# Course Information Document: Undergraduate

# For Academic Year 2025/26

## 1. What is an Integrated Masters programme?

The Master's level programme described in this document allows you to focus exclusively on the study of Forensic Science with Policing following either of two pathways **Handwriting and Documentation Forensics** or **Environmental Forensics**. Integrated master's awards are delivered through a programme that combines study at a bachelor's degree with honours with study at master's level. As such, a student graduates with an integrated master's degree after a single four-year programme of study. The Integrated Masters programme described in this document allows graduates to gain enhanced skills and knowledge to master's level.

## 2. Overview of the Programme

The MSci Forensic Science with Policing programme is taught in Greek and has been designed to provide you with a broad education in the core areas of forensic science and policing to prepare you for your future career. During your studies on this programme, you will cover areas such as forensic chemistry and biology, crime scene investigation and understanding crime, criminal justice and why people undertake crime to name a few. Employability is at the heart of this programme. In addition to tailoring your studies, you will gain a significant amount of hands on experience both in the crime scene and the laboratory, as well as understanding criminology through research. In addition to this, we offer addition certification in presenting evidence as an expert witness. These are offered by external specialist trainers and will provide you with something extra that you can add to your CV to impress potential employers.

You will gain hands-on practical experience with a wide range of equipment and techniques working with professional and research grade instrumentation. The teaching laboratories for forensic science are well equipped with high quality standard laboratory facilities and modern forensic science and analytical instrumentation. There are also dedicated crime scene simulation facilities used for teaching and research projects.

You will be taught by academic staff in forensic science and criminology who are research active in the differing specialties and in developing forensic science and criminology education, as well as by specialist practitioners who have previously worked as crime scene investigators, forensic search specialists and in forensic science laboratories. This will prove particularly beneficial in your final year independent research project which is a highlight of your course. You will also have external guest lecturers providing you current knowledge and understanding in specialist areas throughout your studies. You will also be supported by an Academic Mentor throughout your course.

Forensic Science and policing skills development and graduate attributes are embedded throughout the course, which include a wide range of transferrable skills, through extensive use of problem-based and team-based learning, ability to progress through forensic science and criminology investigations to produce professional reports and defend them in court, to research skills via the independent research project that you will undertake in the final year of the programme, as well as the opportunity to go on work or education placements.

The **MSci Forensic Science with policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)** and **MSci Forensic Science with policing (Environmental Forensics)** pathways allow you to specialise in a distinctive area of Forensic science by taking a range of pre-defined modules and a final year project related to the specialism. This gives a visible focus to the degree if you wish to go into particular areas of the Forensic science field.

## 3. Aims of the programme

The broad aims of the programme are informed by the QAA Benchmark Statement for Forensic Science and the QAA Benchmark for Criminology, to embed Keele curriculum expectations and graduate attributes, which are under the following generic categories:

**Academic Knowledge and expertise**

- engender and develop an enthusiasm for forensic science with criminology, and to provide an intellectually stimulating and beneficial learning experience
- enable development of a deep academic **subject knowledge** and experience of **interdisciplinary**

**experience** and techniques relevant to forensic science and criminology to Degree level
- foster **critical thinking**, awareness of and engagement with current forensic science methods and techniques within forensic science, some of which are at, or informed by, the forefront of the discipline
- enable students to, think, talk, and write about crime, crime control and representations of offending victimisation and responses to them in a **systematic way** drawing on the intellectual traditions and scholarly methods of the social sciences
- enable students to understand, **evaluate and apply** a range of theories about the nature, measurement and causes of crime
- engender a **critical understanding** of the nature and development of different social (official and unofficial) responses to crime, including policing and the operation of the criminal justice and penal systems

**Professional skills**

- develop practical, analytical, **problem-solving** and **numeracy and data literacy** skills, exploring new approaches to solving problems, within forensic science, to Degree level
- develop **digital readiness**, literate, written and oral reporting skills to a level appropriate to the professional forensic scientist and the ability to convey scientific outcomes to non-scientists
- engender a sound understanding of continuity of evidence and how the forensic crime scene, the laboratory and the court contribute to the forensic and legal process
- describe and **evaluate** the application of key concepts and theoretical approaches within criminology and criminal justice to a range of **contemporary problems**
- **explain and analyse** the impact of social inequality and diversity and the significance of historical, social, political and economic context on crime, victimisation and responses to them
- **research skills** of devising, planning, executing and reporting on an original investigation or research project within the discipline, both as an individual and as part of a team
- **reflective practice** and **career management**

**Personal effectiveness**

- develop **leadership, communication** and **time management** skills, **collaborate** as part of a team,
- become **adaptable**, **resilient**, **self-aware** and **empathetic** of others

**Social and ethical responsibility**

- recognise and respect **equality, diversity and inclusion,** acting **ethically** with **integrity and respect**
- developing **sustainability** knowledge and skills and aware of **global issues** and challenges.

## 4. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

### Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- the principles of forensic biology, chemistry, analytical science, crime scene investigation, explosives and arson
- selected topics in forensic science and possess competence in applying these principles to appropriate areas of the discipline.
- a wide range of instrumental and other techniques relevant to forensic science and use them competently to analyse a range of relevant materials and with regard to quality assurance issues
- problem-solving within forensic science by drawing on their scientific understanding and knowledge, and experience of experimental techniques
- an awareness of and engagement with current methods and techniques within forensic science, some of which are at, or informed by, the forefront of the discipline
- the place of forensic science within the legal framework and the role of the expert witness in court
- the research literature across forensic science, use it to advance their understanding and apply it in practice
- the legal and ethical issues which constrain the practice of the professional forensic scientist

### Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- execute practical work and critically analyse the results from experiments or investigations and draw valid conclusions.
- interpret and evaluate the significance of the results of a forensic investigation in the context of the circumstances of the crime, using appropriate statistical tools
- prepare a written statement of expert testimony and defend it under cross-examination in a court setting
- research, devise, plan, execute and report on an original investigation or research project within the discipline, both as an individual and as part of a team
- work safely in the laboratory and manage risk assessments and other practices in a competent fashion.
- select and utilise appropriate software, databases and other digital resources for the analysis and interpretation of instrumental and other laboratory data
- Explain the distinctive characteristics of criminology as a discipline
- Recognise the relationship between crime and other social problems
- Distinguish between and evaluate the principal ways of measuring crime and victimisation
- Recognise the main theoretical traditions in criminology and illustrate their application in understanding different forms of crime and criminal justice processes, policies and practices
- Recognise and describe the relationships between crime, responses to it and social divisions and diversity
- Recognise and illustrate the impact of social change on crime and ways of responding to it
- Recognise different approaches to social scientific research and their use in investigating crime and responses to it
- Identify some of the main ways in which crime and ways of responding to it are represented in the media and by agents of crime control

### Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- solve familiar, unfamiliar and complex problems with self-direction and originality, by clearly formulating the problem, identifying the key issues and generating different approaches to its solution
- analyse, synthesise and summarise data and information critically and appreciate its limitations
- assess the merits of contrasting theories, explanations and strategies
- make critical judgements by acquiring a range of evidence and information then formulating and testing hypotheses
- present complex concepts and information in a clear and concise manner, both orally, in writing and by other means and to interact and communicate effectively within a wide range of professional environments, including to non-scientific audiences
- work both independently and as part of a team, to plan, organise and perform work efficiently and conscientiously in a timely way, and meet appropriate deadlines
- take responsibility for their own learning and develop a habit of critical reflection upon that learning
- utilise a wide range of ICT skills, including the use of databases, software packages and modern methods of communication
- work within an ethical framework and according to ethical, honest and acceptable practices
- develop confidence in their own understanding and skills as well as a self-critical attitude to their own work and achievements
- develop an adaptable and flexible approach to study, work and work-life balance
- identify and work towards targets for ongoing professional development

**Keele Graduate Attributes**

The Keele Graduate Attributes are the qualities (skills, values and mindsets) which you will have the opportunity to develop during your time at Keele through both the formal curriculum and also through co- and extra-curricular activities (e.g., work experience, and engagement with the wider University community such as acting as ambassadors, volunteering, peer mentoring, student representation, membership and leadership of clubs and societies). Our Graduate Attributes consist of four themes: **academic expertise, professional skills, personal effectiveness, and social and ethical responsibility.** You will have opportunities to engage actively with the range of attributes: through your academic studies, through self-assessing your own strengths, weaknesses, and development needs, and by setting personal development goals. You will have opportunities to discuss your progress in developing graduate attributes with, for example, Academic Mentors, to prepare for your future career and lives beyond your studies.

