Programme Specification: Undergraduate

For Academic Year 2025/26

1. Course Summary

Names of programme and award title(s)	MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics) MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)
Award type	Single Honours (Masters)
Mode of study	Full-time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 7
Normal length of the programme	4 years
Maximum period of registration	The normal length as specified above plus 3 years
Location of study	Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity Metropolitan College, Greece
Accreditation (if applicable)	n/a
Regulator	Office for Students (OfS)
Tuition Fees	Please refer to the Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity and Metropolitan College, Greece webpages for information in relation to Tuition Fees.

How this information might change: *Please read the important information at http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.*

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. What is the structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from programme to programme, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to the end of April. Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are two types of module delivered as part of your programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules - a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules - these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;

For further information on the content of modules currently offered, please visit:
https://www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/modulecatalogue/

A summary of the credit requirements per year is as follows:

Year	Compulsory	Optional	
		Min	Max
Level 4	120	0	0
Level 5	120	0	0
Level 6	120	0	0
Level 7	120	0	0

Module Lists

Level 4

MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)

MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	FSC-10025	15	Semester 1
Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation	FSC-10013	30	Semester 1-2
Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA	FSC-10019	30	Semester 1-2
Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice	CRI-10013	15	Semester 2
The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit	FSC-10017	30	Semester 2

Level 5

Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Crime and Justice in a Global Context	CRI-20016	15	Semester 1
Policing and the Police	CRI-20021	15	Semester 1
Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries	FSC-20011	15	Semester 1
Chemical Analysis and Detection	FSC-20027	15	Semester 1
Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime	FSC-20035	15	Semester 1
Drugs of Abuse	FSC-20009	15	Semester 2
Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology	FSC-20029	15	Semester 2
Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints	FSC-20031	15	Semester 2

Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Crime and Justice in a Global Context	CRI-20016	15	Semester 1
Policing and the Police	CRI-2002	15	Semester 1
Chemical Analysis and Detection	FSC-20027	15	Semester 1
Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime	FSC-20035	15	Semester 1
Drugs of Abuse	FSC-20009	15	Semester 2
Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints	FSC-20031	15	Semester 2
Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis	FSC-20033	30	Semester 1-2

Level 6

Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Explosives, Arson and Evidence	FSC-30043	15	Semester 1
Marks and Traces Examination	FSC-30063	15	Semester 1
Forensic Science Research Project (30 credit)	FSC-30021	30	Semester 1-2
Crime Scene to Court	FSC-30049	30	Semester 1-2
Migration, Crime and (In)Security	CRI-30084	15	Semester 2
Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection	FSC-30039	15	Semester 2

Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Explosives, Arson and Evidence	FSC-30043	15	Semester 1
Forensic Science Research Project (30 credit)	FSC-30021	30	Semester 1-2
Crime Scene to Court	FSC-30049	30	Semester 1-2
Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection	FSC-30039	15	Semester 2
Advanced Forensic Biology	FSC-30065	15	Semester 1
Environmental and Wildlife Forensics	FSC-30067	15	Semester 2

Level 7

Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Forensic Research Skills	FSC-40045	15	Semester 1
MSci Forensic Research Project	FSC-40047	60	Semester 1-2
Professional Skills Development	FSC-40065	30	Semester 1-2
Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial	FSC-40039	15	Semester 2

Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Period
Forensic Research Skills	FSC-40045	15	Semester 1
MSci Forensic Research Project	FSC-40047	60	Semester 1-2
Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial	FSC-40039	15	Semester 2
Forensic Anthropology: Complex Scenes, Recovery and Analysis	FSC-40069	15	Semester 1
Forensic Chemical Analysis: Instrumentation and Evaluation - MC	FSC-40071	15	Semester 2

Learning Outcomes

The table below sets out what students learn in the programme and the modules in which that learning takes place. Details of how learning outcomes are assessed through these modules can be found in module specifications.

