

MAKE YOUR MARK AT UC DAVIS

# Forensic Science Graduate Program

The UC Davis MS in Forensic Science is a research-focused graduate program that gives you the academic foundation, practical experience and personal mentorship to pursue a successful career in forensic science. Our diverse faculty include top academics and working professionals who are experts in their fields, ensuring that the UC Davis Master of Science in Forensic Science Program supports you with:

- **Choice**—Select the track – Forensic Criminalistics or Forensic DNA – that matches your interest
- **Flexibility**—Offering full and part-time options that work with your needs and schedule
- **Mentorship**—Work with a faculty advisor whose expertise and research can guide your thesis
- **Network**—Connect with professional alumni throughout California and the nation
- **Professional Expertise**—Learn how to maximize the value of the evidence

For more information or to apply  
[forensicscience.ucdavis.edu](https://forensicscience.ucdavis.edu)



LEARN MORE

**UCDAVIS**  
FORENSIC SCIENCE  
GRADUATE PROGRAM

## Degree at a Glance

- Fall 2025 Application Date: 2/1/2025
- 12 classes (36 units) plus Thesis (18 units)
- 54 quarter units
- Full-time: 9+ units/quarter
- Part-time: 5 or less units/quarter



## Study at a Tier One Research University

Founded in 1908, UC Davis is **one of the world's top research universities** and is **ranked 2nd nationally among public universities**. UC Davis is an incredible place within a welcoming, inclusive and very accessible town. Located in the heart of Northern California, Davis has a friendly, small-town atmosphere with big-city amenities, so you'll have access to all the night life, culture and fun you'd expect from a college town.

## Learn, Research, Publish!

The UC Davis Forensic Science Graduate Program combines coursework, significant lab time, research and practical experience to prepare you for a career in forensic science. You'll complete advanced courses in forensic science, specialized courses in DNA analysis and criminalistics, graduate seminars and electives that match your area of interest. You'll collaborate with expert forensic scientists on your thesis research project with the guidance of a thesis committee. Your final written thesis is presented to faculty, staff and fellow graduate students, and we strongly encourage you to publish your thesis research in peer-reviewed journals. The UC Davis Forensic Science Graduate Program lets you specialize in two academic areas:

**Forensic DNA**—Focuses on molecular biology and the methodologies, applications and interpretation of forensic DNA analysis

**Forensic Criminalistics**—Focuses on the methodologies, applications and interpretations of forensic instrumental analysis, trace evidence, drug chemistry, and toxicology

## UC Davis: The Best School for a Forensic Science Career

A master's degree from UC Davis gives you the knowledge, network and experience to advance your career in a variety of roles and industries. Forensic scientists work in local, regional and state forensic laboratories; private firms; colleges and universities; public defender contracts; district/prosecutor/state attorney's offices; and federal agencies such as the DEA, ATF, Customs and FBI. A master's in forensic science prepares you for work as a:

- DNA Analyst/Technician
- Intelligence Officer
- Forensic Drug Analyst
- Forensic Anthropologist
- Forensic Biologist
- Quality Assurance Manager
- Forensic Pathology Assistant
- Criminalist
- Forensic Toxicologist
- Firearms Examiner
- Latent Print Examiner
- Laboratory Manager/Director
- Medical Examiner
- Materials Analyst
- Forensic Specialist



UC Davis ranked **top 30 forensic science master's degrees** nationwide. 2022 *Intelligent.com*

**UCDAVIS**  
**FORENSIC SCIENCE**  
**GRADUATE PROGRAM**



### What Our Students Say...

"It's beneficial that the professors are working professionals. They've enlightened us about the huge differences between real-life crime laboratories and the portrayals we see on screen."

—*Aldrin Alviar, second-year student*

"I am so glad I was a part of the Forensic Science Program. I met so many lifetime friends, and the program guided me in the right direction to obtain the career I was looking for."

—*Marc Wander, Forensic Scientist and DNA Technician, Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory*

**Take the  
Next Step**

## CONTACT US

To learn more about the program, including admission requirements, costs and course curricula, visit our website or contact us directly:

**Director Ashley Hall**

asmhall@ucdavis.edu

**Graduate Coordinator**

**Brianna Payne**

(530) 747-3912

bmpayne@ucdavis.edu