## 5. How is the programme taught?

Our programme is delivered in Greek with an emphasis on live, in-person, interactive sessions, supported by online materials on a VLE allowing flexible engagement. The mission of Metropolitan College is to provide transformative education to its students in order to transfer important academic skills and discipline, build professional ethos and create a lifelong passion. The core mission of the College is to provide you with the knowledge, habits and leadership characteristics that will enable you to become happy people, successful

professionals and productive citizens in a globalized environment. The Metropolitan College in collaboration with the Charltoularios P.A., Institute of Questioned Document Analysis, provides an abundance of opportunities for specialist research projects and specialist equipment for students to utilise (details below). Students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

1st Year:

Academic content is predominantly taught through a mixture of interactive lectures and laboratory activities. Forensic Science is a laboratory-based discipline and practical work is closely tied to the lectures, thus enabling students to gain competence and confidence in the investigation and analysis of forensic evidence, using laboratory instrumentation as well as developing a critical awareness of the range of techniques available, their capabilities and limitations. Students working in the laboratory gain an understanding of health and safety issues, manage risk assessments, maintaining accurate and informative laboratory notes and working with others in a safe and productive fashion. In a similar way, through small-group, tutor-guided exercises and team-led investigations in indoor and outdoor simulated crime scenes, students apply the principles and procedures of crime scene investigation to novel incidents, develop practical skills and learn how to implement a forensic strategy and ensure a rigorous chain of custody.

2nd Year:

Teaching styles continue from first year with interactive lectures supported by problem classes, laboratory practicals, crime scene investigation sessions and tutorials. Practical classes include scripted laboratory sessions developing more advanced techniques and hands-on experience of a range of analytical instruments. Investigative group work is developed through an analytical project. Professional skills are developed with a focus on forensic science practical and theoretical knowledge to give you knowledge and understanding of these career-relevant skills. Choice is also available of different option modules, depending on your area(s) of interest.

3rd Year:

A highlight of our 3rd year is the independent research project. Rather than scripted labs, you will collaborate with an academic member of staff to develop and complete your project spread over both semesters. Laboratory work, if appropriate, takes place in both teaching labs or outdoors, depending on the chosen project, with expert supervision. Further practical work is taught through laboratory sessions and PC labs involving hands-on experience of a wide range of research grade analytical instruments. Fewer contact hours provide more time for independent work, and the ability to specialise in your preferred areas of forensic science and criminology through a series of assessment items allowing a bespoke choice of subject. Choice is also available of different option modules, depending on your area(s) of interest.

4th Year:

The main component of our 4th year is the independent research project. Here you will develop your research skills built in 3rd year to comprise a majority of your time on a chosen research project, with expert supervision. Your research project will be at the forefront of your discipline. You will have dedicated modules on Research Skills, with choice also available of different option modules, depending on your area(s) of interest.

Apart from these research activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Academic Mentors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis. You are also invited to attend our Forensic Sciences Careers Series in which you will experience speakers from academia and industry presenting material at the forefront of current scientific knowledge and potentially where you can go with your Degree.

## 6. Teaching Staff

All staff have expertise and interests across forensic sciences as well as outwith the programme. There are a number of additional guest lecturers from the profession who contribute either a single or a short series of lectures, workshops or practical classes across the programme in topics such as crime scene examination, fire scene investigation and forensic toxicology. Most academic staff are active researchers in the forensic, analytical, chemical and biological sciences and many have a distinguished track record in publication, the generation of grant income, industrial collaboration and as research journal reviewers. A strength of the programme lies in our specialist forensic science practitioners who bring their wealth of real-world experience and case work to the teaching of Forensic Science. We have experts who previously worked as crime scene investigators, digital forensics officers, or in accredited forensic science laboratories whose expertise informs current best practice in forensic science, and whose extensive contacts bring in outside experts to enhance the student experience and understanding of contemporary Forensic topics. Several staff have particular interests in the development of teaching and learning methods within forensic science education and some are members of and active in the professional bodies for the forensic science. Additionally, the majority of staff contribute to widening participation and science outreach activities and have demonstrated innovation and good practice in teaching and learning to take into account the diverse needs of all students.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

## 7. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Master in Science (MSci) Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)**<br><br>**Master in Science (MSci) Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)** | 480 credits | You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5, 6 and 7.<br><br>You must accumulate at least 360 credits in Forensic Science (out of 480 credits overall) to graduate with a named single honours degree in Forensic Science. |
| **BSc (Hons) Forensic Science with Policing** | 360 credits | Students require at least 120 credits at Levels 4, 5 and 6 from both compulsory and approved Forensic Science modules as well as any optional modules taken. |
| **Diploma in Higher Education** | 240 credits | You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher |
| **Certificate in Higher Education** | 120 credits | You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher |

## 8. How is the Programme Assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used on this programme reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used on your programme:

- **Class tests** assess the understanding of concepts and the application of theories to solve familiar and unfamiliar problems. They also allow students to experience time-constrained assessment as well as acting to provide feedback on their progress
- **End of module examinations, open book assessments and case work portfolios** test the ability of the student to describe, explain, and critically discuss the principles of forensic science, and to demonstrate competence in applying these principles to applications and to solve problems from appropriate areas of the discipline
- **Problems sheets and data analysis exercises** assess the student's skills in solving numerical and other problems within forensic science by drawing on their scientific understanding and knowledge, and experience of experimental techniques
- **Group/Team Scenarios** - students work in teams or groups to investigate forensic scenarios and case studies, simulating the role of teamwork in the real world work of Forensic analysts.

