Our highly experiential curriculum centers on medicine and aims to help students positively affect the lives of patients, their families and the community. Our holistic approach to investigation will teach you to consider all aspects of a crime scene — scientific, environmental, as well as mental factors at play. You’ll search for answers together with your peers in mock crime scenes, accident reconstructions and clandestine gravesites. Students also benefit greatly from our esteemed faculty members with years of experience in their fields.

Once you graduate, you’ll have the analytical and critical-thinking skills to help you achieve justice for those who can’t speak for themselves.

The Master of Science in Forensic Medicine program at our Philadelphia campus prepares students to become lifelong learners by developing analytic and critical thinking skills.
Students collaborate outside their disciplines to gain experiential learning.

Osteopathic medicine emphasizes total wellness — in body, mind and spirit. In every discipline, we learn to treat the whole human by considering physical, environmental and psychological aspects of a problem.

The additional skillsets students gain at PCOM empower them to impact humanity.

We teach not just how to treat problems but how to prevent them altogether.

Many PCOM students are highly engaged in their communities through a wide variety of philanthropic efforts and advocacy.

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine has been at the forefront of medicine for more than a century, and Georgia Campus was founded more than a decade ago with the same underlying principles.

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DEVELOPING
SKILLS THROUGH
PRACTICE

AS A PCOM FORENSIC MEDICINE STUDENT, YOU’LL EXPLORE A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING:
• Forensic pathology, anthropology, odontology and entomology
• Fingerprint, blood-splatter and crime-scene analysis
• Ballistics
• Toxicology
• DNA
• Arson and fire investigation
• Sexual-assault victim evaluation

Our comprehensive program is designed with flexible options for working professionals. It takes place in-person and online over a two-year period.

YEAR 1
During your first year, you’ll experience face-to-face classes one weekend every month, covering forensic medicine principles and pathology. You’ll also learn about research design and methodology through an online component.

YEAR 2
In year two, you’ll continue your work online while conducting a capstone project that could potentially involve working with a coroner’s office on interesting cases and crime-scene topics. Courses will focus on law and evidentiary procedure, bioethics and evidence-based medicine.

ONLINE FORENSIC MEDICINE PATHWAY PROGRAM
Do you want to study forensic medicine, but don’t have a scientific background? This online summer preparatory course is designed for non-science majors who possess a bachelor’s degree in a forensic-related field. Upon successful completion of the Pathway Program, you can enter the Master of Science in Forensic Medicine Program beginning fall semester.

Non-science majors can apply to our Pathway Program to gain the educational foundation required to enroll in forensic medicine studies at PCOM.

PCOM has the only forensic medicine program in the region led by a board-certified pathologist.
Forensics: A Future of Investigating the Past

Jim McCans is a PCOM graduate and assistant professor, the director of paramedics for Haverford Township, and an all-around hero. He’s also served as the lead tactical medic for the Philadelphia FBI SWAT team and spent 19 years as a flight paramedic at the University of Pennsylvania. His partner is an equally courageous black Labrador, Stache, who Jim trained as PCOM’s cadaver dog. Together, Stache and Jim have served in Iraq, the aftermath of Katrina, and numerous cases in Pennsylvania.

Make a difference by standing out
As a PCOM Forensic Medicine graduate, you have a unique set of skills and an approach to thinking that will benefit you in a wide variety of careers, some of which could include:

- Accident-scene investigator
- Autopsy technician
- Coroner
- Forensic investigator
- Legal consultant
- Trauma/emergency medicine/psychiatric nurse
- Sexual-assault nurse examiner
- Social-services investigator

Many graduates choose to further their education in medical related fields, such as emergency medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics or medical examination. Others pursue careers in psychology, law, investigation or other fields.

Our faculty members have valuable experience holding influential positions in their respective fields, including:

- Chief deputy coroner
- Head of forensic unit
- Director of paramedics
- FBI SWAT team member
- Police detective
- Certified bomb expert

Our program will give you the analytic and critical thinking skills to tackle the challenges you’ll face as a professional in forensic medicine.
For more than a century, we’ve educated talented physicians, health practitioners and behavioral scientists who focus on the whole person instead of individual symptoms.

Our main campus is located on the beautiful outskirts of Philadelphia, a city that boasts some of the top hospitals and medical schools in the nation. It’s the perfect environment to build a network and launch a career in the world of healthcare.

Evans Hall is the main building on campus, featuring video-equipped amphitheaters, a cafeteria, research and anatomy labs, a digital library, an osteopathic manipulative medicine lab and more.

At Rowland Hall, students will find the Dr. Michael and Wendy Saltzburg Clinical Learning & Assessment Center, classrooms, study areas, computer labs, student services, academic offices and other support operations.

Our students are just as committed to the community as they are to their classwork. More than 50 student organizations at PCOM are actively making a difference in people’s lives. And our four PCOM Healthcare Centers serve people who need care in urban areas of Philadelphia and rural Sullivan County. We even have a location on campus to treat community members.
We review our applications the same way our students take on challenges — with a holistic approach. Transcripts and test scores are important. However, we evaluate our prospective students as complete individuals.

To find out more about our admissions requirements, please visit pcom.edu/admissions.