



FIU's **Global Forensic and Justice Center (GFJC)** is the largest and most diverse academic forensic program in the world with a 50-year history of pioneering forensic science from first of the kind bachelors through doctoral programs and innovative training programs supporting industry and government partners nationally and internationally. The GFJC is a leader in terms of external funding, scholarly productivity and production of graduates placed in leading positions at all levels of forensic science. Internationally, other universities that have leading forensic programs include the University Lausanne, University of Technology Sydney, Western Sydney University, and the University of Strathclyde. FIU is the lead university in the nation's only NSF forensic focused Industry University Cooperative Center currently funded until 2028 and collaborating with other leading US forensic programs at Texas A&M, Sam Houston State University, Boston University and Arizona State University. GFJC's priorities are focused on advancing the forensic sciences globally while aligning with FIU's strategic plan to serve our students and our community as highlighted below:

GFJC is Amplifying FIU Forensic Learner Success and Institutional Affinity:

- One of the oldest undergraduate forensic programs in USA beginning in 1974
- Partnered with NFSTC (established in 1995) for innovations for crime labs
- First Florida academic forensic science center approved by the BOG in 1997
- The first MS in Forensic Science in Florida launched in 1998
- First forensic degrees in the nation accredited by the AAFS at both the undergrad and grad levels in 2004
- One of the first PhD programs with Forensic concentration launched in 2005
- First in Florida to offer a Forensic Professional Science Masters in 2012
- GFJC created from merged IFRI/NFSTC named an FIU Preeminent program in 2018
- Facilitates degrees including the first in the nation BS in Crime Science in 2019
- Largest number of micro-credentials covering diverse forensic fields
- #1 Professional Science Masters Program in the country in 2023

GFJC is Accelerating FIU Preeminence and Research and Innovation Impact:

- Research pioneer including in forensic nursing, forensic psychology, digital evidence, environmental forensics and dogs & sensors
- A top producer of papers, patents and presentations at conferences globally
- Hosts largest annual academic forensic conference averaging more than 600 participants in recent years
- Hosts the only forensic NSF IUCRC in the country beginning in 2017 and funded in 2023 until 2028 working with other leading R1 institutions, top government labs and top industries.
- Hosts the only Research Forensic Library in the world launched in 2022 supported in part by the National Institute of Justice
- Supports next gen forensic programs from scene interrogation to quantum forensics
- Houses many Centers of Excellence including the Thermo Fisher Rapid DNA Center of Excellence (CoE), Forensic Imaging CoE, and US Army Digital Forensics COE

GFJC is Assuring FIU Responsible Stewardship:

- A top funded forensic science program with over \$30M in funding currently under management
- Largest academic center in the world with over 100 FIU faculty and staff
- Largest presence at 2023 American Academy of Forensic Science meeting with 28 FIU presentations
- Supports the US government and its allies, protecting national security needs
- Funded by US Department of State to provide forensic mentorship, training, and international forensic accreditation to developing countries.
- Provides training to partners including the Canadian and Australian Defense Forces
- Partner with top industry leaders to support forensic education and research
- Produces forensic leaders across government and private industry



10 Top Forensic Science Programs in the US (note):

1. Florida International University (one of the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive programs)
2. Sam Houston State University (program with one of the largest presences after FIU)
3. Arizona State University (recently created a School of Interdisciplinary Forensic Science)
4. West Virginia University
5. George Mason University
6. Marshall University
7. Michigan State University (the oldest forensic science program in the US)
8. University of Central Florida (the oldest undergraduate forensic science program in Florida)
9. Texas A&M
10. Boston University

Comparisons of other Forensic Centers and Programs to Florida International University's Global Forensic and Justice Center (GFJC):

1. Research - GFJC is known for its comprehensive research facilities and programs. While many of the above institutions have research components, GFJC aims to be a hub for global forensic science research.
2. Interdisciplinary Approach - While some universities focus primarily on chemistry or biology in their forensic programs, GFJC aims for an interdisciplinary approach that includes law enforcement, cybersecurity, and international relations.
3. Global Focus - GFJC not only serves the academic community but also aims to assist globally with forensic and justice issues. This global focus is not commonly found in many other U.S. academic institutions.
4. Practical Experience - While most institutions offer some form of practical experience, the GFJC's close ties with agencies offer students and researchers unique opportunities for real-world application of their skills.
5. Facilities and Equipment - GFJC is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. Other institutions also offer modern labs, but the range and scope of GFJC might be broader given its DOD, DOS DHS, and international focus.
6. Program Variety - GFJC offers a wide range of programs and specializations, including but not limited to forensic chemistry, forensic biology, digital forensics, and forensic psychology. Other institutions might offer fewer specializations.
7. Accreditations - Like many other top programs, GFJC has various accreditations and affiliations that validate the quality of its education and research. Other programs are also accredited but may not have the same range of affiliations.
8. Public and Private Partnerships - GFJC regularly collaborates with both public and private sector organizations for research and development. While other institutions may have public private partnerships, GFJC's partnerships are often international in scope with US allies.

Summary

While other university forensic centers/programs specialize in particular discipline areas or foci on academia, research, or vocational training, The GFJC provides a comprehensive combination of research, training, and community engagement in a multitude of discipline areas. The GFJC sets itself apart from both domestic and international forensic academic institutions by delivering a distinctive comprehensive, multidisciplinary, and global approach.