

MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

Module Title:	Forensic Investigation of Mass Fatalities	Level:	6	Credit Value:	20
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Module code:	SCI611	Is this a new module?	No	Code of module being replaced:	
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Cost Centre(s):	GAFS	JACS3 code:	F410
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With effect from:	September 18
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School:	Applied Science, Computing & Engineering	Module Leader:	Amy Rattenbury
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	24 hrs
Guided independent study	176 hrs
Placement	
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered	Core	Option
BSc (Hons) Forensic Science	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pre-requisites
None.

Office use only

Initial approval: February 17

APSC approval of modification: *Enter date of approval*

Version: 2

Have any derogations received SQC approval?

Yes No N/A

If new module, remove previous module spec from directory?

Yes No

08/12/2022 APSC approval to amend Learning and Teaching hours

Module Aims

This module explains the role of forensic investigation in catastrophic incidents including terrorist attacks, genocide and other large-scale crimes. Particular emphasis is placed upon the challenges faced in the search, collection and preservation of evidence as well as the ethical issues surrounding disaster victim identification.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to

Key Skills

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Define mass disasters and mass fatality incidents.	KS1	
2	Appraise the role of the forensic scientist in a global context by addressing issues surrounding terrorism, genocide and other large scale emergencies.	KS1	KS7
		KS8	
3	Consider the effect of large-scale catastrophic incidents have on the recognition and recovery of evidence.	KS3	KS5
4	Debate the ethics of methods used in disaster victim identification and repatriation of property and assess current practices.	KS1	KS4
		KS6	
5	Critically evaluate the challenges faced in disaster management and investigation.	KS1	KS3
		KS7	

Transferable skills and other attributes

- Observation and note taking.
- Essay writing.
- Problem solving.
- Decision making.
- Time management.
- Team working.
- Data handling.

Derogations

N/A.

Assessment:

Essay relating to the forensic investigation of mass disasters.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1-5	Essay	100		3000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

Methods of delivery:

PPT Lectures
Directed discussions
Case studies
Problem solving exercises
Directed study using VLE (Moodle)

Syllabus outline:

- The role of the forensic investigator in mass disasters
- Categories of mass disasters and associated evidence types
- Management of mass disasters and environmental considerations
- Investigation of terrorist attacks
- Scientific investigations of mass graves
- Resilience mortuaries and logistical challenges
- Methods of disaster victim identification (DVI) and collection of ante-mortem data
- Repatriation of bodies and property after a mass disaster
- Humanitarian assistance
- Preparedness and Response capacity

Bibliography:

Essential reading

Okoye, M.I. and Wecht, C.H. (2007) *Forensic Investigation and Management of Mass Disasters*, Arizona: Lawyer & Judges Publishing Company.

Other indicative reading

Adams, B. and Byrd, J. (2014) *Commingled Human Remains: Methods in Recovery, Analysis, and Identification*. Oxford: Academic Press.

Groen, M. Maraquez-Grant, N. and Janaway, R. (2015) *Forensic Archaeology: A Global Perspective*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons.

Howitt, A. and Leonard, H. (2009) *Managing Crises: Responses to Large-Scale Emergencies*, Washington: CQ Press.

Mallett, X. Blythe, T. and Berry, R. (2014) *Advances in Forensic Human Identification*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.

McEntire, D.A. (2015) *Disaster Response and Recovery: Strategies and Tactics for Resilience* New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons.

Sozer, A.C. (2014) *DNA Analysis for Missing Person Identification in Mass Fatalities*. Boca Raton: CRC Press.