Module Specification

Advanced Crime Scene Science

Version: 2023-24, v3.0, 21 Jul 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Advanced Crime Scene Science

Module code: USSJRY-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept 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: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Advanced Crime Scene Science aims to provide graduates of the MSci programme with advanced specialist skills in the processing and documentation of complex crime scenes.

Outline syllabus: This module examines advanced techniques in crime scene investigation including:

Special evidence types: e.g. pollen, soil, plant material, insects.

Volume Crime Personnel and Procedures; Good practice in Crime Scene Examination.

Major Crime Scenes: roles of personnel, procedures, requirements. Specialist personnel. Practical exercises: a variety of mock scenes of serious crime.

Mass disasters (major accidents or natural disasters).

War crimes.

Quality assurance (training, the Forensic Regulator, Continuing Professional Development (CPD), performance monitoring).

Special Scenes (including advanced methods of evidence recovery) with some practical exercises, such as fire scenes, scenes involving firearms, explosions, vehicle investigation, outdoor scenes, clandestine burials, underwater forensics, terrorist crime, computer crime, drug laboratories.

Special equipment: Alternative light sources, enhancement techniques, ground penetrating radar, chemical sniffers/ mobile labs, real time PCR (chip technology), drug testing kits, crime scene measuring equipment.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The theoretical material will be delivered mostly as practical activities, including extensive crime scene simulation activities, lectorials reinforced by directed reading, practical activities and directed tasks. The practical

work will support and extend lecture material. Tutorials and learning support will be offered at key times.

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

MO1 Develop, explain and justify according to national occupational standards (NOS) and rationally explain strategies for the investigation of various types of crime scenes and best practice

MO2 Investigate a variety of crime scenes through performing the roles of scene-attending personnel up to and including that of crime scene manager

MO3 Investigate a variety of crime scenes through assessing, preserving, recovering and storing physical evidence

MO4 Investigate a variety of crime scenes through documenting scenes through contemporaneous records, statements, drawings and photographic methods

MO5 Critically evaluate and appraise new developments in crime scene investigation

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussjry-30-m.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment 1 is a series of practical examinations (typically five) of a variety of simulated crime scenes. As part of crime scene strategy development students will critically appraise the application of current research and

developments to their investigation.

Assessment 2 is the full crime scene documentation including scene examination record and streamlined forensic report (which is an industry standard document (MG22d)) for one of the investigations undertaken for assessment 1.

Formative activities underpinning assessment are built into the practical series, which includes multiple and varied scene examinations. Students are permitted to hand in a draft MG22d document for formative assessment.

Assessment tasks:

Practical Skills Assessment (First Sit)
Description: Practical Crime Scene Investigation
Weighting: 40 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Report (First Sit)
Description: Full crime scene documentation
Weighting: 60 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Practical Skills Assessment (Resit)
Description: Practical Crime Scene Investigation
Weighting: 40 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Report (Resit)

Description: Full Crime Scene Documentation

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Forensic Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2020-21

Forensic Science [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Forensic Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2019-20

Forensic Science {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][6yrs] MSci 2018-19