Level 4

In Year 1 (Level 4) these learning outcomes are achieved in the compulsory modules which all students are required to take.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Forensic and Policing Knowledge: Recall basic knowledge and theories based on taught contents and use these to explain familiar concepts using appropriate terminology.	Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice - CRI-10013 Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation CRI-10013: Understanding Crime, Understanding Criminal Justice FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Problem Solving: Apply knowledge and understanding of fundamental forensic science and Policing and concepts to solve qualitative and quantitative problems.	Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice - CRI-10013 Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation CRI-10013: Understanding Crime, Understanding Criminal Justice FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Sustainability and Global Awareness: Identify and describe the application of forensic science in solving current and future challenges in the world.	Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice - CRI-10013 Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation CRI-10013: Understanding Crime, Understanding Criminal Justice FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit
Interdisciplinarity: Identify and describe the contribution of Forensic Science and Policing to multidisciplinary issues.	Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice - CRI-10013 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 CRI-10013: Understanding Crime, Understanding Criminal Justice FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Safety and Ethics: Demonstrate skills in the safe handling of substances and appropriate behaviour in laboratory environments, and show awareness of risk assessment, COSHH documentation and safe laboratory practices.	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Practical Competence: Safely and competently operate standard laboratory forensic instrumentation and equipment.	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Scientific Investigation: Observe, monitor, record and document forensic techniques, properties, events or changes with systematic record keeping, and demonstrate a practical and reflective understanding of the principles of scientific experimentation and inquiry	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Data Literacy: Locate or synthesise, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative forensic and policing data with an awareness of uncertainty and significance	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit - FSC-10017 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10017: The Forensic Science Professional Toolkit FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Research Skills: Engage with the forensic and policing literature, including the use of online scientific databases, identifying appropriate sources and correctly citing information.	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Numeracy and Digital Skills: Select and use computational methods and mathematical concepts for data analysis, reporting and problem solving, including use of equations, systematic use of units and the interpretation of graphical and tabulated data.	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Scientific Communication: Communicate information and ideas verbally and in writing, selecting appropriate content for a lay audience.	Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA
Reflective Practice and Professionalism: Demonstrate the ability to engage with learning opportunities individually and collaboratively, reflecting and acting on feedback to enhance your quality of work and working successfully in a group environment, contributing to team outputs and understand the accreditation requirements for forensic and policing investigations.	Criminal Justice: Process, Policy, Practice - CRI-10013 Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation - FSC-10013 Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA - FSC-10019 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation - FSC-10025 FSC-10013: Forensic Chemistry: Molecules under Investigation CRI-10013: Understanding Crime, Understanding Criminal Justice FSC-10025: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation FSC-10019: Forensic Investigation: From Documents to DNA

Level 5

In Year 2 (Level 5) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules compulsory in each pathway.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Forensic and Policing Knowledge: Recall knowledge and theories in forensic science and policing on course content and use them to predict and explain familiar concepts using appropriate terminology.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Problem Solving: Apply knowledge and understanding of forensic science and policing theories, principles and concepts to solve in-depth qualitative and quantitative problems which may intersect multiple branches of Forensic Science and Policing.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Global Awareness: Identify and discuss aspects of forensic science and criminology involved in innovations that shape the modern word to current and future global challenges.	CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context
Interdisciplinarity: Identify and explain the contribution of Forensic Science and Policing to multidisciplinary issues.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Safety and Ethics: Demonstrate skills in the specific handling techniques for hazardous substances and safe working practices in specialised laboratory and forensic environments, and understanding and implementation of risk assessments and COSHH documentation.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Practical Competence: Gain individual familiarity with specialist laboratory instrumentation, equipment and techniques, and judge their appropriate use cases.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries
Scientific Investigation: Construct and maintain systematic, reliable and detailed records of experimental observations informed by theoretical underpinnings and best professional practice, and recognise, evaluate and critique the methods and findings of scientific experimentation and inquiry.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Data Literacy: Demonstrate judgement in locating or producing, professionally processing and interpreting qualitative and quantitative forensic science data.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Research Skills: Engage with the forensic and policing literature including the use of online scientific databases, making appropriate use of primary and secondary peer reviewed sources in constructing scientific reports and correctly citing information.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Numeracy and Digital Skills: Deploy mathematical concepts and computational techniques, including the use of specialist scientific software, to manipulate and present information and data including statistical and error analysis of data.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Scientific Communication: Communicate information and ideas verbally and in writing, selecting appropriate content for a scientific or business audience and producing presentation materials of a professional quality.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis
Reflective Practice and Professionalism: Demonstrate the ability to engage with learning opportunities individually and collaboratively, reflecting on the development of employability skills and working successfully in group environments, contributing to team outputs.	FSC-20031: Crime Scenes: Blood, Marks and Prints FSC-20035: Forensic Genetics: DNA and Crime FSC-20027: Chemical Analysis and Detection FSC-20009: Drugs of Abuse FSC-20011: Counterfeits, Fakes and Forgeries CRI-20021: Policing and the Police CRI-20016: Crime and Justice in a Global Context FSC-20029: Digital Forensics: Crime and Technology FSC-20033: Forensic Anthropology: Decomposition and Skeletal Analysis

