



Module Specification

Crime Scene Investigation

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Crime Scene Investigation

Module code: USSKFD-45-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 45

ECTS credit rating: 22.5

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School of Applied Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Applied Sciences

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: In this module the recording and preservation of crime scenes and the detection and recovery of common and unusual evidence types will be explored in both theory and practice.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Students will gain knowledge in the field of forensic crime scene examination including the recording and preservation of crime scenes and the

detection and recovery of common and unusual evidence types. These skill will equip students with the knowledge to gain employment in the field of forensic crime scene investigation.

Outline syllabus: A broad range of volume and serious simulated crime scenes will be investigated including fire investigation, illegal drug production facilities, scenes related to road traffic collisions, scenes containing digital evidence, outdoor scenes and those containing human remains.

The module covers the roles, responsibilities and liabilities of all personnel involved in the processing of crime scenes including experts such as forensic archaeologists, blood pattern analysts, fire investigators and firearms experts. The critical importance of the crime scene investigation in the crime scene to court chain will be explored through the use of case studies.

The module will also cover the Forensic Science Regulator's Codes of Practice and Conduct with respect to crime scene examination and the requirement for ISO 17020 accreditation.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Crime Scene Investigation is delivered through a mixture of alternate lectures and laboratory or practical investigation activities, which relate directly to the theoretical session. Teaching is delivered as six hours of theory or practice per week for 18 weeks, followed by a crime scene assessment.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Critically and dynamically evaluate the roles, responsibilities and liabilities of all personnel involved in the processing of a crime scene and demonstrate critical self-evaluation and flexibility in team working to achieve success in complex projects, working effectively as an investigative team leader or member, clarifying and documenting tasks as appropriate.

MO2 Competently process a crime scene in the correct order and in accordance with the practice of quality assurance and regulation in Forensic Science in the United Kingdom, demonstrating a regard for the critical importance of crime scene investigation in the crime scene to court chain.

MO3 Critically evaluate the value of evidence at a crime scene and demonstrate an understanding of this through appropriate and dynamic prioritisation and protection.

MO4 Competently communicate the results of the complex scientific analysis of forensic evidence to lay audiences using industry standard written documentation (MG11).

Hours to be allocated: 450

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 342 hours

Face-to-face learning = 108 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment 1: Practical Skills Assessment (3 Hours)

Team working, professionalism, anti-contamination

Students will undertake the assessment for this module in the role of a professional crime scene investigator and manager. Working in small groups students will devise a forensic strategy for the investigation of a previously unseen simulated crime scene. Students will undertake the investigation using industry standard procedures and produce a scene examination record, they will also be required to demonstrate an awareness of the requirements of ISO 17020 accreditation.

Prior to undertaking the investigation students will liaise with others playing the role

of other stakeholders e.g. victims, police officers, emergency services personnel, to inform development of the investigation strategy. During the crime scene investigation students will evidence team working, time management, and dynamic problem solving and hypothesis development skills. Students will also have received formative feedback on multiple crime scene investigation opportunities undertaken in the module.

Assessment 2: Portfolio

A portfolio consisting of:

- Crime Scene Photographs and Photographic Log
- Packaging of a maximum of three items of forensic evidence.
- MG11 Factual Response Statement
- Exhibit Review

As part of the assessment for this module, students will be individually examined on their photography skills and ability to package up to three pieces of evidence.

Students will submit an Exhibit review and an MG11 (factual response statement) based on the crime scene investigation undertaken in assessment 1

Assessment tasks:

Practical Skills Assessment (First Sit)

Description: Crime Scene Investigation (3 hours) and associated document (Scene examination record).

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Photographing a crime scene with associated image log and packaging up to three pieces of evidence (2hrs)

Exhibit Review and MG11 (1000 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Practical Skills Assessment (Resit)

Description: Crime Scene Investigation – 3 hours, in class assessment and associated document (Scene examination record).

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Photographing a crime scene with associated photo log and packaging one one piece of evidence (2hrs)

Exhibit Review and MG11 (1000 words)

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Forensic Science [Frenchay] MSc 2026-27