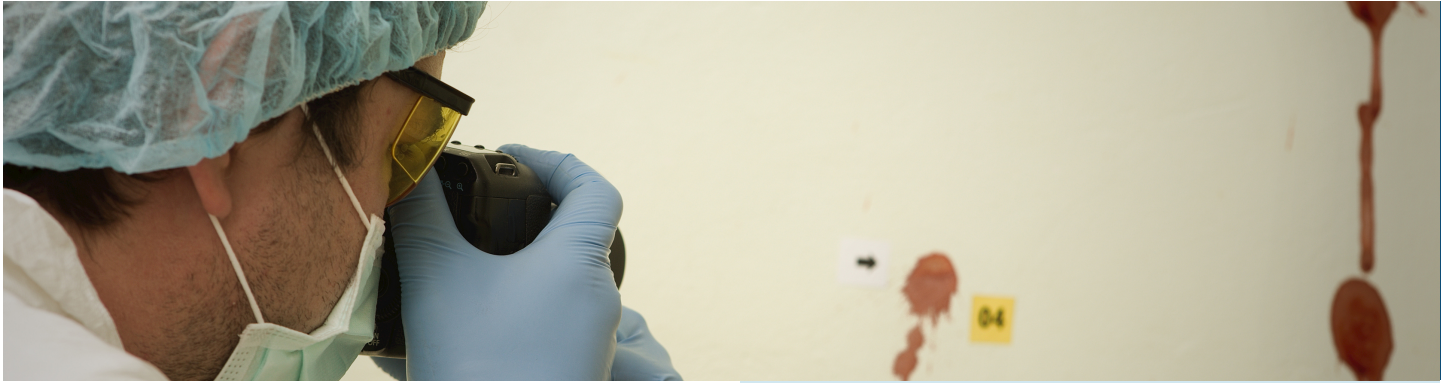




Forensic Biology MSc

www.cranfield.ac.uk/forensicbiology



Forensic biology is the application of biology to link a person(s), such as suspect or victim, to a location, an item or another person. It can be utilised to further investigations for both criminal and civil cases.

This MSc is highly practical. There is a focus on the interpretational skills required to critically evaluate different forms of forensic evidence recovered from exhibits in the laboratory and at the crime scene, based on scenarios. With a focus on biological evidence types, such as DNA, blood and body fluids, the MSc focuses on the decision making and practitioner opinion of the scientific evidence based on real-life case scenarios.

Who is it for?

The Forensic Biology MSc will appeal to those with an interest in pursuing a career as a forensic practitioner. In particular, with specific interests within the field of biology. Since the course will have particular focus on detection and evaluation of biological evidence types, such as DNA, blood and other body fluids.

This MSc appeals to students with an interest in a career in a forensic laboratory, that have a science or forensic science first degree.

Your career

The Forensic Biology MSc offers the skills essential for those who are interested in a career as a practitioner within a forensic laboratory, with focus on the biological aspects of forensic casework.

You can also use your gained skills to progress into careers within other field of the criminal justice system such as working as scene of crime officers or other careers in a laboratory environment.

Cranfield Careers and Employability Service

Cranfield's Career Service is dedicated to helping you meet your career aspirations. You will have access to career coaching and advice, CV development, interview practice, access to hundreds of available jobs via our Symplicity platform and opportunities to meet recruiting employers at our careers fairs. Our strong reputation and links with potential employers provide you with outstanding opportunities to secure interesting jobs and develop successful careers. Support continues after graduation and as a Cranfield alumnus, you have free life-long access to a range of career resources to help you continue your education and enhance your career.

Overview

Start date

Launching October 2023

Duration

MSc: 11 months full-time, up to three years part-time; PgDip: up to 11 months full-time, up to two years part-time

Qualification

MSc, PgDip

Study type

Full-time / Part-time

Structure

By written and practical examinations, continuous assessment, project presentation and oral exam

Campus

Cranfield campus

Entry requirements

A first or second class honours degree or equivalent in archaeology, forensic science or scientific discipline, or the professional equivalent. Students with other degrees who can show a knowledge of and interest in the scientific elements of the subject will also be considered.

Security clearance for Shrivenham

Some Cranfield University courses are delivered at the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, Shrivenham which is a Ministry of Defence (MoD) site. All applicants to courses that are wholly or partially delivered at Shrivenham must complete the BPSS (HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard V4 April 2014) prior to registration on the course or must already hold a security clearance to this level or higher.

Please visit our [security clearance page](#) for further information.

Fees

Please see www.cranfield.ac.uk/fees for detailed information about fee status, full-time and part-time fees as well as deposit requirements and bursary and scholarship information.

Course details

The course will be delivered face-to-face through lectures, group sessions, seminars as well as a large portion of practical work, both in the form of analytical analysis within a laboratory environment and within the crime scene facilities.

You will complete eight core modules and choose from a further 13 elective modules to suit your interest in other themes of forensics.

Following the taught phase, you will spend the remaining time until the end of August completing an individual dissertation project in a forensic topic of your choice. This may be a practical-based thesis or other.

Modules

Keeping our courses up-to-date and current requires constant innovation and change. The modules we offer reflect the needs of business and industry and the research interests of our staff. As a result, they may change or be withdrawn due to research developments, legislation changes or for a variety of other reasons. Changes may also be designed to improve the student learning experience or to respond to feedback from students, external examiners, accreditation bodies and industrial advisory panels.

To give you a taster, we have listed below the compulsory and elective (where applicable) modules which are currently affiliated with this course. All modules are indicative only, and may be subject to change for your year of entry

Compulsory modules

All the modules in the following list need to be taken as part of this course.

Introductory Studies

Investigation and Evidence Collection

Reasoning for Forensic Science

Analytical Techniques

Courtroom Skills

DNA

Body Fluids

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

Thesis Research Project

Elective modules

Select four from the list below. Other options are listed online.

Fires, Explosions and their Investigation

Trace Evidence

Forensic Archaeology: Mass Grave Excavation

Fundamentals of Forensic Anthropology: Osteology

Practical Archaeological Excavation

Mass Fatality Incidents

Forensic Ecology

Radiographic Investigations in Forensic Science

Trauma Weapon Effects

Fire Engineering

Advanced Crime Scene Investigation

Temporary Mortuary Operations

Term dates

Orientation Week:

September 2024 – October 2024

Term One:

October 2024 – December 2024

Term Two:

January 2025 – March 2025

Term Three:

April 2025 – July 2025

Term Four:

July 2025 – September 2025

For more information contact our Admissions Team:
T: +44 (0)1793 785220

Visit campus for yourself and meet current students and our academics at our next Open Day:
www.cranfield.ac.uk/opensday

February 2024

Every effort is made to ensure that the information provided here is correct at the time it is published. Please check our website for the latest information.