Level 6

In Year 3 (Level 6) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules compulsory in each pathway.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Forensic Science and Policing Knowledge: Describe and discuss the full breadth of key forensic science and policing concepts confidently, accurately and in detail, using appropriate terminology, including selected aspects at the forefront of forensic science and policing .	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security
Problem Solving: Apply knowledge, understanding and critical judgement of modern forensic science and policing theories and practices to solve new, qualitative and quantitative problems that may be multi-layered and/or cross disciplinary in nature.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security
Sustainability and Global Awareness: Appreciate the contribution of forensic science and criminology to the innovations that characterise the modern world, and the potential of forensic scientists to develop solutions to current and future challenges.	FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security
Interdisciplinarity: Recognise the relationships and interfaces between forensic science and policing and other subjects, applying forensic science and policing concepts effectively in a multidisciplinary environment.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Safety and Ethics: Demonstrate skills in the design and implementation of safe forensic science procedures and processes, including production of new risk assessments, COSHH documentation and/or research ethics documentation as appropriate	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project
Practical Competence: Use independent judgement to select and operate the appropriate advanced laboratory instrumentation, equipment, techniques and sampling tools to address recovery, extraction and analysis of commonly encountered trace forensic samples and analyse results from experiments or investigations to draw valid conclusions.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology
Scientific Investigation: Plan, formulate and test original forensic science hypotheses by designing, observing, recording and interpreting data collections, professionally documenting methodologies and findings, and evaluate the results of open-ended and original scientific investigations.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology
Data Literacy: Process, transform and critically evaluate original qualitative and quantitative datasets and use judgement informed by theory to build robust arguments based on data from complementary sources.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Research Skills: Engage with peer reviewed forensic science and criminology literature, evaluating, interpreting and synthesizing forensic science and policing information to construct and critically evaluate scientific research.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30029: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security
Numeracy and Digital Skills: Deploy mathematical, statistical and computational methods for data analysis to solve forensic science problems and evaluate forensic and criminology data, using a broad range of general and specialist software to investigate, interpret and manipulate forensic science information.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30029: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology
Scientific Communication: Communicate effectively in both oral and written formats, selecting appropriate content, media and methods for the audience, purpose and subject, and using a broad range of general and specialist software to create forensic science materials for presentation.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security
Reflective Practice and Professionalism: Demonstrate the ability to plan, review and manage progress individually and collaboratively, working successfully with others, reviewing and managing progress, prioritising tasks and meeting deadlines.	FSC-30049: Crime Scene to Court FSC-30043: Explosives, Arson and Evidence FSC-30039: Forensic Toxicology: Ingestion to Detection FSC-30021: Forensic Science Research Project FSC-30067: Environmental and Wildlife Forensics FSC-30063: Marks and Traces Examination FSC-30065: Advanced Forensic Biology CRI-30084: Migration, Crime and (In)Security

Level 7

In Year 4 (Level 7) the stated outcomes are achieved by taking any of the modules compulsory in each pathway.

