

# MEDICOLEGAL DEATH INVESTIGATION, MS

## Contact

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## Faculty

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## Description

The M.S. in Medicolegal Death Investigation is a focused degree program designed to prepare students for all aspects of a career as a death investigator.

This degree is intended for students who have selected this career path, and the objective is to prepare them both for the various aspects of this occupation (case investigation, understanding the body along with pathologies and trauma, autopsy, interviewing skills, securing and documenting evidence, courtroom testimony), as well as working effectively with and understanding other professionals whose roles intersect with death investigation (forensic pathologists, forensic scientists, crime scene investigators, law enforcement officers, toxicologists, and other medical and legal personnel). Graduates of this program will be exceptionally well prepared for this career relative to most applicants for the positions.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Scientific Knowledge and Principles - Apply the scientific foundational principles of forensic pathology and medicolegal death investigation in the criminal justice setting.
2. a Research and Critical Thinking - Identify needs for research in forensic science and critique empirical scientific studies as they relate to the reliability, accuracy, and limitations of forensic practices.  
b Research and Critical Thinking - Use a rationale-based approach to evaluate and analyze a situation and/or in problem solving.
3. Ethics and Quality - Assess and apply ethical standards, integrity, professionalism, and quality assurance protocols and standards in the field of forensic science.
4. Communication and Collaboration - Effectively communicate scientific principles with objectivity and transparency to stakeholders, including scientists and non-scientists.
5. Practical Implementation - Demonstrate procedural and scientific knowledge in death scenes and investigations.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Gateway Courses</b>		
Three of the courses on this list, FSC 657, FSC 668, and ANT 633, serve as options for a single requirement.		
FSC 606	Advanced Forensic Science	3
FSC 631	Statistics for Forensic Science	3

FSC 633	Quality Assurance and Ethics	3
FSC 634	Anatomy & Physiology for Forensic Medicine	3
FSC 635	Medicolegal Death Investigation I	3
FSC 657	Principles of Human Toxicology	3
or FSC 668	Crime Scene Investigation with lab	
or ANT 633	Human Osteology	
FSC 651	Forensic Pathology	3
FSC 667	Forensic Photography with lab	3

### Electives

In addition to the elective courses listed, any FSC course will be accepted by petition.

Select 9 credits of the following: 9

FSC 641	Forensic Analysis of Biological Evidence with lab
FSC 652	Forensic Mental Health
FSC 653	Forensic Toxicology
FSC 655	Computational Forensics
FSC 657	Principles of Human Toxicology
FSC 661	Firearms and Impression Evidence
FSC 663	Bloodstain Pattern Analysis with lab
FSC 664	Latent Print Processing with lab
FSC 665	Latent Prints with practicum
FSC 668	Crime Scene Investigation with lab
FSC 672	Advanced Light Microscopy
FSC 678	Crime Scene Investigation II with lab
ANT 633	Human Osteology
ANT 634	Anthropology of Death
ANT 636	Bioarchaeology
LAW 604	Criminal Law
LAW 708	Constitutional Criminal Procedure - Investigative

### Internship

FSC 670	Experience Credit	3
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Each student is required to participate in an internship in a medical examiner's office, related to forensic pathology and/or medicolegal death investigation. Credits in excess of 3 will be counted as elective credits.

### Seminar Requirement

Each student is required to take FSC 680 (zero credits) each semester and receive a passing grade in the course by attending at least 50% of the offered seminars and complete a final reflection each semester.

<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>36</b>
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