

Module Details	
Module Title:	Independent Research Papers for CSI
Module Code:	ARC7040-C
Academic Year:	2019-20
Credit Rating:	30
School:	School of Archaeological and Forensic Sciences
Subject Area:	Archaeology
FHEQ Level:	FHEQ Level 7 (Masters)
Pre-requisites:	
Co-requisites:	

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Tutorials	10
Directed Study	290

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 3 (June - Oct)

Module Aims
<p>To research and write two detailed, critical, state of the art reviews targeted at your chosen specialism. The topic and scope of review will be agreed in advance with tutors.</p> <p>Students will identify a current issue of forensic science and conduct a paper based research exercise. This will critically discuss the scientific and evidential basis of the techniques and issues relating to peer review and acceptance by courts. Particular account will be taken of both scene and subsequent laboratory based protocols to minimize cross-contamination.</p>

Outline Syllabus
<p>Introduction to module. Tutorials to support learning. Present a substantial piece of independent work. Critically review a subject e.g. Utilisation of low copy number DNA, non-ballistic forensic</p>

evidence recovered from firearms, absence of scavenger activity from a body dump site. Critically discuss search and recovery protocols for e.g. buried weapons, buried money, bodies concealed in buildings during construction/alteration, use of imagery and other data to assess landscape change as part of a search strategy, taphonomic effects of body disposal in water

Learning Outcomes

1	Critically discuss the strengths and weaknesses of a contemporary issue in forensic science
2	Appraise a major aspect of search and recovery of evidence
3	Critically review forensic and police approaches to criminal investigation
4	Explain how the criminal justice system has reviewed techniques and evidence types
5	Locate, access, analyse and critically review material in a topic at the forefront of the discipline
6	Construct well-reasoned arguments and evaluate diverse source material
7	Research and write a succinct report to a professional standard

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

During small group tutorials and in discussion with module tutors students will identify and plan suitable topics for the assessment. During Directed Study hours students are expected to undertake reading to consolidate and expand on the content of formal taught sessions, research and prepare for assessments, revise material from formal taught sessions and undertake specific elements of reading as directed.

Mode of Assessment

Type	Method	Description	Length	Weighting
Summative	Coursework	A detailed research report on a contemporary issue in forensic science written to a professional standard	-2000 words	40%
Summative	Coursework	A comprehensive research report appraising a major aspect impacting on search and recovery of evidence written to a professional standard	-4000 words	60%

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit <https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html>.

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.