FIREARM AND TOOLMARK EXAMINATION, CAS

Contact

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Faculty

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Description

This CAS is intended both for students who wish to become firearm and toolmark examiners and for newly hired examiners in need of training. A great need exists for training of firearm and toolmark examiners. Even after a candidate is hired into such a position, training of two years or more is typically needed before the new examiner can work independently on casework. This training comes at great expense particularly to smaller agencies, where efficiencies associated with the simultaneous training of multiple candidates cannot be achieved. This CAS, while not intended to fulfill all of the required training, can provide a useful start and/or supplement. The same courses may be counted toward a graduate degree at Syracuse University.

Admission

For students already admitted to Syracuse University as graduate students, an internal application for the CAS is required. For students not already at SU, the graduate school application with undergraduate transcript and one recommendation letter will be required, through which the applicant must show either that he or she holds a position for which the certificate is relevant or is aiming to obtain such a position and has a good undergraduate background.

Degree Awarded

Certificate of Advanced Study in Firearm and Toolmark Examination

Transfer Credit

Limit of 3 transfer credits.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Scientific Knowledge and Principles - Describe the impact of manufacturing methods on forensic firearm identification, firearm safety, and the types of analyses implemented by firearm examiners.
2. Communication and Collaboration - Practice presenting court testimony of forensic analysis of firearms and impressions evidence.
3. Ethics and Quality - Assess and apply ethical standards, integrity, professionalism, and quality assurance standards including ones specifically related to firearms discipline.
4. Practical Implementation - Successful demonstration of comparison microscope operation, forensic firearm identification, supervised firearm assembly/disassembly and operability/armorers training.

Requirements

Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
FSC 633	Quality Assurance and Ethics	3
FSC 661	Firearms and Impression Evidence	3
FSC 671	Firearms and Impressions Evidence II	3
FSC 673	Mechanics of Modern Firearms with lab	3
Total Credits		**12**