



# FORENSIC EXPERT ACTIVITIES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME



## PROGRAM ADVANTAGES

- ✓ Knowledge of modern technologies in the field of forensics, the theoretical basis on which the modern practice of expert research production, organizational and legal foundations of forensic expert activities are based.
- ✓ Knowledge of standardization in forensic expert activities, a large-scale transformation of the activities of forensic institutions of the Ministry of Justice of Russia to meet the requirements of international standards of the International Organization for Standardization – ISO (International Organization for Standardization), implementation of a quality management system and certification of experts and teaching materials.
- ✓ Thanks to the international composition of the training group, its own network of professional international contacts is being built at the university.
- ✓ The peculiarities in training are wide opportunities to be acquainted with the modern potential of forensic expertise and acquire practical experience at the head forensic institution, other leading forensic institutions of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation.
- ✓ Regularly held international conferences have won a steady interest in the proposed topics of the meetings and discussions since 2016.
- ✓ The opportunity to participate in a student exchange programme with partner universities.
- ✓ The opportunity to participate in scientific projects: together with the Federal budget institution “Russian Federal Center of Forensic Science of the Ministry of Justice (RFCFS)” the department develops modern methodological support for innovative expert research, participates in the development of standards and guidelines of the national (GOST R), interstate (GOST) and international (ISO) standardization systems.



# STUDYING PROCCCESS

**120 credits.**

**Lectures, seminars, practical exercises and individual work, several types of internships**



## BASIC PART

- Philosophy of Law
- History and methodology of legal science
- Comparative Law
- Foreign language
- Current problems of using special knowledge in modern legal proceedings
- Forms of using special knowledge in legal proceedings, consulting and auditing activities of an expert and a specialist, forensic examination, its capabilities, and technical, legal and organizational problems



## LEGAL BASIS FOR THE APPOINTMENT AND CONDUCT OF FORENSIC EXPERTISE

- Work with regulatory legal acts in the field of forensic expert activities.
- Analysis of various legal phenomena, legal facts, legal norms and legal relations that are the objects of professional activity in the field of appointment, conduct, evaluation of the results of forensics.
- The resolution of legal problems and conflicts, the implementation of substantive and procedural law, the adoption of necessary measures to use special knowledge in legal proceedings.



## FORENSIC METHODOLOGY

- Methods of the general theory of forensic examination and the methods of practical expert activity developed by it.
- The nature and status of the initial data of forensic expertise, their influence on the choice of a system of methods and means of expert research.
- Stages of forensic research, the basics of algorithmization and mathematization of forensic expert activities.
- Assessment and use of the results of forensic examinations in law enforcement activities.
- Analysis of judicial and forensic practice in the field of criminal and civil proceedings.





## **THE HISTORY OF THE EMERGENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF FORENSICS**

- Stages of the emergence and development of special knowledge for many centuries of our era, interesting facts of history, the formation of the institution of forensics.



## **THE MODERN THEORY OF FORENSICS**

- The modern theory of forensic science has a clear internal structure that has been accepted by the scientific community for many years at the turn of the 20th-21st centuries. Recent transformations in Russian society, international integration in all spheres of activity leave their imprint on forensic expert activities. Currently, the modern theory of forensics synthesizes within itself the provisions of quality management in accordance with international standards, thereby modifying its internal structure.



## **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY OF FORENSIC EXPERT ACTIVITIES**

- As a synthetic science, forensics operates with all the achievements of scientific and technological progress, including computer technology through their research in the framework of forensic computer-technical examinations.



# STUDENTS FEEDBACK

## **KHANZAFAROVA DILYA, RUSSIA**

“ When I was offered to do forensics, I agreed without hesitation, because I understood that research is mine. After getting acquainted with this area and worked a little, I faced a number of problems. The main one was the lack of a legal base. Legal incompetence threatens the researcher with millions of consequences of varying severity and almost always leads to an error in the study. After all, we are called upon to help the court and the investigation, expressed in the language of law, and there will be very little help from a person who speaks another language - a foreigner, if you like.

Especially for those who are interested in exploring and actually seeing the fruits of their work, a specialization “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement” has been created on the basis of RUDN University. It is a specialization where the basics of expert thinking are taught. An obvious plus of our department is our teachers, who devoted themselves to the development of expertology as a science, people “in the know”, holding their finger on the pulse. Always loyal, pleasant interlocutors, ready to give a qualified answer on your question. It’s worth saying that it is valuable when you are treated more likely not as an immature student, but as a colleague. ”

## **SANDOVAL ANGELICA, REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR**

“ I am a first year master student at the Law Institute master’s programme “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement”. In my homeland, I studied forensic psychological expertise. In this program, I have learnt a lot of interesting and useful things for my study. Very interesting disciplines and attentive teachers. Thank! ”



# STUDENTS FEEDBACK

 **MEDVEDEVA ANNA, RUSSIA**

“ The master’s programme “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement” has no analogues in Russia. This is a unique programme of studying Russian law and developing students’ law enforcement and law-making skills in the field of forensic expert activities.

Only the Law Institute of RUDN University enables specialists of various profiles to master the specifics of forensic expert activities. At the same time, the students study not only Russian law and law enforcement practice, but also comprehend other sciences and teachings in accordance with the types of expert examinations under study (trasology, biology, psychology, etc.). The RUDN campus allows master students to interact with students of various faculties, get special information from them, share experience and reinforce their knowledge. The programme contains a practical approach focusing on international experience and the activities of foreign partners.

This programme is exactly the case when “learning” and “pleasure” are synonyms. The students undergoing training are often already expert, mature and successful professionals. They get the opportunity to stay in touch with their colleagues, continue to develop, communicate and create something new in science, and master students who have recently received their first degrees acquire a unique opportunity to learn not only from teachers, but also from their more experienced classmates.

The teachers of “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement” department are experienced specialists of the international level. The head of the department is Smirnova S.A. - Medal holder of the Order “For Merit to the Fatherland” I st degree. The teachers always provide assistance to their students, oversee the entire educational process, while maintaining an individual approach to each student.

The master’s programme “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement” allows the students to receive a high-quality, diverse education that meets international standards and makes it possible to perform professional functions in any federal executive authorities of Russia, including law enforcement agencies and other organizations involved in forensic expert activities. ”





# HEAD OF THE PROGRAMME

**SVETLANA A. SMIRNOVA**



Doctor of Law, Professor, Honored Lawyer of the Russian Federation, Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation; Director of the Russian Federal Center of Forensic Science of the Ministry of Justice.

**Thesis:** “Organizational and Tactical Problems of the Development of Forensic Expert Activities.”

## **FIELDS OF SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS:**

optimization and modernization of forensic expert activities in order to increase the effectiveness of law enforcement mechanisms.

- The author of scientific articles in peer-reviewed Russian and foreign scientific journals (Higher Attestation Commission, SCOPUS, Web of Science), regularly makes presentations at international conferences on forensic science issues. The author of more than 150 scientific and methodological works on the theory and practice of forensic science. Co-author of textbooks and monographs, for example: “Forensic Expert Activities in Law Enforcement. Introduction to the Master’s program” (2016), “Forensic Expertise in International Law Enforcement” (2019).
- Awards: Medal of the Order “For Merit to the Fatherland” 1st degree, Laureate of the St. Petersburg International Legal Forum “Contribution to the Development of Legal Integration in the Eurasian Space” Prize, Anatoly Koni and Gavriil Derzhavin Medals, Diploma of the Council of Ministers of Justice of Member States EurAsEC and others.