

# GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN FORENSIC SCIENCE (3742)

**Approved Abbreviation:** GradDipForSc  
**Western Sydney University Program Code:** 3742  
**AQF Level:** 8

This program applies to students who commenced in University of Florida, Term 3 2021 or later.

Students should follow the program structure for the session start date relevant to the year they commenced.

Commencement Year 2017 - 3742.1 Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (<http://handbook.westernsydney.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=3742.1>)

The program is designed for applicants who need advanced level knowledge across a range of forensic disciplines including crime scene investigation, fingerprint detection and identification, forensic chemistry, forensic biology, forensic toxicology, illicit drug analysis, and forensic medicine. The fully-online nature of the subjects and the flexibility available with subject selection means that the program can be adapted to suit applicants working or intending to work in areas that include forensic science laboratories, toxicology and pathology laboratories, drug assessment agencies, customs and border protection, law enforcement, and areas related to national security.

- This program is part of a collaborative education partnership with the University of Florida and the University of Lausanne.

## Early Exit

Students may exit this program on completion of 40 credit points with a 3743 Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (<https://hbook.westernsydney.edu.au/archives/2024-2025/programs/graduate-certificate-forensic-science/>)

Study Mode

One year full-time or two years part-time.

## Program Advice

[science@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:science@westernsydney.edu.au) (<https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/email/science@westernsydney.edu.au>)

Prospective students should visit the following websites for general enquiries about this program.

Enquire about this program (<https://enquiry.westernsydney.edu.au/courseenquiry/>) | Local Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/>) | International Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/international/home/apply/admissions/>) |

## Location

Campus	Attendance	Mode	Advice
Online	Full Time	Online	See above
Online	Part Time	Online	See above

## Admission

Applicants must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree in natural or physical sciences.

It is recommended that applicants have completed chemistry and biology subjects in their undergraduate degree

Applicants seeking admission on the basis of work experience must support their application with a Statement of Service for all work experience listed on the application.

Statement of Service form ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/content/dam/digital/pdf/Statement\\_of\\_Service.PDF](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/content/dam/digital/pdf/Statement_of_Service.PDF))

Applications from Australian and New Zealand citizens and holders of permanent resident visas must be made via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). Use the links below to apply via UAC or Western Sydney University. Applications made directly to Western Sydney do not have an application fee.

Applicants who have undertaken studies overseas may have to provide proof of proficiency in English. Local and International applicants who are applying through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will find details of minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof on the UAC website. Local applicants applying directly to the University should also use the information provided on the UAC website.

<http://www.uac.edu.au/>  
<https://westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws/>

Overseas qualifications must be deemed by the Australian Education International - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) to be equivalent to Australian qualifications in order to be considered by UAC and Western Sydney University.

## Program Structure

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 80 credit points including the subjects listed below.

Students may exit with a Graduate Certificate (40 credit points) on completion of the relevant subjects. Refer to link below for structure requirements for this exit award.

Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (<http://handbook.westernsydney.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=3743.2>)

Subject	Title	Credit Points
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### Compulsory subject (10 credit points)

NATS 5001	Crime Scene Investigation (PG)	10
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Subject	Title	Credit Points
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### Select at least 20 credit points of the following: 20

NATS 7001	Advanced Criminalistics	
NATS 7002	Biological Agents 1	
NATS 7008	Environmental Forensics 1	
NATS 7009	Environmental Forensics 2	
NATS 7013	Explosives	
NATS 7014	Fingerprint Detection and Identification	
NATS 7026	Forensic Research 1	
NATS 7027	Forensic Research 2	

<b>Total Credit Points</b>	<b>20</b>
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Subject	Title	Credit Points
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### Select the remaining credit points from: 50

NATS 7003	Biological Agents 2	
NATS 7004	Blood Distribution and Spatter	
NATS 7007	Drug Biotransformation and Molecular Mechanisms of Toxicity	

NATS 7019	Forensic Analysis of DNA
NATS 7058	Forensic Analysis of DNA 2
NATS 7020	Forensic Anthropology (PG)
NATS 7059	Forensic Digital Imaging
NATS 7022	Forensic Genetics
NATS 7023	Forensic Immunology
NATS 7024	Forensic Medicine I
NATS 7025	Forensic Medicine II
NATS 7028	Forensic Toxicology I
NATS 7029	Forensic Toxicology II
NATS 7030	General Toxicology
NATS 7035	Medicinal Chemistry of Drugs of Abuse
NATS 7037	Natural Medicinal Products
NATS 7039	Pharmaceutical Analysis
NATS 7047	Synthetic Medicinal Chemistry
NATS 7048	Toxic Substances
NATS 7049	Toxicology of Chemical Weapons

<b>Total Credit Points</b>	<b>50</b>
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<b>Subject</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credit Points</b>
Overall Total Credit Points		80

### Equivalent Subjects

The subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these subjects in 2017 or earlier.

NATS 7021 - Forensic Entomology