

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: GEOFORENSICS
Status: Definitive
Code: **6305NATSCI** (121180)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences
Teaching School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences

Team	Leader
David Jordan	Y
Chris Hunt	

Academic Level: FHEQ6 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 152

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	10
Off Site	16
Practical	18
Workshop	4

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	Field rpt	Report and Field Notebook	50	
Presentation	Pres	Presentation	50	

Aims

Introduce students to the key skills and perspectives required to collect, critically evaluate and present geoforensic evidence. It will provide students with transferable skills in forensic field survey, site management, laboratory and geo-data analysis applicable to many situations in professional environmental science.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Employ relevant geoforensic field and laboratory techniques
- 2 Critically evaluate the findings from field and lab based data analyses
- 3 Develop logical argument to synthesize complex results and findings to a non-specialist audience

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Field report and notebook	1	2
Presentation	2	3

Outline Syllabus

*1) 3-day non-residential field course - Field skills and evidence gathering:
Topographic and other technical survey and data analysis
Forensic site and excavation management and control
Forensic site recording and reporting*

*2) Laboratory and computer practicals - analysing the evidence:
The geoforensic analysis of site materials
Geoforensic data handling.*

3) Lectures, supported by tutorials, covering the context, role and background to geoforensic investigations.

The course will conclude with group presentation and workshop sessions during which students will describe the results of their own investigations based on evidence gathered during the initial field and laboratory studies.

Learning Activities

Field course, Lectures, Workshops and Seminars.

Notes

This very practical course is intended as an introduction to Geoforensics which draws on knowledge which students have obtained at L4 and L5. It aims to teach students the key skills and perspectives required to gather, assess and present geoforensic evidence. It will provide them with transferable skills in forensic field survey, site management, laboratory and geo-data analysis applicable to many

situations in professional environmental practice.