



## SECTION 1: KEY PROGRAMME DETAILS

This section provides students with key details about their programme.

PROGRAMME INFORMATION	
<b>Final Award Title</b>	MSc Forensic Science
<b>Default Award Title (Exit Award)</b>	None
<b>Interim Award Titles (Exit Awards)</b>	PGCert Forensic Science PGDip Forensic Science
<b>Awarding Institution</b>	UWE Bristol
<b>Teaching Institutions</b>	N/A
<b>Partner Institutions</b>	N/A
<b>Delivery Locations</b>	UWE Frenchay Campus, UWE Glenside Campus
<b>Study Abroad / Exchange / Credit Recognition</b>	N/A
<b>Faculty Responsible For Programme</b>	Health and Applied Sciences
<b>Department Responsible For Programme</b>	Department of Applied Sciences
<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) Links</b>	Accreditation will be sought from the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences.
<b>Apprenticeship</b>	N/A
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	FT attendance
<b>Entry Requirements</b>	The University's Standard Entry Requirements apply. Please refer to the <a href="#">UWE webpages</a> for current information.
<b>For Implementation From</b>	September 2020
<b>Programme Codes</b>	ISIS2 Code: F41G

<b>PART B: FOR STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES COMPLETION ONLY</b>	
<b>First UVP Approval Date</b>	<b>19 November 2019</b>
<b>Date of Last Revalidation (through Programme Enhancement Review)</b>	<i>Dates of subsequent PERs and revalidations</i>
<b>Next Programme Enhancement Review Date</b>	<b>2025-2026</b>

## SECTION 2: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES

This section provides students with an overview of the programme, its aims and its learning outcomes. It sets out what prospective and registered students can expect to know, understand and be able to do on successful completion of the programme.

Please write this section in the first person, addressing your prospective students.

### **PART A: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES**

#### **1. (Programme) Overview (c. 400 words)**

The MSc Forensic Science is a one year full time postgraduate programme covering the whole 'crime scene to court' process of Forensic Science. This course is designed as a conversion course for non-forensic science graduates who wish to apply their broader scientific knowledge, obtained during their undergraduate programme to the betterment of society through supporting the criminal justice system as a professional Forensic Scientist.

This course is distinctive as you will experience a programmatic journey that takes you along with the forensic evidence- starting at the crime scene, moving through the analysis of collected evidence in the laboratory and finishing with the interpretation, evaluation and presentation of that evidence in the criminal court. You will gain an in-depth understanding of not only the scientific issues that affect the outcome of criminal trials, but also societal factors such as unconscious bias and juror expectation. You will undertake research that is reactive to your case study, replicating the manner in which the majority of real life forensic research is undertaken and may choose to focus this research on either scientific or societal factors, as fits with your interests and career ambition. Through this programmatic approach students will gain an excellent understanding of forensic process and will take on multiple real world roles including volume and serious crime scene investigator, forensic scientist, reporting officer, fire investigator and academic consultant.

In keeping with the practical and applied nature of Forensic Science the course delivery is also distinctive with approximately 50% of course delivery taking place in the simulation house crime scene facilities- house, garden and garages, the laboratory and the court room. The assessment too is distinctive, assessing professional competence in crime scene investigation, laboratory analysis, presentation of evidence in the courtroom and forensic research. With four authentic assessments, spread throughout the programme covering Learning Outcomes pertaining to professional competence in multiple forensic science careers.

In keeping with the multi-disciplinary nature of forensic science the delivery too will be collaborative and will benefit from the strong cross Department and Faculty links the team has already established. Students will also benefit from delivery from practising forensic scientists and other industry specialists and from cross disciplinary working with students from the Faculty of Business and Law.

The programme has been designed to meet the criteria for accreditation by The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences and students will then be able to become members of the society.

The programme is designed to be delivered over two full days per week, to facilitate access for those who have part time working requirements and to foster cohort identity, support and collaboration.

**PART A: PROGRAMME OVERVIEW, AIMS and LEARNING OUTCOMES****2. Educational Aims (c. 4-6 aims)**

The programme aims to provide:

- A postgraduate experience that is professionally accredited and practically focused, utilising extensive simulation and laboratory facilities.
- A cohesive crime scene to court learning journey, authentically and inclusively assessed.
- Opportunities for you to create knowledge and advance understanding through an extended piece of independent research.
- An understanding of the legal, regulatory, inter-professional and societal constructs within which the professional forensic scientist works.
- A culture of community and co-creation lead by a team of academics dedicated to continuous enhancement of your teaching and learning experience.