Subject Knowledge and Understanding	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Forensic Science Knowledge: Critically describe and discuss in detail the full breadth of key forensic science concepts confidently, accurately and in detail, using appropriate terminology, including selected aspects at the forefront of forensic science.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 Forensic Research Skills - FSC-40045 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065
Problem Solving: Critically apply knowledge, understanding and critical judgement of modern forensic science theories and practices to solve new, qualitative and quantitative problems that may be multi-layered and/or cross disciplinary in nature.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065
Sustainability and Global Awareness: Appreciate the contribution of forensic science to the innovations that characterise the modern world, and the potential of forensic science to develop solutions to current and future challenges.	MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065
Interdisciplinarity: Recognise the relationships and interfaces between forensic science and other subjects, applying forensic science concepts effectively in a multidisciplinary environment.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 Forensic Research Skills - FSC-40045 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065

Subject Specific Skills	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Safety and Ethics: Demonstrate critical skills in the design and implementation of safe forensic science procedures and processes, including production of new risk assessments, COSHH documentation and/or research ethics documentation as appropriate	Forensic Research Skills - FSC-40045 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047
Practical Competence: Use independent judgement to select and operate the appropriate advanced laboratory instrumentation, equipment, techniques and sampling tools to address recovery, extraction and analysis of advanced trace forensic samples and crucially analyse results from experiments or investigations to draw valid conclusions.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065
Scientific Investigation: Plan, formulate and test original forensic science hypotheses by designing, observing, recording and critically interpreting data collections, professionally documenting methodologies and findings, and critically evaluate the results of open-ended and original scientific investigations	MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047
Data Literacy: Process, transform and critically evaluate original qualitative and quantitative datasets and use judgement informed by theory to build robust arguments based on data from complementary sources	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047

Key or Transferable Skills (graduate attributes)	
Learning Outcome	**Module in which this is delivered**
Research Skills: Engage with peer reviewed forensic science literature, critically evaluating, interpreting and synthesizing forensic science information to construct and critically evaluate scientific research.	Forensic Research Skills - FSC-40045 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047
Numeracy and Digital Skills: Deploy mathematical, statistical and computational methods for data analysis to solve forensic science problems and evaluate forensic science data, using a broad range of general and specialist software to investigate, interpret and manipulate forensic science information.	MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047
Scientific Communication: Communicate effectively in both oral and written formats, critically selecting appropriate content, media and methods for the audience, purpose and subject, and using a broad range of general and specialist software to create forensic science materials for presentation.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 Forensic Research Skills - FSC-40045 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065
Reflective Practice and Professionalism: Demonstrate the ability to plan, critically review and manage progress individually and collaboratively, working successfully with others, reviewing and managing progress, prioritising tasks and meeting deadlines.	Major Scene Investigation: From Crime to Trial - FSC-40039 MSci Forensic Research Project - FSC-40047 Professional Skills Development - FSC-40065

9. 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) **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. 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

10. 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

11. 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%

12. Accreditation

This programme does not have accreditation.

13. 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'.

14. What are the typical admission requirements for the Programme?

See the relevant course page on the Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity or Metropolitan College

websites for the admission requirements relevant to this programme.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language will be expected to hold a minimum level of English as set out in the entry requirements.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is considered on a case-by-case basis. The University's guidelines on this can be found here: https://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/programmesandmodules/recognitionofpriorlearning/

15. How are students supported on the programme?

Support for student learning on the Programme is provided in the following ways:

All the academic staff in Forensic Science operate an open door policy for students; in other words if they are available at any time in the working day then they are happy to discuss any matter a student raises with them; if they are not free then a future meeting will be arranged for a later time.

All students have many opportunities for close contact with the staff - through laboratory sessions, problems classes, tutorials, workshops and other teaching activities, including online sessions. Consequently, students and staff get to know each other fairly quickly and all students should feel free to approach any lecturer, module tutor or other colleagues whom they believe may be able to provide them with help and assistance on any academic issue. Feedback on formative and summative assessment is usually best obtained from the tutor who set and marked the work but after the whole semester's assessment is complete, it may be that the student's Academic Mentor is best placed to discuss their overall progress.

The Programme Director for Forensic Science has oversight of all aspects of delivery of the Forensic Science and Policing programme, working closely with the programme teams based at Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity and Metropolitan College, Greece.

