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. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

2. A Graduate Admissions Application - http://www.shsu.edu/admissions/ (ApplyTexas.org) must be completed online with a non-refundable application fee.

3. Students must have completed a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution in chemistry or biology; or a bachelor’s degree form a regionally accredited institution in a forensic or natural science with the equivalent of a minor in either chemistry or biology.

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 transcript must be sent when they are completed.

5. Test scores for the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test (GRE) must be submitted. Scores cannot be more than five years old at the time of application.

6. Three letters of recommendation, two of which should be from academic sources. Please submit the Admission Recommendation Checklist with these letters.

7. A personal statement or essay. This should be less than 1,000 words, typed double-spaced and written in narrative form.

8. International students must submit a TOEFL score (Test that measures your ability to use and understand English at the university level) There are two formats: Internet-based Test (IBT) and Paper-based Test (PBT) score of at least 550 on the paper-based test (PBT) or at least 79 on the internet-based test (IBT) and demonstrate a speaking knowledge of English. International students must also submit original evaluation of foreign educational credentials.

**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.
### PERSONAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name:</th>
<th>First Name:</th>
<th>M.I.:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Security #:</td>
<td>Email Address:</td>
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<td>Home Address (Street/Box/Apt):</td>
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<td>City:</td>
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<td>Zip Code:</td>
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<td>Work Address (Street/Box/Apt):</td>
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<td>City:</td>
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<td>Zip Code:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Phone:</td>
<td>Work Phone:</td>
<td>Fax:</td>
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### EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are you currently enrolled in a graduate program? □ Yes □ No □ If yes, where?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have you previously been enrolled at SHSU? □ Yes □ No □ If yes, year last enrolled:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name under which you were enrolled, if different from above:</td>
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### COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution/Address</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Major/Minor</th>
<th>Year Awarded</th>
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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
- Prior experiences which relate to your interest in, and aptitude for, the graduate program

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name*</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Date of Completion</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instrumental analysis</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Analytical chemistry</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Organic chemistry I</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Organic chemistry II</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Quantitative analysis</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Molecular biology</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Genetics</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Biochemistry</strong></td>
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If you would like to provide additional comments or list relevant courses, please do so in the space provided below:

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________
Application Checklist

- Graduate Admissions Application
- Non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts
- Test scores for the Graduate Record Examination
- Three letters of recommendation and Admission Recommendation Checklists
- Program Application
- Personal statement or essay
- TOEFL scores (if applicable)

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

Dr. Sarah Kerrigan
Professor and Chair
Sam Houston State University
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1003 Bowers Blvd
Huntsville, TX 77341
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Email: sarah.kerrigan@shsu.edu

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DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN
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SHSU GRADUATE STUDIES
Box 2478
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341-2478
Telephone: 936-294-1971
Fax: 936-294-1271

SHSU RESIDENCE LIFE
Box 2416
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341-2416
Telephone: 936-294-1812
Fax: 936-294-1920

SHSU FINANCIAL AID
Box 2328
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341-2328
Telephone: 936-294-1724
Fax: 936-294-3668

GRADUATE RECORD EXAM
For information:
Telephone: 609-771-7670,
1-866-473-4373 (toll free for test
takers in the United States, U.S.
Territories* and Canada)
OR
www.gre.org
*American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands