



Forensic Archaeology and Anthropology MSc

www.cranfield.ac.uk/faa



The Forensic Archaeology and Anthropology MSc at Cranfield Forensic Institute is taught by experts and involves a hands-on practical teaching style with interesting and thought-provoking lectures from our staff and guest speakers.

You will have the opportunity to get your hands dirty with practical archaeological excavations, looking at the science and exploring simulated mass grave sites and using a plethora of practical and theory-based techniques to understand and analyse the world as we find it.

Who is it for?

The course offers students a wide range of different experiences with outstanding facilities.

The course is highly practical and hands-on, aiming to produce forensic scientists with a strong background in archaeology and physical anthropology which will help them with their future careers and eventually give them the skills to become experts in these fields.

We find that our students come from a wide range of backgrounds, usually with an archaeological, biological, medical or forensic science first degree, with many coming from abroad.

Your career

Prepares you to work in the field of forensic archaeology or anthropology within forensic laboratories, police departments, government bodies, non-governmental organisations, museums, commercial archaeological companies and universities. It is also a necessary introduction that could lead into conducting research at PhD level in the subject.

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

October

Duration

Full-time: 11 months (MSc), one year (PgDip); Part-time: up to three years (MSc) or two years (PgDip)

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

You will be required to take eight core modules and choose three elective modules based on their particular background, future requirements or interests. This is followed by a four-month research project and thesis.

Some modules for this MSc may be taught at Cranfield University at Shrivenham.

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

Forensic Archaeology: Recovering Buried Remains

Forensic Archaeology: Mass Grave Excavation

Fundamentals of Forensic Anthropology: Osteology

Further Forensic Anthropology: Identification

Thesis Research Project

Elective modules

Select three from the list below. Other options are offered online.

Trace Evidence

Introduction to Firearms Investigations and Forensic Ballistics

Practical Archaeological Excavation

Mass Fatality Incidents

Forensic Ecology

Fakes and Forgeries

Radiographic Investigations in Forensic Science

Hazardous Forensics

Forensic Exploitation and Intelligence

Trauma Weapon Effects

Introduction to Fire Investigation

Digital Scene Forensics

DNA

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis

Temporary Mortuary Operations

Forensic Imaging

Accreditation

The MSc of this course is accredited by The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences.



The
Chartered
Society of
Forensic
Sciences

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

Class profile 2023/24

Gender:

Male 7% - Female 93%

Age range:

20 - 60 years

Average age:

24 years

Number of nationalities:

12

Nationality:

UK 65% - International: 35%

Class size:

32

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/penday

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.