Help, support and advice are also available from each student's Academic Mentor who is allocated by the School. Academic Mentors will make contact with each student in their first few days at Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity or Metropolitan College to arrange an introductory meeting and will contact them at various key points throughout their degree to check on their progress and to determine whether any specific discussion is needed. From the student's perspective, the Academic Mentor should be seen as someone they can approach with confidence for advice on any matter whether academic or personal; if the mentors themselves cannot help directly then they know who within the university should be able to provide the help the student needs. As well as reviewing overall academic progress, the Academic Mentor can advise on general matters relating to the whole programme of study.

All students will be assigned an academic mentor and a Student Retention and Engagement Lead monitors student attendance and engagement across the programme delivered at Keele University, Greece - University Legal Entity and Metropolitan College, Greece.

16. Learning Resources

Forensic Science with Policing at the Metropolitan College is based in the Central Science Laboratories, which houses modern, well-equipped teaching and research facilities. The teaching laboratories for forensic science are all well equipped with high quality standard laboratory facilities and modern forensic science and analytical instrumentation, with many multiple sets of commonly used techniques.

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 which include crime scene scenarios, used for teaching and research projects. You will also gain experience by using various equipment which includes Video Spectral Comparator Devices, Stereomicroscope, Raman Microscope, ESDA, XRD and XRF, and several document examination equipment, such as VSC-4 and ESDA-2 instruments, many low power stereo microscopes, a comparison microscope and several specialist phase-contrast and polarising microscopes. There are well-equipped dark-rooms for forensic imaging together with a range of high specification cameras. The analytical laboratories are fully equipped with multiple sets of FTIR spectrometers, UV-VIS spectrometers, fluorescence spectrometers, HPLC and GC-MS instrumentation, an NMR spectrometers, an Inductively-Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometer (ICP-OES), and Raman microscopes. Forensic Science students also have access to XRD, XRF and a scanning electron microscope (with EDX analysis). Students undertaking project work at levels 6 and 7 may have access to further analytical instrumentation within the research laboratories such as XRF instruments. Investigation scenarios are set up in the dedicated crime scene facility and a range of CSI equipment is available. Forensic biology equipment includes a thermal cycler for PCR, electrophoresis and gel visualisation equipment, autoclaves and micro-centrifuges.

Students also have access to a wide variety of on-line databases and scientific journals, both in electronic and paper form, through the university library.

17. 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. 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. 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.

18. Quality management and enhancement

The quality and standards of learning in this programme are subject to a continuous process of monitoring, review and enhancement.

- The School Education Committee is responsible for reviewing and monitoring quality management and enhancement procedures and activities across the School.
- Individual modules and the programme as a whole are reviewed and enhanced every year in the annual programme review which takes place at the end of the academic year.
- The programmes are run in accordance with the University's Quality Assurance procedures and are subject to periodic reviews under the Revalidation process.

Student evaluation of, and feedback on, the quality of learning on every module takes place every year using a variety of different methods:

- The results of student evaluations of all modules are reported to module leaders and reviewed by the Programme Committee as part of annual programme review.
- Feedback received from representatives of students in all three years of the programme is considered and acted on at regular meetings of the Student Staff Voice Committee.

The University appoints senior members of academic staff from other universities to act as external examiners on all programmes. They are responsible for:

- Approving examination questions
- Confirming all marks which contribute to a student's degree
- Reviewing and giving advice on the structure and content of the programme and assessment procedures

Information about current external examiner(s) can be found here:
http://www.keele.ac.uk/qa/externalexaminers/currentexternalexaminers/

19. The principles of programme design

The programme described in this document has been drawn up with reference to, and in accordance with the guidance set out in, the following documents:

a. UK Quality Code for Higher Education, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education:
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code

b. QAA Subject Benchmark Statements: Forensic Science (2022) https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/sbs/sbs-forensic-science-22.pdf and Criminology (2022) https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/criminology
c. Keele University Regulations and Guidance for Students and Staff: http://www.keele.ac.uk/regulations

20. Annex - Programme-specific regulations

Programme Regulations: Forensic Science and Criminology

Final Award and Award Titles	MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Handwriting and Documentation Forensics) MSci Forensic Science with Policing (Environmental Forensics)
Intermediate Award(s)	Bsc Honours Diploma in Higher Education 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	