

Anatomy of Homicide Investigations

Module Information

2022.01, Approved

Summary Information

Module Code	7226PS
Formal Module Title	Anatomy of Homicide Investigations
Owning School	Justice Studies
Career	Postgraduate Taught
Credits	20
Academic level	FHEQ Level 7
Grading Schema	50

Teaching Responsibility

LJMU Schools involved in Delivery
Justice Studies

Learning Methods

Learning Method Type	Hours
Online	30

Module Offering(s)

Display Name	Location	Start Month	Duration Number Duration Unit
APR-MTP	MTP	April	12 Weeks
JAN-MTP	MTP	January	12 Weeks
SEP-MTP	MTP	September	12 Weeks

Aims and Outcomes

Aims	Those who are tasked with the investigation of homicide require an in-depth knowledge of the investigative process. The aim and distinctive quality of the module is to critically explore this process from early stage case management including key roles and responsibilities, review and oversight through to the trial process and beyond. The module aims to illustrate how the investigative process develops and how decision making which is affected by bias, culture, pressure and accountability can influence outcomes. The module will encourage students to reflect on their relationship with this process. The module will pay special attention to the issues impacting on the relationship between the investigator and key stakeholders involved in homicide investigations and it will examine the psychological impacts on the investigator.
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After completing the module the student should be able to:

Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
MLO1	1	Critically evaluate how the investigative process develops, how decision making can influence outcomes and how this fits into the review and oversight of homicide investigation
MLO2	2	Critically engage with, explain, analyse and evaluate the central issues surrounding the relationship between the investigator and the judicial process.
MLO3	3	Examine and critically analyse the impact of investigative bias, ethics and police culture on the investigative process.
MLO4	4	Critically analyse how diversity of investigators and investigations can impact on the legitimacy of homicide enquiries.
MLO5	5	Critically evaluate the psychological consequences of homicide investigation on the investigator and the impact of adaptive and maladaptive coping mechanisms.

Module Content

Outline Syllabus	Key roles and responsibilities. Impact and consequences of investigative bias, ethics and police culture Diversity and cultural awareness and how this impacts on legitimacy of the investigation of homicide. The role of CCTV and digital analytics/cyber. The role of the Investigative interview advisor. The role of the media Review and Oversight The role of the Prosecution and Defence The trial process – including the journey with the family and beyond. Appeals Psychological consequences of homicide investigation on the investigator – adaptive and maladaptive coping; burnout.
Module Overview	
Additional Information	There are no professional body requirements at this stage, however developments associated with the College of Policing and other relevant government departments will be monitored and where appropriate, incorporated into module content.

Assessments

Assignment Category	Assessment Name	Weight	Exam/Test Length (hours)	Module Learning Outcome Mapping
Reflection	2,500 Word Essay	70	0	MLO1, MLO2, MLO3, MLO4
Presentation	10 minute oral presentation	30	0	MLO1, MLO5

Module Contacts

Module Leader

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
Richard Carr	Yes	N/A

Partner Module Team

Contact Name	Applies to all offerings	Offerings
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