Throughout the extensive laboratory and other practical work in this programme, many types of assessment are utilised to achieve the learning outcomes.

- **Laboratory portfolios** are used to communicate the results of work accurately and reliably and to encourage good working practice, including managing risk assessments and following safe working practices. Together with laboratory proformas, they allow students to demonstrate their skills in the critical analysis and interpretation of data, test the uncertainty in knowledge and show the ability to draw valid conclusions from their work
- **Laboratory reports** communicate the execution of practical work, the ability to describe the results of work accurately and reliably, with structured and coherent arguments and to enable students to evaluate the outcomes of data analysis in a critical fashion
- **Court expert witness statements** enable students to prepare a written statement of expert testimony and to understand the place of forensic science within the legal framework and the role of the expert witness in court. These reports test the student's ability to interpret and evaluate the significance of the

results of a forensic investigation in the context of the circumstances of the crime, using appropriate statistical tools
- **Oral presentations, digital presentations and poster presentations** demonstrate the ability of the student to present complex concepts and information in a clear and concise manner, to interact and communicate effectively to a wide range of professional environments, including to both scientific and non-scientific audiences
- **Crime scene investigation** and **strategic forensic reports** enable students to apply the principles and procedures for crime scene investigation to a scenario, to critically review data and outcomes in light of the chain of custody for evidence and the appropriate forensic strategy, to make critical judgments and to present in a clear and concise manner
- **Essays** and the production of **technical leaflets** enable students to analyse, synthesise and summarise data and information critically, to appreciate its limitations, to assess the merits of contrasting theories, explanations and strategies and to present, in writing, complex concepts and information in a clear and concise manner
- **Dissertation and research paper / literature / critical reviews** enable the student to demonstrate their effective engagement with the research literature across forensic and analytical science and use it to advance their understanding. In this way, the assessment may test their awareness of, and engagement with, current methods and techniques within the forensic and analytical sciences, some of which are at, or informed by, the forefront of the discipline. The assessment enables the student to present complex concepts and information in a clear and concise manner in writing, and to communicate effectively to a wide range of scientific and professional environments
- **Project plans, project presentations and examinations** test the student's skills in working both independently and as part of a team, in planning, organising and carrying out practical and other work efficiently, including making appropriate ethical assessments, and meeting appropriate deadlines
- **Project reports** demonstrate how the student has taken responsibility for their own learning, has critically assessed a wide range of techniques and methodologies relevant to the forensic and analytical sciences and used them competently to analyse relevant materials and has selected and utilised appropriate software, databases and other digital resources for the analysis and interpretation of laboratory data. The report also tests the student's achievement in presenting complex concepts and information in a clear and concise manner in writing and communicating effectively to a scientific audience
- **Presentation and cross-examination** assessments test the student's ability to interpret and evaluate the significance of the results of a forensic investigation in the context of the circumstances of the crime, to demonstrate their understanding of the place of forensic science within the legal framework and the role of the expert witness in court and test their ability to defend a written witness statement under cross-examination in a court setting

Through working on a diverse range of assessments, linked to a curriculum that is in its latter stages closely based around the professional forensic science context, the student will demonstrate confidence in their own understanding and skills as well as a self-critical attitude to their own work and achievements, an adaptable and flexible approach to study, work and work-life balance and the ability to identify and work towards targets for ongoing professional development.

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and seminar discussions.

Although there are some explicit formal exercises providing formative assessment throughout the programme, the majority of formative assessment and feedback is generated informally through a variety of tutor-led activities. For example:

- Tutor-led comments on the work in the laboratory notebook or on calculations encountered in data analysis during laboratory classes
- Tutor feedback and advice on calculations undertaken during problems classes
- Tutor-led discussions on project plans, literature reviews and project results during viva interviews
- Written formative feedback on non-summative laboratory work
- Written formative feedback provided from the tutor reading a draft of a major piece of work such as the dissertation or a project report

## 9. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

**Activity**

| | **Scheduled learning and teaching activities** | **Guided independent Study** | **Placements** |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Year 1 (Level 4)** | 27.5% | 72.5% | 0% |
| **Year 2 (Level 5)** | 30.8% | 69.2% | 0% |
| **Year 3 (Level 6)** | 33.5% | 66.5% | 0% |
| **Year 4 (Level 7)** | 18.3% | 81.7% | 0% |

## 10. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation.

## 11. University Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/

If this programme has any exemptions, variations or additions to the University Regulations these will be detailed in an Annex at the end of this document titled 'Programme-specific regulations'.

