

## WVU FIS Graduate Student Application Essay

Submit a writing sample by the applicant with a length between 3-6 pages. The writing sample may be one or more of the following:

- a peer-reviewed publication where the applicant was the lead author (published, accepted or in-press);
- an honors thesis, research report or capstone report in which the applicant is the sole author, either converted to a publication-ready document, conforming to a preprint to be submitted to a peer reviewed journal (such as JFS or FSI), or converted to a white paper (a maximum length of 6 pages, single-spaced);
- an essay (single space Times New Roman, 12-point font) discussing one of the following statements:
  - “Forensic science will survive criticism about its reliability.”
  - “The role of NIST OSAC in strengthening forensic practice.”
  - “Describe ways in which standards approved by the NIST OSAC organization have helped to strengthen the practice of forensic science.”
  - “Describe the recent developments in the error rates or uncertainty in any chosen domain of forensic science.”
  - “Forensic laboratories would benefit from reinforcing the silos of forensic science.”