DIGITAL FORENSICS, GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Program Description

The Graduate Certificate in Digital Forensics is designed to provide students with knowledge and skills for the identification, collection, preservation, and examination of various types of digital evidence, including basic and in-depth knowledge and skills in digital forensic analysis policy and procedure, forensic analysis tools and techniques, data recovery, and investigation, as well as quality assurance, legal, and ethical considerations important to this rapidly changing field. This graduate certificate program does not assume, nor does it require, that the applicant have any experience in the field of digital forensics as the course sequence includes instruction ranging from fundamentals to advanced topics.

Employment

Applicants must be aware 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) in the field of Digital Forensics.

Fees

The Forensic Science Fee is a special fee designed to support the Forensic Science Program, which cannot be waived.

Admission Requirements

1. Applicants seeking admission to the Graduate Certificate in Digital Forensics program, without admission to the M.S. Forensic Science degree program, should apply to Marshall University as a Certificate/ Professional Development student. Students will be admitted on a competitive basis for fall semester admissions only. Review of applicants will begin March 1 of each year but applicants may be admitted any time prior to the fall enrollment deadline. As a limited enrollment program, students will be admitted on a space-available basis.

2. Regarding Digital Forensics, those students enrolled in the M.S. in Forensic Science degree program may choose to complete the M.S. Forensic Science with a Graduate Certificate in Digital Forensics **and** the M.S. Forensic Science with an Emphasis in Digital Forensics. Those electing to pursue the Graduate Certificate in Digital Forensics must complete a "Graduate Admissions Secondary Program Request" form at www.marshall.edu/graduate/secondary-program-request-form (http://www.marshall.edu/graduate/secondary-program-request-form/).

3. Applicants must submit official undergraduate transcripts to the Marshall University Graduate Admissions Office verifying that the applicant has a bachelor's degree from an accepted, accredited institution of higher learning and a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.

4. Applicants must submit 2 letters of recommendation to the Graduate Admissions Office, on formal letterhead from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic record and moral character. These letters must be signed and dated.

5. Applicants must submit a "Personal Statement/Statement of Purpose" to the Graduate Admissions Office, written, signed, and dated by the applicant, explaining why the applicant believes he/she should be admitted to the program.

6. Applicants must successfully complete a background check to gain entrance to this program. The procedure for undergoing a background check will be provided once the applicant demonstrates he or she has met all other admissions criteria. International students who have resided in the United States longer than 30 days are required to have a U.S. criminal background check as an admission requirement. As international students have a background check as part of their visa application, international students who have resided in the United States for fewer than 30 days are exempt from undergoing a U.S. background check.

Program Requirements

Successful completion of this Graduate Certificate requires that the student maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or better in 5 required courses with no grade of *C* or less.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		
FSC 632	Found Fund Digital Forensics	3
FSC 634	Comp Search & Seizure	3
FSC 605	F S Digital Imaging	3
FSC 609	Network Forensics	3
FSC 676	Adv Dig Evid Detect Recovery	2
FSC 680	Seminar	2
Total Credit Hours		**16**

Plan of Study

First Year		
First Semester		**Credit Hours**
FSC 632	Found Fund Digital Forensics	3
FSC 609	Network Forensics	3
FSC 680	Seminar	1
	Credit Hours	**7**
Second Semester		
FSC 634	Comp Search & Seizure	3
FSC 605	F S Digital Imaging	3
FSC 676	Adv Dig Evid Detect Recovery	2
FSC 680	Seminar	1
	Credit Hours	**9**
	Total Credit Hours	**16**