1. KentVision Code and title of the module

PSCI7400 – Forensic Science Research Project

## Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module

Division of Natural Sciences (Chemistry and Forensic Science)

## The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)

Level 7

## The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

60 Credits (30 ECTS)

## Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Autumn and Spring

## Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

None

## The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

Compulsory for the following courses:

M.Sci Forensic Science

Not available as an elective module

## The intended subject specific learning outcomes.On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

8.1 Build on the research independence gained in Stage 3 as part of PSCI7200 (Advanced Forensic Science Laboratory).

8.2 Establish advanced research skills in Forensic Science at Level 7.

8.3 Have the capacity to undertake advanced scientific investigations, advanced problem solving and data analysis in a research environment.

8.4 Have the ability to communicate scientific ideas through presentations and written reports.

8.5 In conjunction with PSCI7000 (Physical Science Research Planning) to gain knowledge of how research is structured and funded.

## The intended generic learning outcomes.On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

9.1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relating to the subject and to apply such knowledge and understanding to the solution of qualitative and quantitative problems.

9.2 Demonstrate the ability to recognise and analyse novel problems and plan strategies for their solution by the evaluation, interpretation and synthesis of scientific information and data by a variety of computational methods.

9.3 Demonstrate professional skills in essay writing and presenting material and arguments clearly and correctly, to a range of audiences. The ability to communicate complex arguments to a lay audience.

9.4 Precisely interpret data in terms of their underlying significance and the theory underpinning them and to present such data to an examining body for example as an expert witness.

9.5 Demonstrate problem-solving skills relating to qualitative and quantitative information extending to situations where evaluations have to be made on the basis of limited information.

9.6 Demonstrate efficient time management and organisational skills as evidenced by the ability to plan and implement efficient and effective modes of working, including the study skills necessary for continuing professional development and preparation for employment as a practicing forensic scientist or chemist.

## A synopsis of the curriculum

Students will undertake a project from an available project listing and will work under the guidance of a supervisor. The student will be encouraged to develop some level of research independence within the project remit appropriate of a Level 7 Masters' student. The project will be assessed on a number of criteria which will include the project work (the amount, quality etc. appropriate for the level), effort put in by the student.

## Reading list

## The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

## The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

## Contact Hours

Private Study: 358

Contact Hours: 242

Total: 600

## Assessment methods

13.1 Main assessment methods

* Progress Report (Approx. 4 pages) – 10%
* Presentation (20 minutes) – 20%
* Supervisor Assessment – 20%
* Project Report (Approx. 40 pages) – 50%

13.2 Reassessment methods

* Like-for-like

## Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Private Study | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Laboratory | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Supervisory Meetings | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Progress Report | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Supervisor Assessment | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Project Report | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

## Inclusive module design

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

## Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

Canterbury

## Internationalisation

Forensic science is an inherently international and constantly evolving disciple with physical laws discovered and techniques developed and refined by scientists across the globe. It is facilitated by well-defined conventions in terminology and mathematical modelling which allow complex concepts to be communicated across language barriers. This module introduces students to the work of these pioneers, as well as the fundamentals behind it and so enables them to interact with this community. Where possible, the reading list has been chosen, in part, to demonstrate the diversity of backgrounds of forensic scientists working in the field.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Module record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

| Date approved | New/Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of (revised) version | Section revised(if applicable) | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2 Dec 2021 | Minor | Sept 2022 | 6, 12 | No |
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| Revised FSO Jan 2018 |