ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY ABERDEEN

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Forensic Practice

Reference	AS3080	Version	4
Created	August 2021	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	April 2010	SCQF Points	15
Amended	August 2021	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To provide law students with an understanding of forensic science practice, the different areas of forensic expertise and the underlying theory ,strengths and limitations of different types of forensic evidence. To understand the skills required for the presentation of scientific evidence.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

1	Describe the roles of personnel involved in forensic investigations.
2	Explain a range of evidence types and appraise their importance in forensic investigations.
3	Explain the role of the forensic scientist within the legal process.
4	Carry out a practical forensic examination, including evidence recovery exercise and assessment.

Indicative Module Content

Organisation of forensic science provision in the UK, forensic science disciplines & personnel. Crime Scene Examination, laboratory examination and analysis. Types of evidence: drugs, toxicology, impressions & marks, trace evidence, firearms, questioned documents, fire examination, DNA, other specialisms. The role of the forensic scientist within the criminal justice system. Interpretation, evaluation of the strength of evidence and presentation.

Module Delivery

The module will be delivered by a series of lectures with supplementary tutorials. Students will also undertake some forensic laboratory exrcises.

Indicative Student Workload

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	36	36
Non-Contact Hours	114	114
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Examination	Weighting:	70%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3
Description:	Closed book exam with 70% weighting				

Component 2

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	30%	Outcomes Assessed:	4
Description:	Laboratory based research exercise with 30% weighting				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The first grade represents Component 1 (EX1) weighted as major and the second, Component 2 (CW1), weighted as minor. A minimum module grade of D is required for a pass, with compensation of grade E in Component 1 or Component 2 permitted. Non-submission of either component will result in an NS grade.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	AA, AB
B	AC, AD, AE, BA, BB, BC, CA
C	BD, BE, CB, CC, CD, DA, DB
D	CE, DC, DD, DE, EA, EB, EC
E	AF, BF, CF, DF, ED, EE, EF, FA, FB, FC, FD
F	FE, FF
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None
Corequisites for module	None
Precluded Modules	None

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1	JACKSON, A.R.W. and JACKSON, J.M., 2011. *Forensic science.* 3rd Ed. Essex: Pearson Education Ltd.
2	JAMES, S.H. and NORDBY, J.L., 2009. *Forensic science: an introduction to scientific and investigative techniques.* 3rd Ed. Boca Raton: CRC Press.
3	TOWNLEY, L. and EDE, R., 2004. *Forensic practice in criminal cases.* London: Law Society.