

**DOCTOR OF
PHILOSOPHY DEGREE
IN
FORENSIC SCIENCE**



**PROGRAM
APPLICATION**

Application Instructions

1. All application materials must be received by **December 31st** for consideration the following academic year. Students are accepted in the Fall semester only. A holistic review of each student's application is completed on a competitive basis. Late applications may be accepted; please contact the department directly. *Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.*
2. A Graduate Application via ApplyTexas must be completed online with a non-refundable fee. Applicants will need to create an account in Self Service Center to upload the remaining application requirements.
3. Students must have completed a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in chemistry, biology, forensic or natural science. **Note: In order to be more competitive, it is strongly recommended that students successfully complete Molecular Biology BEFORE the start of the fall semester they intend to apply.**
4. All official transcripts from all universities/colleges attended must be submitted. Credits that have been transferred to another school and appear on the school's transcript are not acceptable as official admissions credentials. These must be requested from each school attended. If the courses are in progress, an updated unofficial transcript must be sent to the department when they are completed. If accepted into the program, a final transcript confirming degree conferral must be sent to the Registrar.
5. Official test scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) must be submitted. Scores cannot be more than five years old at the time of application. GRE subject tests will not be considered in place of the standard GRE. GRE waivers are available on a case by case basis.
6. Three letters of recommendation with Admission Recommendation Checklists - two of which must be from academic sources, preferable from the major department.
7. A personal statement or essay. This should be less than 1,000 words, typed double-spaced and written in narrative form.
8. Current resume or vita.
9. International students without a degree from an institution within the United States must submit an official score from either TOEFL or IELTS in order to demonstrate the ability to use and understand English at the university level. In addition, international transcripts must be evaluated by a NACES accredited third party company or SDR Educational Consultants.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

No otherwise qualified applicant for student enrollment shall be illegally denied admission to Sam Houston State University on the basis of sex, religion, race, color, national origin, age, disability, or other criteria prohibited by law.



**PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE
FORENSIC SCIENCE DOCTORAL PROGRAM
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

PERSONAL DATA

PERSONAL DATA		Date:
Last Name:	First Name:	M.I.:
Social Security #:	Email Address:	
Home Address (Street/Box/Apt):		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Work Address (Street/Box/Apt):		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Fax:

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Are you currently enrolled in a graduate program?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, where?
Have you previously been enrolled at SHSU?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, year last enrolled:
Name under which you were enrolled, if different from above:			

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED

Institution/Address	Degree	Major/Minor	Year Awarded

MEMBERSHIPS AND OFFICES HELD IN HONORARY, COLLEGIATE, AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Please place additional information on a separate sheet of paper)

PUBLICATIONS OR PRESENTATIONS

(Please use place additional information on a separate sheet of paper)

Personal Statement

Please attach a personal statement, not to exceed one thousand (1000) words.

Include in your statement the following:

- Your reasons for pursuing an advanced graduate education
- Your career goals and how the program in forensic science will help you to achieve your goals
- Describe your proposed area of research. Identify specific faculty member(s) in our department that would align with your research goals. Relate your proposed project to your prior experiences.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information submitted in this form and on all credentials submitted in support of my application are complete and accurate. I understand that inaccurate information may affect my admissibility to Graduate Studies and/or may be grounds for dismissal from the program and/or the university.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Graduate Application Supplement

To be completed by the Applicant

Applicant's name:

Last

First

Middle

Major: _____

Minor: _____

The following undergraduate courses are helpful in pursuing a graduate degree in forensic science. To expedite the review process, please indicate whether you have completed, or are in the process of completing the following undergraduate courses. Courses shown in bold are required. Courses shown in italics are recommended. Students who do not have molecular biology *may* be permitted to take this as stem work during their first semester.

Course Name*	Course Number	Institution	Date of Completion	Grade
<i>Instrumental analysis</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Analytical chemistry</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Organic chemistry I	_____	_____	_____	_____
Organic chemistry II	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Quantitative analysis</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____
*Molecular biology	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Genetics</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Biochemistry</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Statistics</i>	_____	_____	_____	_____

Note: In order to be more competitive, it is strongly recommended that students successfully complete Molecular Biology BEFORE the start of the fall semester they intend to apply.

If you would like to provide additional comments or list relevant courses, please do so in the space provided below:

Application Checklist

- Graduate Application
- Non-refundable Application Fee
- Official Transcripts
- Third Party Transcript Evaluation (if applicable)
- Official GRE Scores
- Three Letters of Recommendation and Admission Recommendation Checklists
- Program Application
- Personal Statement
- Current Resume or Vita
- Official TOEFL/IELTS Scores (if applicable)

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

Dr. Sarah Kerrigan
Professor and Chair
Sam Houston State University
Box 2525
1003 Bowers Blvd
Huntsville, TX 77341
Telephone: 936-294-4286
Fax: 936-294-4905
Email: sarah.kerrigan@shsu.edu



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DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN FORENSIC SCIENCE

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Sam Houston State University
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PhD in Forensic Science Overview:
<http://catalog.shsu.edu/graduate/college-departments/criminal-justice/forensic-sciences/forensic-science-phd/>

Forensic Science How To Apply:
<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/forensic-science/admission.html>

SHSU ADMISSIONS

Box 2478
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341-2478
Telephone: 936-294-1971
Fax: 936-294-1271

Frequently Asked Questions:
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/faq.html>

International Students:
<http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/international/>

SHSU FINANCIAL AID

Box 2328
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341-2328
Telephone: 936-294-1774
Fax: 936-294-3668

Admission Recommendation Checklist

To be completed by the Applicant

Applicant's name: _____
Last First Middle

This form is not required as a condition for admission or any other benefits and services from Sam Houston State University. All rights of access to this recommendation conferred by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-380) as amended, or otherwise, are voluntarily waived.

Signature: _____

To be completed by the Respondent

Please evaluate the applicant's qualifications by checking the appropriate spaces.

NB= no basis for judgment 1=poor 2= below average 3=average 4= good 5= excellent

NB 1 2 3 4 5

Intellectual Ability

Problem-solving ability

Knowledge of field of study

Written expression

Oral expression

Maturity

Initiative & leadership skills

Laboratory skills

Creativity and innovation

Potential for graduate study

Teaching ability

Interpersonal skills

Motivation & perseverance

Self confidence

Self-reliance

Your overall recommendation:

Strongly recommend recommend recommend with reservation do not recommend

I have known applicant for _____ years as his/her teacher department chair advisor supervisor

Employer other (please specify) _____

Name (print or type) _____ Title _____

Institution or business _____ Phone () _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please attach the recommendation to this checklist.