CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE
Graduate Studies

ONLINE

Master of Science
Digital Forensic Management

"I WAS SPECIFICALLY LOOKING FOR A DEGREE THAT COMBINED ASPECTS OF DIGITAL FORENSICS AND MANAGEMENT..."
—CONSTABLE RYAN D.

Extract the Most from a Digital Forensics Management Program

The Champlain Master of Science in Digital Forensic Management program offers digital forensic professionals the first degree of its kind focused on delivering highly specialized management education and knowledge of the unique law-enforcement challenges and technical issues presented by computer crime, including data reporting, investigative and forensics tools, structuring a computer crime unit, updated laws, special research, and managing cooperation with the high-tech industries.

With the experience-based learning prescribed by our groundbreaking Integrated Reflective Practice (IRP) pedagogy, your workplace—your law enforcement agency or private sector organization—becomes an extension of the classroom, a forensics learning laboratory in which assignments, discussions and projects tie management theory to the practice of digital forensics. The program's work-based projects enable you to have interaction with colleagues at all levels of your organization, giving you greater on-the-job visibility.

This master's degree builds on Champlain's reputation for innovation in digital forensics education, and complements our undergraduate offerings and master's program in Digital Forensic Science.

Award-Winning Program

NATIONAL CENTER OF DIGITAL FORENSICS ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Champlain College was the First School in the Northeast Designated as a National Center of Digital Forensics Academic Excellence by the Defense Cyber Crime Center.

NATIONAL CENTER OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
Recognized as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the National Security Agency and the U.S Department of Homeland Security.

BEST CYBER SECURITY HIGHER EDUCATION
Champlain College received the gold award for exemplary professional leadership in information-technology (IT) security from *SC Magazine*.

Admissions Information

Our admissions process is ongoing throughout the calendar year. Applications are processed within two to three weeks of the Admissions Office receiving all required materials. Applicants will be contacted for interviews in order to complete the process.

Admissions Requirements

Champlain recommends that applicants have a bachelor's degree in digital or computer forensics, computer science, or a similar degree. We recognize that practitioners in digital forensics come from a range of backgrounds and that, historically, courses in the field have been limited. Applicants who are currently working in digital forensics, computer forensics, computer sciences or a similar field may apply; however, some preparatory forensic course work may be required.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Transcripts
- Resume
- Essay
- Letter of recommendation
- TOEFL (for students whose undergraduate degree program was not conducted in English)
- Personal interview

For complete Admissions requirements and applications, please visit **champlain.edu/msdfm-admissions**.

Credit for Life Experience & Transfer Credit

At the graduate level, academic credit cannot be given for life experience or equivalency exams. On a case-by-case basis, you may transfer in graduate-level credits from another accredited institution. At the time of admission, up to six graduate-level credits may be transferred in. All transfer credit is accepted at the sole discretion of Champlain College.

Enrollment Schedules

When you enter the program, you and your advisor will develop a personal plan that allows you to start and complete the program as soon as possible, given your personal goals and the annual schedule of course offerings.

Tuition & Fees

This is a 36-credit program, and prerequisites may be required if you have not had certain courses in the field. Most students carry three to six credits per term and pay at the per-credit-hour rate as they go. Tuition is subject to change. For current tuition information, please visit **champlain.edu/msdfm-admissions**.

REGISTER FOR A FREE ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION:

Hear directly from the program director and Admissions representatives, and get your questions answered.

CHAMPLAIN.EDU/MSDFM

Certificate in Digital Forensic Management

The graduate certificate in Digital Forensic Management (12 credits) can be a career-booster. And if you decide later that you want to pursue a Champlain master's in Digital Forensic Management, you'll be well on the way to earning a degree, as all credits transfer. Some certificate credits also will transfer into the master's degree program in Digital Forensic Science.

Courses Developed by Digital Forensics Experts

The program addresses the specific needs of digital forensic management by bringing best practices of real-world forensic techniques to the classroom.

