



Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Chorcaí  
Cork Institute of Technology

## BIOT6004: Introductory Forensic Science

### Module Details

<b>Short Title:</b>	Introductory Forensic Science
<b>Full Title:</b>	Introduction to Forensic Science
<b>Module Id:</b>	3380

<b>Official Code:</b>	BIOT6004	<b>NFQ Level:</b>	6	<b>ECTS Credits:</b>	5
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<b>Coordinator:</b>	JAMES O MAHONY
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<b>Description:</b>	An introduction and overview of the history and applications of forensic science for modern scientists
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### Learning Outcomes:

*On successful completion of this module the learner will be able to...*

1. list the key historical developments in the field of forensic science
2. Identify the skills and techniques used by modern forensic scientists
3. Assess the role played by forensics in solving landmark crimes
4. Perform routine forensic procedures in a laboratory environment

### Pre-requisite learning

#### **Module Recommendations**

*This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is strongly recommended before enrolment in this module. You may enrol in this module if you have not acquired the recommended learning but you will have considerable difficulty in passing (i.e. achieving the learning outcomes of) the module. While the prior learning is expressed as named CIT module(s) it also allows for learning (in another module or modules) which is equivalent to the learning specified in the named module(s).*

No recommendations listed

#### **Incompatible Modules**

*These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module. You may not earn additional credit for the same learning and therefore you may not enrol in this module if you have successfully completed any modules in the incompatible list.*

No incompatible modules listed

#### **Module Requirements**

*This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed. You may not enrol on this module if you have not acquired the learning specified in this section.*

No requirements listed



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## BIOT6004: Introductory Forensic Science

### Module Content & Assessment

#### Indicative Content

- **History of Forensic Science**

A chronological review of the key developments of forensic science through the centuries

- **Skills and techniques**

An overview of the individual skills and techniques employed by modern forensic scientists to solve crimes including fingerprinting, DNA analysis, toxicology, anthropology, dental records, entymology, archaeology, carbon dating, ballistics, pathology and crime scene evaluation.

- **Case studies**

An exposure to real life case studies, and an evaluation of the role played by forensics in solving them. Examples include famous celebrity crimes, World Trade Centre attacks, Shroud of Turin & famous forgeries.

- **Investigations and the interpretation of forensic evidence**

A brief overview of how forensic data is accumulated, presented and is accepted in legal trials.

- **Practical skills**

An introduction to some of the laboratory procedures and practical skills employed in forensics

#### Assessment Breakdown

Assessment Breakdown	%
Course Work	100%
End of Semester Formal Examination	0%

#### Coursework Breakdown

Type	Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Short Answer Questions	based on lecture material	1,2,3	40	Week 9
Project	Manage a hypothetical forensic investigation	3	20	Sem End
Practical/Skills Evaluation	Laboratory based material	4	40	Every Week

**The institute reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment**


**Module Workload & Resources**

Workload	Full-time mode				
	Type	Description	Hours	Frequency	Average Weekly Learner Workload
Lecture		class based instruction	2	Every Week	2.00
Lab		Laboratory based instruction	2	Every Week	2.00
Independent & Directed Learning (Non-contact)		No Description	3	Every Week	3.00
Total Weekly Learner Workload					7.00
Total Weekly Contact Hours					4.00

**Resources**
*Supplementary Book Resources*

- David Owen, *Hidden Evidence*