



Technical Standards for Criminal Justice Technology-Forensic Science

Our program technical standards have been developed to help students understand nonacademic standards, skills, and performance requirements expected of a student in order to complete this particular curriculum.

If an accommodation is necessary to participate in the program, it is imperative to identify a reasonable accommodations to those students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonableness is determined by the Disability Services Office (DSO) and the program on a case-by-case basis utilizing the program technical standards. The accommodation needs to be in place prior to the start of the program, or it may delay your ability to start the program. It is the student's responsibility to contact the DSO and request accommodations.

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
Motor Skills	<p>Must have manual dexterity in all limbs and the ability to reach above shoulder height and stand/walk for long periods of time.</p> <p>Must be able to have the strength to push, pull and lift as well as the strength and ability to carry, stoop, squat and bend.</p> <p>Requires excellent fine motor skills and tactile agility.</p>	<p>CSI's must reach and move around a crime scene, no matter its location like wooded areas, cramped basements, roofs, inside vehicles, etc.</p> <p>They must be able to get into and out of remote or cramped spaces, and may have to crouch or kneel for an extended period of time, while examining, documenting, and collecting evidence.</p>
Vision	Visual acuity sufficient enough to see at close and distant ranges along with color vision, depth perception, and peripheral vision.	Must be able to see small, fine details in the collection and analysis of a variety of evidence including fingerprints, ballistics, toolmarks,

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
		<p>etc. Ability to see and use photographic and video equipment.</p> <p>Must see color changes in chemical reactions in analyzing evidence.</p>
Hearing	Auditory acuity sufficient enough to hear voices and various sounds in ones' environment.	<p>Ability to hear and communicate effectively with radio communicators and others.</p> <p>Utilize hearing as a tool to analyze crime scenes.</p>
Technological	<p>Forensic Science continues to evolve with technology advances in equipment and methodologies.</p> <p>Students and job seekers must continually strive to keep up with these advances.</p>	<p>Gather, analyze, and draw conclusions from data using various computers and instrumentations.</p> <p>Ability to generate reports and documentation using various hardware and software.</p> <p>Ability to see and use photographic and video equipment.</p> <p>Must see color changes in chemical reactions in analyzing evidence.</p>
Communication	Excellent communication skills both verbally and written.	Must be able to communicate with various personnel, victims, witnesses, and others.

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
		<p>Must be able to write effective reports and document all aspects of the criminal investigation.</p> <p>Ability to testify in court as an expert witness.</p>
Critical Thinking/ Problem Solving	Have elite analytical skills and be natural problem solvers.	<p>Have an ability to survey a crime scene, formulate theories on how the different pieces of evidence work together and follow-up on key details.</p> <p>Combine science aptitude, analytical skills and critical thinking to process crime scenes, analyze evidence, and further the investigation.</p>
Interpersonal Skills	Be able to function individually and as part of a team, where appropriate.	<p>Students must be able to adhere to professional ethics and demonstrate a professional manner and insight.</p> <p>Provide flexibility, compassion, integrity, motivation and good judgment in dealing with others.</p>
Environmental Tolerance	Ability to adapt to changing work environment in both inside and outside conditions regardless of the weather or terrain.	CSIs may spend many hours at a crime scene, working in scorching hot weather, rain, sleet, snow or the freezing cold.

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
	May be exposed to communicable and infectious diseases, blood and body fluids.	Required to collect possible hazardous and dangerous evidence.
Background Check/Criminal History/Ethics	Students with a criminal history will likely face difficulties becoming employed in the Forensics field, as many employers are agencies that require a clean background check.	Students must always be mindful of legal, moral & ethical standards.
Senses	Use of 4 of the 5 senses (seeing, hearing, smelling, tactile) in crime scene analysis.	<p>Students must have sufficient sensory capacity to observe and participate in the classroom, laboratory and all practicum settings.</p> <p>Functional vision, hearing, olfactory and tactile sensation must be adequate to accurately observe/ assess and work/process crime scenes in indoor and outdoor environments.</p>

This document is intended to serve as a guide regarding the physical, emotional, intellectual and psychosocial expectations placed on a student. This document cannot include every conceivable action, task, ability or behavior that may be expected of a student. Meeting these technical standards does not guarantee employment in this field upon graduation. Ability to meet the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for any licensure, certification exam, or successful completion of the degree program.