MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Forensic Project		
Module Code	USSJUQ-30-3	Level	Level 6
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	Forensic Analysis 2020-21		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	None		

Part 2: Description
Overview: Pre-requisites: students must have passed USSKAU-30-2 Forensic Analysis. **Educational Aims:** See learning outcomes. **Outline Syllabus:** Crime Scene Investigation Current procedures, documentation and QA for crime scene investigation and production of a statement for court. Laboratory Analysis: Selection of appropriate examinations and analysis and strategy for casework examinations. Application of the full range of laboratory methods and techniques for the examination and analysis of a wide range of evidence types, as recovered from a mock crime scene. Theoretical and practical aspects of forensic DNA analysis. Issues regarding the application of advanced analytical techniques (chromatographic, spectroscopic and mass spectrometric) to the forensic examination of materials. Sample

preparation and instrumental aspects of forensic analysis. Evidence types typically to include drugs and fire accelerants.

Current procedures and standards for the examination and reporting of mark comparison.

Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Evidence:

Interpretation of results from laboratory examination with consideration of issues of uncertainty and avoidance of bias.

Evaluation of the strength and significance of evidence in particular circumstances, frequency of occurrence of evidential materials, availability and robustness of databases to support interpretation. Statistical evaluation of forensic results – application to DNA and glass analysis. The Bayesian approach for the evaluation and interpretation of evidence.

Quality assurance and ethics in forensic science – quality standards and regulation including codes of conduct and practice and current legal issues.

Communication and presentation of evidence for court - reports and oral presentation. The need for comprehensive, comprehensible, logical and impartial written reports. Communication of complex scientific information and conclusions regarding forensic evidence to a lay audience such as a jury.

Teaching and Learning Methods: The teaching and learning strategy is largely based around each student having a mock case to investigate. First as a crime scene investigator and then as a laboratory forensic scientist and finally as a reporting officer in court. Students examine the crime scene, documenting and recovering evidence, they will then get a different piece of evidence to examined in the laboratory according to the specialism they have chosen to pursue. They will then perform a literature review of that piece of evidence, researching current practice and use in a court room situation and produce appropriate reports for court. Students then present their findings orally both in a mock courtroom, undergoing examination-in-chief and cross-examination and have a viva examination critically reviewing the strategy relating to the evidence collected during their crime scene examination.
Lectures and tutorials support this activity, aided also by the use of virtual learning environments.

Lectures and tutorials also address key aspects of forensic analysis and professional standards as indicated in the syllabus outline

Part 3: Assessment

The controlled conditions assessment is an oral presentation of a critical reflection of strategy. The coursework element is a report for court and critical reflection of one key piece of evidence.

The crime scene examination (practical skills) and documentation is done individually. This is a formative exercise and the quality of their work will be assessed by the strategy document they produce from the collection and evaluation of the evidence . Formative assessment and feedback opportunities exist in the online tutorial and lecture sessions.

Practice exercises with a member of staff giving formative assessment and feedback on performance prior to the courtroom assessment.

All work is marked in line with the Faculty's Generic Assessment Criteria and conforms with university policies for the setting, collection, marking and return of student work. Assessments are described in the module handbook that is supplied at the start of module and detailed marking schemes for elements of coursework, where appropriate, are provided in advance.

There are two oral elements that are assessed both with a duration of 20 minutes and the timing of these will be outlined in the module handbook.
The word length of the written aspect of the assessment will be outlined in the module handbook

First Sit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Report - Component B		50 %	Report for court and critical reflection of one key piece of evidence (4000 words)
Practical Skills Assessment - Component A		20 %	Oral presentation of a critical reflection of strategy (20 minutes)
Presentation - Component A	✓	30 %	Oral presentation of a critical reflection of strategy (20 minutes)
Resit Components	**Final Assessment**	**Element weighting**	**Description**
Report - Component B		50 %	Report for court and critical reflection of one key piece of evidence (4000 words)
Practical Skills Assessment - Component A		20 %	Oral assessment of casework (20 minutes)
Presentation - Component A	✓	30 %	Oral presentation of a critical reflection of strategy (20 minutes)

Part 4: Teaching and Learning Methods

Learning Outcomes

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

Module Learning Outcomes	**Reference**
Undertake a mock crime scene investigation including appropriate documentation and QA and produce a strategy document relating to how this would be processed in the laboratory.	MO1
Prepare a report for court based on the appropriate interpretation and evaluation of the results of the laboratory examination of one key piece of evidence in this case	MO2
Undertake a literature review of one key type of evidence to assist in the interpretation of the evidential value of that evidence in the case.	MO3
Critically evaluate methods and techniques used in forensic science and give evidence in a courtroom situation with examination-in-chief and cross-examination	MO4

Contact Hours

Independent Study Hours:	
Independent study/self-guided study	234
Total Independent Study Hours:	234
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	
Face-to-face learning	66

	Total Scheduled Learning and Teaching Hours:	66
	Hours to be allocated	300
	Allocated Hours	300
Reading List	*The reading list for this module can be accessed via the following link:* https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/ussjuq-30-3.html	

Part 5: Contributes Towards
This module contributes towards the following programmes of study: Forensic Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19 Forensic Science [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] MSci 2018-19 Forensic Science {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][5yrs] MSci 2018-19