

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Introduction to Crime Scene and Forensic Techniques

Reference	PL1601	Version	1
Created	October 2023	SCQF Level	SCQF 7
Approved	December 2023	SCQF Points	30
Amended	September 2023	ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

To provide the student with the range and scope of activities undertaken by a forensic scientist and an understanding of evidential integrity and evidential value. To develop practical skills in the recovery of evidence. Introduce the skills required for oral and written presentation of scientific data.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Present individual research on a given topic in forensic science.
- 2 Recognise current trends in the practice of forensic science.
- 3 Record and process basic crime scenes.
- 4 Manage effective teamworking.

Indicative Module Content

Introduction to key topics in forensic chemistry, biology, and traditional criminalistics. Crime scene investigation: personnel, documentation, sketching, searching, recovery of evidence, sampling, packaging, corroboration, chain of evidence, contamination. Practical laboratory skills: microscopy, mark development and comparison, photography. Oral communication skills: principles and practice of presentation skills, use of visual aids, handling questions. This module aligns with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Students learn how to maintain the integrity of evidence during forensic examination, analysis, and interpretation, contributing towards a fair judicial system and strong institutions.

Module Delivery

This module uses a blended delivery with a mixture of laboratory work, lectures including visiting speakers, case studies and tutorials. Directed study will involve the retrieval of information from library sources and the Internet.

Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	70	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	230	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	N/A
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

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

Component 1

Type: Practical Exam Weighting: 50% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2
 Description: Oral presentation

Component 2

Type: Practical Exam Weighting: 50% Outcomes Assessed: 3, 4
 Description: Crime scene exercise

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The first grade represents Component 1 (Oral Presentation) equally weighted with the second, Component 2 (Crime Scene Exercise). A minimum of a Module Grade D is required to pass, with compensation of grade E in Component 1 or Component 2 permitted.

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

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None, in addition to course entry requirements.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

This module is exclusively a Forensics module.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 LANGFORD, A.M., DEAN J., REED R., HOLMES D.A., WEYERS J., and JONES A. 2018, *Practical Skills in Forensic Science*. 3rd Edition. Prentice Hall.
- 2 JAMES S.H., NORDBY J.J., BELL S. 2019, *Forensic Science: An Introduction to Scientific and Investigative Techniques*. 5th Edition. CRC Press.
- 3 WHITE, P.C., 2016, *Crime Scene to Court, The Essentials of Forensic Science*. 4th Edition. The Royal Society of Chemistry.
- 4 JACKSON A.R.W., JACKSON J.M., MOUNTAIN H., and BREARLEY D. 2016 *Forensic Science*. 4th Edition. Pearson.