MODULE SPECIFICATION

Module Code:	SCI723

Module Title:	Human Osteology

Level:	7	**Credit Value:**	20

Cost Centre(s):	GAFS	JACS3 **code**: HECoS code:	L610 101218

Faculty	FAST	**Module Leader:**	Amy Rattenbury

Scheduled learning and teaching hours	21 hrs
Guided independent study	139 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Laboratory Hours	40 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
MRes Forensic Anthropology & Bioarchaeology	✓	☐

Pre-requisites
N/A

Office use only
Initial approval: 07/05/2019 Version no:1
With effect from: 01/09/2019
Date and details of revision: Version no:

Module Aims

This module aims to provide students with a detailed understanding of human remains and skeletal material in a case work and research environment. It will furnish them with both the knowledge, practical and research skills required by a forensic anthropologist or bioarchaeologist when examining remains in order to establish identity. It will cover key concepts and techniques used in researching techniques for developing biological profiles and their applications in cases of crime, mass disaster and other casualties.

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	
1	Critically appraise the standard osteological techniques employed in forensic anthropology and bioarchaeology.	KS1	KS4
		KS6	
2	Correctly handle, work with and identify a range of skeletal material.	KS7	KS9
3	Employ advanced observational and analytical skills in order to undertake detailed osteological assessment of remains including the age, sex, stature, pathology and trauma.	KS3	KS4
		KS6	KS10
4	Demonstrate specific awareness of the ethical, cultural, and safety issues pertaining to the analysis and retention of human remains	KS6	KS7

Transferable skills and other attributes

- Adapting performance to tasks
- Coordinating and planning tasks
- Practical skills
- Following SOPs

Derogations

N/A

Assessment:

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

Assessment 1: Simulation (50%). Students will be presented with a collection of material excavated from a grave which they must process in order to identify and analyse any human skeletal remains present providing an oral account of their methods and initial findings, and respond to questions relevant to the task.
Assessment 2: Report (50%). Students will produce an industry style osteological report on a case study agreed with their tutor. The report looks to provide a detailed discussion on the various osteological methods applied and the results of these whilst recognising the capacity and limitations of their specialist role.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration or Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	2, 3 & 4	Simulation	50	2.5 hours
2	1 & 3	Report	50	2500

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

This module will be delivered in a blended format. The initial background and theory will be presented online through a series of lectures, podcasts, videos, articles and other formats supported by the VLE. This will then be followed with a series of intensive practical sessions where students will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge and practice the techniques covered. Students will be expected to supplement their learning by undertaking independent laboratory study in order to gain competence and proficiency in the handling of human remains. 40 hours are specifically allocated for problem-based learning with forensic anthropology and bioarchaeology scenarios. During this time, the students will have the access to the lab facilities.

Syllabus outline:

- Human skeletal and musculoskeletal anatomy
- Biological profile and identification
- Sex estimation methods
- Age estimation methods
- Stature and Osteometry
- Introduction to Paleopathology
- Skeletal disease and trauma

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential reading

- White, T.D. and Folkens, P.A., 2005. The human bone manual. Elsevier.

Other indicative reading

- Baker, B.J., Dupras, T.L., and Tocheri, M.W. (2005). The Osteology of Infants and Children. Texas A & M University Press. College Station (TX).
- Buikstra, J.E. and Beck, L.A. (eds.) (2006). Bioarchaeology: The Contextual Analysis of Human Remains. Academic Press, Amsterdam.
- Cox, M. and May, S. (eds.) (2000). Human Osteology in Archaeology and Forensic Science. Greenwich Medical Media, London.
- Saunders, S.R., Katzenberg, M.A. (eds.) (2018). Biological Anthropology of the Human Skeleton. Wiley, New York.
- White, T.D. Black, M.T.and Folkens, P.A. (2011). Human Osteology. Academic Press, New York.