

Relationship Training

The application of Forensic DNA-STR analysis in the resolution of mass disaster identification and paternity-based criminal searches has increased in recent years. As such, there is a need for analysis to comprehend the underlying logic in statistically assessing biological relationships.

MUFSC offers two Forensic Relationship Training sessions, as part of our Forensic DNA Training Program. Laboratory analysts interested in implementing cases related to relationships (paternity/maternity, body identification, reconstructions, etc.) into their current workflow will benefit from the training sessions we provide.

Session 1

General Relationships:

This training session provides the tools to implement DNA relationship testing for the most commonly encountered cases.

Topics include:

- History & Evolution of Relationship Testing
- Statistics Review
- Relationship Specific Statistics
- Standard Trio Comparisons
- Single Parent Comparisons
- Reverse Comparisons
- Relevant Standards in Relationship Testing
- Reporting & Testifying to Results
 Previous Experience with DNA relationship comparisons is not required for Session 1, though individuals should have a basic knowledge of

Session 2

Advanced Relationships:

This training session provides logic to resolve complex DNA kinship analysis for cases invloving body identification, mass identification/mass disasters and familial searching.

Topics include:

- Review of Relationship Statistics
- Full & Half Siblings
- Multiple Siblings
- Avuncular
- Multiple Avuncular
- Grandparentage
- Mass Disaster Identifications
- Familial Searching

Previous experience with DNA relationship comparison is highly recommended for Session 2. This Training is statistically intensive.

Attendee Certification

All attendees will receive a Certificate of Attendance. In addition, attendees can voluntarily participate in a post-training test. Any attendee scoring 80% or higher on the test will also receive a Certificate of Competency.

Attendee Requirements

Attendees are responsible for procuring travel arrangements, lodging, and meals for their training sessions at the Marshall University Forensic Science Center

- Have a desire to expand professional knowledge of DNA statistical analysis of bio-relationships.
- Be willing to actively participate in classroom activities and discussions.
- Be willing to travel to attend training.