

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FORENSIC GEOLOGY
Status: Definitive
Code: **3104FNDSCI** (101305)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2013

Owning School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Natural Sciences & Psychology

Team	Leader
Graham Sherwood	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ3
Credit Value: 12.00
Total Delivered Hours: 31.00
Total Learning Hours: 120
Private Study: 89

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10.000
Practical	15.000
Workshop	5.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	Poster	Poster	25.0	
Test	Practical	Practical assessment	25.0	
Exam	Exam	Examination	50.0	1.00

Aims

To provide an introduction to the use of geological materials in forensic science.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Distinguish between earth materials used in forensic investigations.
- 2 Describe the principles of evidence collection and analysis in criminal investigations.
- 3 Explain how forensic geology has contributed to criminal investigation.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Group poster	2
Practical assessment	1
Exam	3

Outline Syllabus

Origin and distribution of earth materials: rocks; minerals; palynology and soils. Using earth materials as evidence. Collection and examination methods. Forensic geology case studies: gem and art fraud; robbery; murder; theft; substitution cases, diatoms and drowning.

Learning Activities

Lectures, practicals, case studies, problem-based learning.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Murray, R.C.
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Evidence from the Earth
Subtitle	Forensic geology & criminal investigation
Edition	
Publisher	Mountain Press Publishing Company
ISBN	0878424989

Notes

This module provides an introduction to the use of earth materials in forensic investigation.