

## M. A. in Forensic Mental Health

### Why it's for you

Forensic Mental Health is one of the fastest growing areas of specialization in psychology and criminal justice. As more cities and states recognize the expanding demand for programs, services, planning, and supervision of clients who have both mental health needs & criminal justice involvement, professionals are in demand to address these needs. These professional "boundary spanners" provide specialized expertise across the many social systems these clients utilize including the criminal justice, mental health, substance abuse, and social service systems. To meet these needs, this interdisciplinary M.S. program includes courses in both the Sage Graduate School & the Albany Law School.

This 36 credit graduate program will prepare you to be an effective professional in your area of specialization by providing an exciting cross-disciplinary program including criminal justice, psychology, and law. You will learn about the many issues facing agencies, individuals, and families who are affected by forensic mental health system & rational, effective solutions to these complex issues.

Courses are taught by graduate faculty at The Sage Colleges and by law faculty at Albany Law School through a cross-registration agreement. The M.S. degree is granted by Sage.

If you already have a post-baccalaureate degree such as in psychology, criminal justice, or law, you can elect to pursue a Certificate in Forensic Mental Health (18 credits).

### Faculty

You'll learn from and work with faculty who are experts and practitioners in the field of forensic mental health – criminal justice, psychology, and law. At Sage, you'll study alongside professors who practice what they teach.

### Admission

In addition to the general admission requirements for Sage Graduate School, applicants must have:

- a minimum undergraduate GPA 3.0 for regular admission to the program.
- statistics and two courses in social and behavioral sciences
- completion of FMH application form
- two letters of recommendation, including at least one academic reference

### Program Summary

**Credit Hours**

*All courses are 3 credits except as noted*

**Total degree credit hours: 37**

#### Degree Requirements

1. Completion of all required & elective courses (36 credit hours).
2. Completion of a 300-hour externship in forensic mental health setting (3 credits). All placements are after the completion of 25 credit hours.

#### M.S. Program Course Requirements:

FMH/PSY 505	Intro to Forensic Mental Health
FMH/PSY 510	Victim & Victim Services
PSY 575	Abnormal Psychology
FMH/PSY 515	Evaluation & Treatment of Adult Offenders
FMH/PSY 520	Evaluation & Treatment of Court Involved Youth
SOC 550	Research Methods (online – 2 cr)
FMH 540	Externship
LAW	Introduction to US Law (2 cr)
LAW	Law & Psychiatry
LAW	Criminal Law or Criminal Procedure (by advisement)
LAW	Family Law
LAW	Guardianship Practice

LAW/PSY/Thesis Elective by advisement

#### Certificate Course Requirements: (18 credits)

FMH/PSY 505	Intro to Forensic Mental Health
PSY 575	Abnormal Psychology
FMH/PSY 515	Evaluation & Treatment of Adult Offenders
FMH/PSY 520	Evaluation & Treatment of Court Involved Youth
LAW	Family Law or Law & Psychiatry

LAW or FMH Elective by advisement

#### In addition to the above course requirements, students are expected to:

- achieve a grade of B or better in all courses
- maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better
- demonstrate effective professional behavior, including effective interpersonal skills, sound judgment, and ethical behavior.



smart. dynamic. engaged.

## The Professional Connection

Sage Graduate School offers distinctive advanced degree programs that address a spectrum of human concerns and reflect a sensitivity and responsiveness to the local community and the broader society. At Sage Graduate School, the emphasis is on applying research and theory to practical, professional situations. Sage's diverse and talented faculty are practitioners themselves, and are committed to helping students acquire the professional skills and the connections to manage and change the workplaces of tomorrow.

### Suggested Course Sequence

Summer #1		Fall #1		Spring#1		Fall #2	
Course Title	Credit Hours	Course Title	Credits Hours	Course Title	Credit Hours	Course Title	Credit Hours
Research Methods (OL)	2	Intro to FMH	3	Victims & Victim Services	3	Adult Offenders	3
		Abnormal Psychology	3	Youth Offenders	3	Externship	3
		Family Law	3	Law & Psychiatry	3	Law/Psy/thesis elective	2-3
		Intro US Law	2	Crim Law or Crim Pro Surv	3	Guardianship Practice	3
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>11-12</b>

### For more information please contact:

Dr. Maureen McLeod  
 Professor, Sociology and Criminal Justice  
 Director, Graduate Program in Forensic Mental Health  
 fmhp@sage.edu

Amy Wheland  
 Administrative Assistant  
 (518) 244-2245  
 whelaa@sage.edu

### Contact Admission:

Sage Graduate School  
 Office of Admission  
 45 Ferry Street  
 Troy, NY 12180  
 (518) 244-2217  
 sgsadm@sage.edu

[www.sage.edu/sgs/admission](http://www.sage.edu/sgs/admission)

