSC	5950	Internship

**TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED ..... 36 HOURS**