



## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Forensic Evidence		
Module Code	USSJT4-30-2	Level	Level 5
For implementation from	2020-21		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences	Field	Applied Sciences
Department	HAS Dept of Applied Sciences		
Module Type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	Scientific Investigation of Crime 2020-21		
Co-requisites	None		
Module Entry Requirements	None		
PSRB Requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
<p><b>Educational Aims:</b> See Learning Outcomes</p> <p><b>Outline Syllabus:</b> Overview of forensic evidence – scope and significance in the Criminal Justice System</p> <p>Crime scene to court – continuity of evidence and issues of contamination</p> <p>Crime scene investigation – principles and procedures</p> <p>Types of forensic evidence – sources, examination methods and potential evidential value. Evidence types to be discussed will include a range of biological samples for presumptive testing and DNA analysis, fingerprints, footwear marks, fibres, hair, paint, glass, drugs, fire accelerants, explosives, firearms discharge residues, documents and evidence from outdoor crime scenes</p> <p>Scientific techniques used to examine a range of types of forensic evidence, including the principles on which they are based</p>

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Evaluation of forensic evidence for legal proceedings and communication in written and oral forms

Admissibility of forensic evidence in court

The role of an expert witness in court

Regulation of Forensic Science in the UK

**Teaching and Learning Methods:** Students are expected to spend 44 hours on scheduled learning and 256 hours on independent learning.

44 hours contact time is typically made up of a mixture of lectures, topic-based tutorials, Virtual World training, support tutorials and practical exercises in either the crime scene house or the science laboratories.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

### Part 3: Assessment

A written examination is an effective vehicle for assessing a student's knowledge and understanding of many aspects of this material. The online unseen examination will have a 24 hour submission window, a 2000 word limit, and a suggested completion time of two hours. (Summative)

The crime scene investigation assessment provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate their ability to apply the principles of this task to an unfamiliar situation and evidence their skills in approaching it appropriately. (Summative)

The online multiple choice tests are effective in assessing a student's engagement with issues pertinent to recent cases and understanding thereof. Additionally they can be used to assess some straightforward aspects of knowledge of the taught material and thus reduce the revision load for the written exam. (Summative)

Tutorial sessions discussing and outlining the strategy for answering exam questions, with peer assessment using guidelines from the lecturer will constitute preparation for the written examination. (Formative with feedback)

A tutorial session reviewing the performance of students in a crime scene investigation exercise will prepare students for an assessment in this area. (Formative with feedback)

In-class tests will be held to introduce the technology and approach as well as the types of issues to be assessed in this way. (Formative with feedback)

The crime scene investigation assessment will be performed in groups of approximately 4. 50% of the mark will be the same for each member of the group as they are jointly responsible for ensuring that these tasks are completed satisfactorily. A member of staff will be viewing the exercise and an adjustment can be made for exceptional performance/contribution or lack of contribution. The remainder of the mark for this assessment is the individual work of each student completed after the exercise.

The generic assessment criteria used in the Department of Biological, Biomedical and Analytical Sciences, and made available to students, will be used for all assessments.

First Sit Components	Final Assessment	Element weighting	Description
Set Exercise - Component B		25 %	Crime scene investigation assessment and submission of a Streamlined Forensic Report with brief critical evaluation

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Online Assignment - Component B		25 %	Series of online multiple choice tests based on directed reading on cases and lecture material. Final Mark = best five from six tests.
Examination (Online) - Component A	✓	50 %	Online unseen examination (24 hours) assessment period 2
Resit Components	<b>Final Assessment</b>	<b>Element weighting</b>	<b>Description</b>
Written Assignment - Component B		25 %	1. Critical evaluation of crime scene investigation documentation (1500 word limit)
Report - Component B		25 %	Report on case studies and selection of appropriate techniques for different forensic samples (1500 word limit)
Examination - Component A	✓	50 %	Online Examination (24 hours) assessment period 3

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods			
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes:		
	<b>Module Learning Outcomes</b>		<b>Reference</b>
	Discuss how scientific investigations of crime are undertaken		MO1
	Critically evaluate the examination of crime scenes		MO2
	Indicate the appropriate scientific technique for the examination of different forensic samples		MO3
	Explain the basic scientific principles of the techniques studied		MO4
	Discuss the evaluation of the strength of evidence for a range of evidence types		MO5
	Evaluate the significance of forensic evidence in a range of case studies		MO6
	Discuss the regulation of Forensic Science in the UK and the role of expert witnesses		MO7
Contact Hours	<b>Independent Study Hours:</b>		
	Independent study/self-guided study		256
	<b>Total Independent Study Hours:</b>		256
	<b>Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>		
	Face-to-face learning		44
	<b>Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:</b>		44
	<b>Hours to be allocated</b>		300
	<b>Allocated Hours</b>		300

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Reading List	<i>The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:</i>  <a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussjt4-30-2.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussjt4-30-2.html</a>
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### Part 5: Contributes Towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Criminology and Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20  
Criminology and Law [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20  
Criminology with Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20  
Criminology with Law [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20  
Law with Criminology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law with Criminology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law with Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law with Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law [Sep][SW][UCW][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2019-20  
Law {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] LLB (Hons) 2018-19  
Law {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2018-19  
Criminology with Law {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
Criminology with Law {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
Criminology and Law {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
Criminology and Law {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19  
Law with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2018-19  
Law with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] LLB (Hons) 2018-19