MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Forensic Practice

Reference	AS3080	Version	5
Created	April 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	April 2010	SCQF Points	15
Amended	September 2023	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	Discuss the roles of personnel involved in forensic investigations.
2	Discuss a range of evidence types and appraise their importance in forensic investigations.
3	Discuss the role of the forensic scientist within the legal process.
4	Make judgements on the important practical aspects of 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. Practical laboratory analysis of forensic evidence.

Module Delivery

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

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	30	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	120	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	N/A
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:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4
Description:	Closed book written exam.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

Component 1(Examination) comprises 100%. A minimum of a Grade D is required to pass the module.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A
B	B
C	C
D	D
E	E
F	F
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.