**3. Programme Learning Outcomes (c. 6-8 outcomes)****Programme (Learning) Outcomes (POs)**

No.	PO Text
PO1	To demonstrate in-depth knowledge of and practical competence in, volume and serious Crime Scene Investigation, evidencing critical decision making in the dynamic crime scene environment; In keeping with the requirements for accreditation by the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences in the Crime Scene Investigation component standard. To
PO2	To demonstrate in-depth knowledge, practical competence with respect to the search, recovery and analysis of forensic evidence within the laboratory, evidencing critical evaluation in the development of analytical strategy; In keeping with the requirements for accreditation by the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences in the Laboratory Analysis component standard.
PO3	To demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and practice of, the Interpretation and Evaluation of Forensic Evidence, in keeping with the requirements for accreditation by the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences in the Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Evidence component standard.
PO4	To develop a critical awareness of strategies for the presentation of evidence in a court of law and more broadly for communication with stakeholders, that maximise the potential for criminal justice and minimise the impact of external factors, which adversely affect the outcome of criminal trials, such as unconscious bias and 'the CSI effect'.
PO5	Demonstrate an open and innovative attitude to the planning and execution of a series of suitable tests or case-related experiments for hypothesis testing and to aid in the interpretation of analytical results; being self-directing and critically evaluative in applying and adapting problem-solving skills to unfamiliar, complex and open-ended hypotheses.
PO6	Demonstrate a critical understanding of issues governing good practice in connection with Research Governance and Quality, method validation, safe working practices and the function of validation and peer review.
PO7	To write robust, impartial and unbiased reports which are comprehensive and comprehensible to a range of readers.
PO8	To understand and demonstrate behaviours commensurate with, the legal and regulatory framework that surrounds the professional forensic scientist.

**4. Programme (Learning) Outcomes (POs) Mapping**

<i>Programme Outcomes:</i>	Module No: USSKFD-45-M Crime Scene Investigation	Module No: USSKFC-45-M Advanced Forensic Analysis	Module No: USSKFB-30-M Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Evidence	Module No: USSKFE-60-M Forensic Research Project
PO1:				
PO2:				
PO3:				
PO4:				
PO5:				
PO6:				
PO7:				
PO8:				

**PART B: PROGRAMME STRUCTURE****1. Structure (Full-time)**

This structure diagram demonstrates the student journey from entry through to Graduation for a typical **full time student** including level and credit requirements, interim award titles, compulsory and optional modules.

**Year: 1**

**Interim award: PGCert Forensic Science** requires 60 credits.

**PGDip Forensic Science** requires 120 credits.

**Final award: MSc Forensic Science** requires 180 credits.

**Compulsory modules**

Module Code	Module Title	Level	Credit
<b>USSKFD-45-M</b>	Crime Scene Investigation	7	45
<b>USSKFC-45-M</b>	Advanced Forensic Analysis	7	45
<b>USSKFB-30-M</b>	Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Evidence	7	30
<b>USSKFE-60-M</b>	Forensic Research Project	7	60

**Optional modules - None**

**PART C: HIGHER EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT RECORD (HEAR) SYNOPSIS**

Successful graduates will have an in-depth knowledge of Crime Scene Investigation, Forensic Analysis, the Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Forensic Evidence and Forensic Research. Graduates will have benefitted from using specialist forensic and chemical instrumentation and from carrying out investigations of mock indoor, outdoor, fire and vehicle crime scenes and of the presentation of evidence in court. Graduates will have developed excellent analytical, communication and time management skills. Graduates will have undertaken a substantial independent research project and will have experience in the qualitative and quantitative interpretation of scientific results and numerical data.

**PART D: EXTERNAL REFERENCE POINTS AND BENCHMARKS**

The programme has been designed to meet the accreditation requirements of the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences for accreditation in their three main component standards- Crime Scene Investigation, Laboratory Analysis and the Interpretation, Evaluation and Presentation of Evidence. The syllabus has been further developed through consideration of the Forensic Science QAA subject benchmark statement (2012)

**PART E: REGULATIONS**

Approved to [University Regulations and Procedures](#)