

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FORENSIC BIOSCIENCE  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6004NATSCI** (112597)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2019

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

Team	Leader
Alan Gunn	Y
Robbie Rae	
Constantine Eliopoulos	

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 24  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 48

**Total Learning Hours:** 240  
**Private Study:** 192

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	29
Practical	6
Workshop	11

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Exam	Exam	Essay and Interpretive Questions	40	2
Report	Report	Practical Report	60	

### Aims

*To critically review how biological evidence can contribute to a wide range of forensic investigations.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Evaluate the factors that influence the decay of human remains in a forensic context.
- 2 Critically evaluate how fauna and flora contribute evidence in forensic investigations.
- 3 Discuss the ways in which microbes and viruses can contribute to forensic investigations.
- 4 Present and objectively analyse case studies and forensic data/information using appropriate statistical/analytical techniques.
- 5 Explain how biological evidence is collected, identified and processed in a forensic investigation.

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Exam	1	2	3	4	5
Practical Report	4				

## Outline Syllabus

*Use of flora and fauna in forensic science: bacteria and viruses, diatoms, pollen, invertebrates, vertebrates.*

*Factors affecting the decomposition of human remains. Determination of the time since death from physical, physiological and biological information.*

*Wound analysis and determining the cause of death.*

*Case studies: applications to forensic science, data interpretation, the role of the forensic scientist.*

*The collection and storage of biological evidence in a forensic investigation. The strengths and limitations of different forms of biological evidence.*

## Learning Activities

Lectures, practicals and workshops. A range of practical techniques are introduced.

## Notes

This module is designed to make students aware of the applications of biological techniques in forensic science. By the end of the module they should be able to use data obtained by these techniques in forensic interpretation.