COURSE SUMMARIES

INTEGRATED REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

Taught through a required three-day residency experience and an eight-week course, this class provides the basis of both the philosophy and the professional development perspective used in all subsequent management courses. The emphasis of the content will be on the importance of work practice and experience as a basis for management development, and on the use of experience for personal and organizational learning.

THE PRACTICE OF DIGITAL INVESTIGATIONS

This course introduces the principles that are essential to the management of digital investigations, providing a framework that includes technical, legal and managerial issues. Students will examine the mission of digital investigations from the various perspectives of the public and private sectors, including digital forensics in support of activities ranging from internal corporate investigations, responses to information security incidents, and policy auditing to third-party investigations, criminal investigations and anti-terrorism information-gathering—and discussing the imperatives of each.

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT & OPERATIONS

This course approaches an organization's operations and processes from both the initial design and continuous improvement perspectives. Students will develop the ability to define, design and improve business processes—something now considered to be one of the most frequently cited skills for today's workplace. Among the areas of practice included are the governance of financial resources, the innovative use of operational data, and the economics of improvement programs.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

This course introduces a systematic process for planning, organizing and controlling projects, based on a practical methodology for completing projects more quickly with fewer problems. Students will develop and apply a framework to better manage projects, exercise both hard and soft project management skills, and affect organizational culture toward acceptance of project management. Course content is aligned with the Project Management Institute (PMI) processes and knowledge areas, but will center on the process of project management. Areas of practice addressed include the measurement and improvement of processes, the application to customer and marketing management, and financial decision-making.

FINANCIAL DECISION-MAKING FOR MANAGEMENT

IT planning, system development and operations issues cannot be separated from financial considerations. Managers must understand the impact of their work on the organization's bottom line. Managers must understand how the organization's financial models work in order to make a meaningful contribution to the overall success of the organization. This course surveys the elements of financial management and their impact on the IT function. Tools required to develop successful business cases, as well as modeling and simulation tools, will be introduced.

IT SECURITY & STRATEGY

The security of information and information systems is inextricably linked to the operation and assets of any organization. This course provides the essentials of IT security from a management perspective. It examines the processes of security, including information assurance, privacy, backup and recovery, and disaster preparedness. The course provides an overview of information security processes for managers. Students will examine methodologies for implementing security, security policies, best current practices, privacy, backup/recovery, disaster preparedness and incident response. The outcome of this process is a strategic security plan.

LEGAL PRINCIPLES OF DIGITAL INVESTIGATIONS

This course discusses advanced legal issues related to the seizure of digital devices. The course will review such laws as the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA), Electronic Communication Privacy Act (ECPA) and Privacy Protection Act (PPA), with particular attention paid to evolving decisional law surrounding the Fourth Amendment and digital devices. Liaison to other agencies, law of other countries and international laws will also be examined. Issues related to trial preparation, presentation of digital evidence,

use of expert witnesses and providing testimony will be examined in detail. Special attention will be paid to jurisdictional differences related to digital investigations and cybercrime, particularly as they relate to rules of evidence. Students in this course will be expected to have basic familiarity with criminal law and procedure.

COMPUTER FORENSICS LABORATORY OPERATIONS & MANAGEMENT

This course discusses practices and issues related to the management of a computer forensics lab for either the public or private sector. Topics will include best practices in lab operation, case management, evidence management and storage, maintaining proficiency, personnel training and certification, and development of policies and procedures. Accreditation from organizations such as the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) and compliance with standards such as ISO 17025 will be discussed, including the pros and cons, cost and process of compliance, impact on employees and processes, etc.

DIGITAL INVESTIGATION FOR CIVIL LITIGATION

The course introduces principles of digital investigations that are specific to civil litigation. While litigation support services typically utilize many of the same tools, processes and procedures as public sector criminal investigations, private sector use of computer forensics frequently involves issues that the public sector does not often consider, such as data recovery and restoration, erasure of media, and electronic discovery. Students will examine case studies of public sector digital investigations to compare with private sector methodologies.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This course provides an overview of the research process from the experimental, developmental and evaluative perspectives. Techniques for planning and designing projects, as well as the methodologies for data collection, evaluation and analysis, are examined. Students gain an understanding of related statistical measures.