## 12. Additional Costs

| **Activity** | **Estimated Cost** |
|---|---|
| Equipment - Students will be required to have all PPE equipment (laboratory coats and glasses) and two have two laboratory notebooks.<br><br>Students will be required to supply appropriate writing equipment but this would be a minimal cost and is intended to cover basic materials such as pens, pencils, notebooks, personal folders and etc. If any additional material become necessary for specific activities these will be clearly communicated in advance, along with any relevant guidance.<br><br>All core textbooks are available in the main University Library. To increase the availability of these resources, eBooks are also purchased alongside the printed text where available; these can be accessed through the University Library Catalogue. Additional costs may be incurred if the student wishes to purchase any book for themselves. In general we only recommend they purchase the core textbook which is available for approximately £50. | £60 |
| Total estimated additional costs | £60 |

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation. We do not anticipate any further costs for this programme.

# 13. Annex - Programme-specific regulations

## Programme Regulations: Forensic Science and Criminology

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|---|---|
| **Final Award and Award Titles** | MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)<br><br>MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics) |
| **Intermediate Award(s)** | Bsc Honours<br><br>Diploma in Higher Education<br><br>Certificate in Higher Education |
| **Last modified** | September 2025 |
| **Programme Specification** | https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmespecifications |

The University's Academic Regulations which can be found on the Keele University website (https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/)[1] apply to and regulate the programme, other than in instances where the specific programme regulations listed below over-ride them. These programme regulations list:

- *Exemptions* which are characterised by the omission of the relevant regulation.
- *Variations* which are characterised by the replacement of part of the regulation with alternative wording.
- *Additional Requirements* which set out what additional rules that apply to students in relation to this programme.

The following **exemptions, variations** and **additional requirements** to the University regulations have been checked by Academic Services and have been approved by the Faculty Education Committee.

### A) EXEMPTIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where an exemption from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

For the whole duration of their studies, students on this Programme are exempt from the following regulations:

- **No exemptions apply.**

### B) VARIATIONS

The clause(s) listed below describe where a variation from the University's Academic Regulations exists:

**Variation 1: Coursework Assessment**

Failure to engage appropriately with a module's coursework assessment items without good cause (that is, by failing to submit more than 50% of coursework items) may result in reassessment being denied.

**Variation 2: Level 4 to Level 5 Progression**

In order to progress from level 4 to level 5, students must pass the compulsory forensic science modules. Students with outstanding reassessment attempts on assessments in these modules may not progress before these assessments have been completed. At the discretion of the examination board, this may be discounted.

### Additional Requirements

The programme requirements listed below are in addition to the University's Academic Regulations:

**Additional requirement 1: Practical Classes**

1. Practical classes are compulsory and are an essential part in fulfilling the intended learning outcomes of modules of which they are part. Over a semester, failure to attend >70% of the laboratory/practical classes without approval, may result in failure of the relevant modules with no reassessment being offered. In addition, students must meet any ILOs related to practical sessions in each module, where appropriate. Failure to attend laboratory/practical sessions in a given module, without approval, may result in failure of the relevant modules with no reassessment being offered.

2. Any student failing to follow the health and safety guidelines in the laboratory will be asked to leave. This may include inappropriate dress, refusal to follow reasonable requests of staff, late attendance resulting in missed safety briefings, or attending under the influence of alcohol or other substances. The student will not be permitted to make up the missed session.

3. There is no opportunity to make up missed practical sessions due to timetable constraints and so the following concessions will be made available to the student:

4. The student may be given opportunity to submit assessed work based on an alternative practical session, in agreement with the module leader; with the approval of the examination board, a small element of the laboratory assessment (up to 33%) may be disregarded with the final mark for the assessment being recalculated from the remaining elements.

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[1] References to University Regulations in this document apply to the content of the University's Regulatory Framework as set out on the University website here https://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations/.

# Version History

## This document

**Date Approved:** 10 October 2025

### *What's Changed*

Handwriting and Documentation Forensics and Environmental Forensics strands presented as bracketed degrees.

## Previous documents

| Version No | Year | Owner | Date Approved | Summary of and rationale for changes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2025/26 | FALKO DRIJFHOUT | 02 October 2025 | |