



# MS in Computer Forensics

**Degree Requirement:  
30 credits**

**Core Component  
18 credits**

**Elective component  
12 credits**

## Core Component (18 cr.):

**Either**

CFRS 500 Intro to Technologies of Value to Forensics

**Or**

ISA 562 Information Security Theory and Practice

CFRS 660 Network Forensics  
CFRS 661 Digital Media Forensics  
CFRS 664 Incident Response Forensics

**Either**

CFRS 760 \* Legal and Ethics in IT

**Or**

CFRS 770 \* Fraud and Forensics in Accounting

CFRS 790 + Advanced Computer Forensics

\* Both of these courses may be taken but only one may be used in the core component

+ CFRS 790 is the Capstone Course and may only be taken after a total of 18 credit hours has been completed in the CFRS program, which shall consist of CFRS 500; at least two courses drawn from TCOM 660, 661, and 663; and at least one course from CFRS 760 and 770

Details on the CFRS courses can be found by looking at the CFRS home page:

[http://www.ece.gmu.edu/index.php?id=ms\\_forensics](http://www.ece.gmu.edu/index.php?id=ms_forensics)

Details on courses from other programs can be found by looking at the following web sites:

<http://www.cs.gmu.edu/>

<http://www.law.gmu.edu/>

<http://chss.gmu.edu/>

**NOTE:** INFS and ISA courses are in the CS department

## Elective Component (12 cr.):

A range of courses may be taken within the elective component of the CFRS degree. Given below is a selection of courses that could be part of the plan of study.

CFRS 510 Digital Forensics Analysis  
CFRS 663 Operations of Intrusion Detection for Forensics  
CFRS 760 Legal and Ethics in IT  
CFRS 770 Fraud and Forensics in Accounting  
CFRS 780 Advanced Topics Course  
TCOM 662 Advanced Secure Networking  
ECE 511 Microprocessors  
ECE 646 Cryptography and Computer-Network Security  
ECE 746 Secure Telecommunication Systems  
INFS 785 Data Mining for Homeland Security  
ISA 650 Security Policy  
ISA 652 Security Audit/Compliance Testing  
ISA 656 Network Security  
ISA 674 Intrusion Detection  
ISA 785 Research in Digital Forensics  
LAW 181 Communications Law  
SOC1 607 Criminology

A student interested in moving from the MS in Computer Forensics to the Ph.D. in IT program (see <http://ite.gmu.edu/PhDprogr/>) may want to choose courses for their elective component that prepare them for the Ph.D. program. If this is the case, it will be important for the student to meet with an advisor as soon as possible to map out a coherent plan of study that meets both objectives (CFRS degree and entry into the Ph.D. in IT program)

A student who has a specific professional career objective may want to plan a set of elective courses that match her or his goal within their organization. Again, such a student should seek advice as soon as possible to gain approval for their elective component.