LEGAL ISSUES FOR MANAGEMENT

This course will address the legal—and ethical—issues related to operating public and private sector organizations. Topics will include public and private sector labor law; regulations and policies governing personal information, as well as personnel, medical, financial and other records (e.g., Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA], Gramm-Leach-Bliley, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA] and Sarbanes-Oxley [SOX]); applying for and administering grants from public and private sources; and reporting and neutrality requirements. Human resource issues related to hiring and managing employees and consultants will also be covered.

INTEGRATIVE CAPSTONE PROJECT

The foundation of the Digital Forensic Management curriculum is our Integrated Reflective Practice, an approach based on the principle that real work experiences will help you understand theory. This course will provide students with the opportunity to integrate all disciplines and competencies that have been learned in this program into a single work-based project, internship experience or other appropriate activity. The project will be the culmination of a student's studies integrated in their area of specialization or expertise. In cooperation with an advisor, the student will design, research and implement a project that is comprehensive in nature and which addresses, to the extent feasible, all core areas of knowledge around which the program has been built.

THE RESIDENCY EXPERIENCE

Students in the MSDFM program participate in a required on-site Graduate Management Residency Experience, which is one teaching module in the online course MBA 500: Integrated & Reflective Practice.

For the residency, graduate students from several Champlain management programs come together in Burlington, VT, for three days of facilitated workshops and seminars. The residency is offered three times a year, during the fall, winter and summer.

For more curriculum information and program competencies, please visit **champlain.edu/msdfm.**

Academic Excellence

Get your online graduate degree through classes that are instructor-led, with asynchronous scheduling, no set meeting time, and 24/7 access to instruction and assignments in a program that is designed for full-time working professionals.

Taught by Industry Experts

Champlain's faculty members have distinguished themselves through their professional experience. They have worked for the FBI, and as lawyers, police officers and corporate consultants.

Deep Digital Forensic Management Learning

Courses concentrate on delivering the skills needed to coordinate technologies and resources during complex computer system analyses, digital crime investigations, the electronic discovery process and litigation support.

Work-Based Projects

Your courses feature learning in context through work-based projects: you apply the concepts taught in the class to solve real information assurance and data security issues, and cyber crime and other digital-information problems in your workplace.

Powerful Networking Opportunities

The master's degree program in Digital Forensic Management has been developed for professionals already working in the field of digital forensics. Digital investigators, and others working in electronic or high-tech crime units, will be your classmates.

As pioneers in this field, your fellow students—hailing from points all across the country—will have much to offer in terms of sharing experiences, advice and professional contacts.

Center for Digital Investigation

Part of Champlain's innovation in digital forensics is the Senator Patrick Leahy Center for Digital Investigation (LCDI), which provides computer forensics and digital investigation operational support, training, research and technical services to law enforcement agencies around the nation. Students in the graduate Digital Forensic Management program have access to the Center, a hub for research and professional development for Champlain students and faculty.

Clear Management Career Path

Digital forensics is a burgeoning field in which there are many opportunities in local, state and federal law enforcement and government agencies, as well as positions in private-sector firms engaged in digital investigations, data recovery and electronic discovery. Other opportunities in forensics include software development, information security, and organizations with significant policy auditing requirements for information assurance.

New students can start classes
August, January and May

Five 8-week terms per year

36 credit hours
Accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

CONTACT A GRADUATE ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE AT:
GRADSCHOOL@CHAMPLAIN.EDU Find out more about how to grow your future.

CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE
Graduate Studies

Contact

Office of Graduate Admissions
163 South Willard Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401

GradSchool@champlain.edu

866.282.7259

About Champlain College

Located in Burlington, VT, Champlain College is a private, not-for-profit college founded in 1878. Champlain has been a leader in online graduate degrees since 1993. Our deep commitment to academic excellence and student learning is reflected in our distinctive educational approach: we integrate the high academic standards and rigor that characterize all important learning with the development of relevant professional skills through hands-on application in real-world situations.

LET US DARE