1. **Title of the module**

PSCI6020 (PS602) - Forensic Expert Witness Skills

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Physical Sciences

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

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

Autumn and Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

Prerequisite:

Successful completion of Stage 2 of the Forensic Science degree programme; or equivalent background.

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Forensic Science

Forensic Science with a Year in Industry

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relating to Forensic Science. (FS programme outcomes 2, 4)
   2. Present scientific material and arguments clearly and correctly, in writing and orally, to a range of audiences. (FS programme outcomes 3, 7)
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate communication skills, covering both written and oral communication. (FS programme outcome 13)
   2. Use time-management and organisational skills, as evidenced by the ability to plan and implement efficient and effective modes of working. (FS programme outcome 19)
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Investigating how science is reported in the media. Writing a press release.

Designing and producing a poster.

Acting as an expert forensic science witness. Writing and defending an expert witness report.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

* Bond, Catherine, (2007) The Expert Witness in Court: A Practical Guide, 3rd Ed, Shaw
* Wall, (2009) Forensic Science in Court: The Role of the Expert Witness, Wiley Blackwell
* Langford, Alan, (2010) Practical Skills in Forensic Science, 2nd Ed., Pearson, Prentice Hall
* Jackson and Jackson, (2017) Forensic Science, Pearson, Prentice Hall

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 14

Private study hours: 136

Total study hours: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Press release (2 pages, 20%)

Poster (10%)

Court report (Approx. 30 pages, 40%)

Court appearance (10 mins, 30%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like-for-like

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *9.1* | *9.2* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lectures | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |
| Press release | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Poster | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Court Report | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Court appearance | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School 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

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The press releases are drawn from a range of papers in international journals and the posters are based on international accepted forensic principles. The legal aspects are based on UK law, but references to other legal systems are made.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
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Revised FSO Jan 2018