Aims of the module

This module aims to teach students key theoretical and practical issues of some specialist areas of Forensic Science which complement the core curriculum of the course and where topics are at the forefront of and of relevance to research in Forensic Science. These areas include: forensic geoscience, forensic geophysics, forensic entomology, forensic palynology and palaeontology.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, you will have acquired:

1. Demonstrate a systematic knowledge and understanding of the series of specialist topics presented.
2. Describe, explain and assess standard theoretical and practical search techniques and trace evidence retrieval within the topics of Forensic Geoscience.
3. Evaluate information of relevance to the topic obtained from a variety of sources including scientific literature, forensic science databases and other primary sources.
4. Make informed judgements about the issues, limitations and current knowledge in forensic science within the specialist areas.
5. Describe and explain how the specialist disciplines can be applied to crime solving.
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Module tutor
Dr Jamie K Pringle  WS1.13  (7)33163  j.k.pringle@keele.ac.uk

Other academic staff
Dr Falko Drijfhout  LJ1.36  (7)33043  f.drijfhout@keele.ac.uk
Dr Frank Rutten  HNB2.30  (7)33521  f.j.m.rutten@keele.ac.uk

Guest Lecturers
Dr. Peter Thomas  HUX026  (7)33497  p.a.thomas@keele.ac.uk
Dr Michael Montenari  WS1.12  (7)33162  m.montenari@keele.ac.uk
A.N.Other

Laboratory: This will be outdoors!

TIMES OF CLASSES

Lectures:  Tuesdays 10am – 12pm (DH0.051)

Laboratory:  Undertaken in weeks 3, 4 & 5:  Mondays 2 pm – 5 pm
             Meet in downstairs foyer of WSB at 13:45
             Plus entomology in weeks 7 or 8 Tuesday 10-12pm (WSB0.22) TBC

Wear stout footwear & appropriate outdoor clothing
Read risk assessment on VLE prior to arrival

Laboratory Timetable (Outdoor on Keele Campus)

Week 3:  Group 1&2: 2-5pm
Week 4:  Groups 3&4: 2-5pm
Week 5:  Groups 5: 2-5pm

Note: students choose their own groups (of four) via VLE. Check notices to see when your practical will be undertaken.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Lecture Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tues: 27/01/15 JP</td>
<td>L1. Introduction to the module; overview &amp; guide to assessment</td>
<td>Read Pringle et al (2012) article &amp; choose area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 27/01/15 JP</td>
<td>L2. Overview of current search techniques &amp; geoscientific trace analysis</td>
<td>Start lit. review and locate secondary references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tues: 3/02/15 JP</td>
<td>L3. Macro-scale: remote sensing &amp; analysis techniques, including case studies.</td>
<td>Continue lit. review search and start report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 3/02/15 JP</td>
<td>L4. Macro-scale: forensic geophysical investigations (background to practical)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tues: 10/02/15 MM</td>
<td>L5. Guest Lecture: Forensic micro-palaeontological trace evidence</td>
<td>Continue lit. review report (add figures!)</td>
<td>Student-led, outdoor CSI practical Group 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 10/02/15 JP</td>
<td>L6. Micro-scale: soil as trace evidence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Tues: 17/02/15 PT</td>
<td>L7. Guest Lecture: Forensic botany: case studies</td>
<td>Student-led, outdoor CSI practical Groups 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Individual literature area review via VLE by 5pm Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 17/02/15 JP</td>
<td>L8. Natural &amp; artificial materials as trace evidence, including case studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Tues: 24/02/15 FR</td>
<td>L9. Forensic Archaeology I</td>
<td>Student-led, outdoor CSI practical</td>
<td>Group 5 submit group report via VLE by 5pm Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 24/02/15 FR</td>
<td>L10. Forensic Archaeology II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tues: 3/03/15 FR</td>
<td>L11. Forensic Archaeology III</td>
<td></td>
<td>Groups 3 &amp; 4 submit group report via VLE by 5pm Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 3/03/15 FR</td>
<td>L12. Guest Lecture: TBC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tues: 10/03/15 FD</td>
<td>L13. Forensic Entomology I</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group 5 submit group report via VLE by 5pm Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 10/03/15 FD</td>
<td>L14. Forensic Entomology II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tues: 17/03/15 FD</td>
<td>L15. Forensic Entomology: Guest lecture (Dr Hannah Moore)</td>
<td>Forensic Entomology workshop in WSB0.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 17/03/15 FD</td>
<td>L16. Forensic Entomology: workshop (Dr Hannah Moore)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tues: 24/03/15 JP</td>
<td>L17. Section review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tues: 24/03/15 JP</td>
<td>L18. Exam preparation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tues: 21/04/15 FD</td>
<td>L19. Forensic Entomology: Literature analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOOKS


OPERATION OF THE MODULE

The first lecture slot is devoted to describing the operation of the module and an introduction and historical overview of the subject. Subsequent lectures will deal with selected topics within the Forensic Science specialisms field. Some of these will feed into the practical exercises. The web-site is an important resource for students on this module:

www.students.keele.ac.uk

This site hosts:
- Module handbook; Reading list; Lecture notes; Assessment guides, background reference articles, previous exam questions, web-based information sources

ASSESSMENT

You need to achieve an overall mark of 40% to pass this module.

The assessment of this module has three main components:

An end-of-module examination based on three out of four long answer questions. This comprises 60% of the assessment. You are required to achieve a minimum mark of 30% in this component.

A group project mark which is derived from a digitally submitted student group report, based on the outdoor student-led, crime scene investigation practical exercise. This should be completed and digitally submitted via VLE within three weeks of the student respective practicals. The group report contributes 20% to the overall module mark.

An individual literature area critical review mark, based on a student-chosen area. Students are expected to locate secondary references and provide a polished review of a chosen area. Reports will be digitally submitted via VLE. The review report contributes 20% to the overall module mark.

STUDENT FEEDBACK

We welcome informal feedback and suggestions from all students during the semester. You can also feed your comments back to us through your student representatives (Stars) at the Student-Staff-Liaison Committee (SSLC) meetings. Towards the end of the module, you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire giving your views of the module delivery. This is an important factor in informing our future development of this module and your considered views are greatly appreciated by the staff.