

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FORENSIC AND INVESTIGATIVE PSYCHOLOGY
Status: Definitive
Code: **6201PSYSCI** (121376)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Psychology

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Academic Level: FHEQ6 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 44

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 156

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	14
Online	12
Seminar	18

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	Blog	Students will write a 500 word blog post	20	
Report	Report	Students will write a 3000 word report on a case study	80	

Aims

This module aims to allow students to critically evaluate and apply key forensic and investigative psychological theories and knowledge to real-world criminal cases.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Apply forensic and investigative knowledge to controversial issues within the criminal justice system.
- 2 Convey critical discussions in a way suitable for dissemination to the general public.
- 3 Link psychological, criminal justice, investigative and forensic knowledge and theories to real-world criminal cases.
- 4 Formulate informed assessments of criminal cases using forensic and investigative knowledge to challenge pre-existing understanding.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

A short blog post	1	2	
Report on case study	1	3	4

Outline Syllabus

The module will involve a set of lectures covering key forensic and investigative psychology topics. The following are indicative topics and will be based on staff availability:

*Introduction to forensic and investigative psychology
Court processes, expert evidence, jury bias, and DNA evidence
Interviewing suspects, detecting deception and false confessions
Witness testimony, false memories and memory bias
Offender profiling
Social and environmental factors of crime
Psychological and personality factors of crime*

Learning Activities

The module is delivered in the form of traditional lectures, seminars, and online discussion sessions. The lectures will provide the foundations of knowledge on a range of forensic and investigative psychology topics. The seminars will allow for more detailed discussion around the topics, and the online sessions enable students to raise questions in group settings to formulate further understanding.

Notes

This module aims to provide a comprehensive overview of forensic and investigative psychology as a subject. Students who complete this module will obtain vital knowledge and skills, which will inform their future careers regardless of the path they choose.