

**UK
OPEN
LEARNING**
HOME STUDY
COURSES

FORENSIC SCIENCE

A FASCINATING INSIGHT INTO THE
WORLD OF FORENSIC SCIENCE



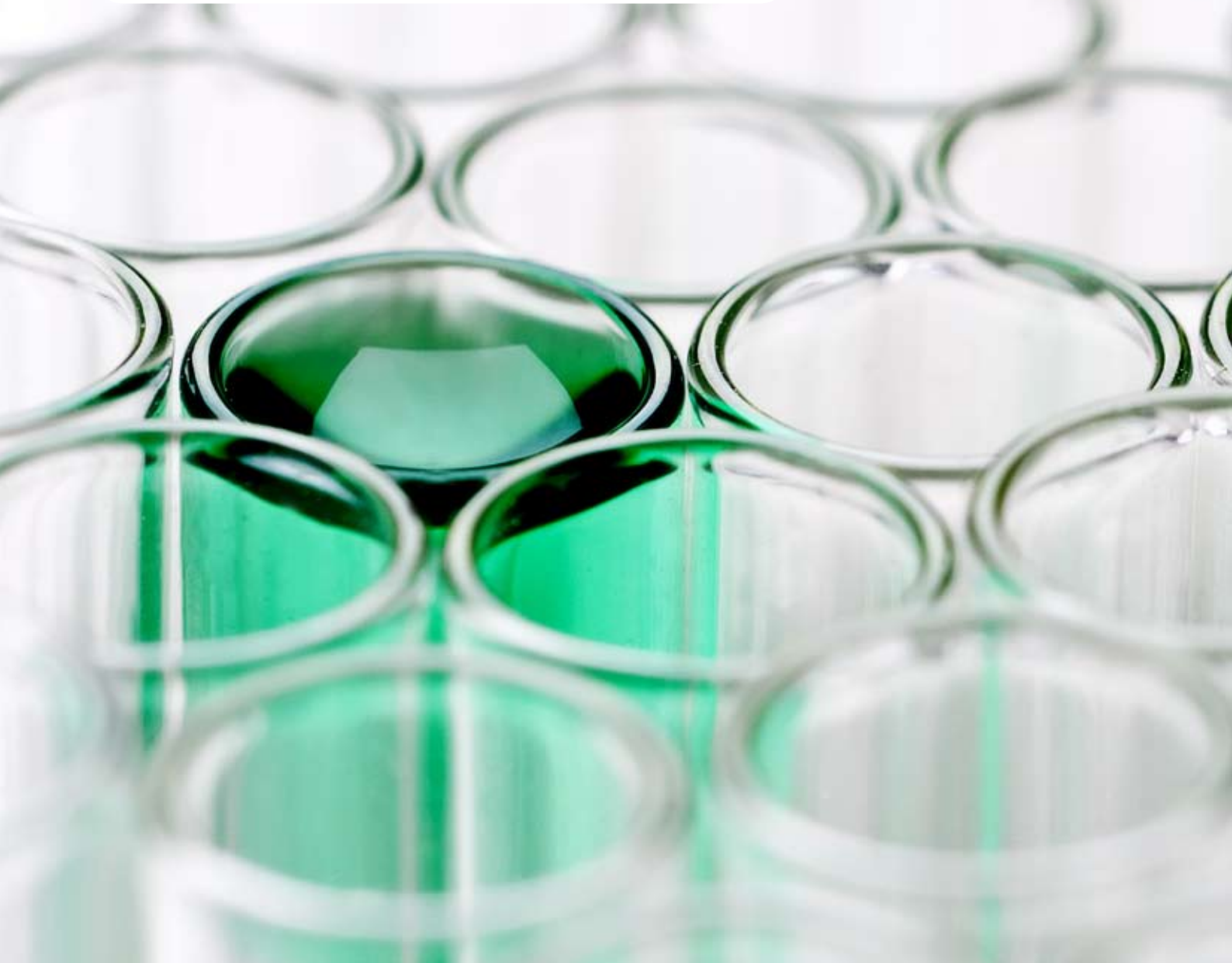
CSI Miami, CSI New York, Cracker... just some of the hugely popular crime drama series on television that have made people develop a keen interest in that most fascinating of subjects: forensic science.

The word 'forensic' comes from the Latin word *forensis* which simply means 'public' or 'from the forum'.

Forensic science is concerned with using scientific methods either in public, in a court, or in the justice system as a whole.

In fact, any science used for the purposes of the law is forensic science. The prime function of Forensic Scientists is to provide evidence to support criminal investigations.

Drugs, violence, property crime, hi-tech crime, youth crime... detection is all about the appliance of forensic science. Now you can study this fascinating subject in your own time, at your own pace, from your own home thanks to this excellent course from UK Open learning.



Full professional tutor support

Once you decide to study Forensic Science, you will have your own personal tutor on hand seven days a week to help you through the course. On completion of the course, you will receive an OCN (Open College Network) certificate with 18 Learning Credits which can be used towards further learning. You will also receive a UK Open Learning Diploma in Forensic Science.

What will I learn on the course?

By taking our Forensic Science course, you will gain a thorough understanding of Criminology, Human Anatomy and Physiology, as well as an Introduction to the world of forensics.

Who can take the Forensic Science course?

UK Open Learning's Forensic Science course is open to anyone and no prior knowledge is needed. Obviously, an interest in crime, the causes of crime and solving crime would be an advantage, as would the desire to gain a fuller understanding of the workings of the human body. With this being a Level Three course, a reasonable level of literacy to GCSE A-C would be desirable.

How does the Forensic Science Course work?

The Forensic Science course is from UK Open Learning, one of the UK's leading distance learning providers. The great thing about distance learning is that you can study from

home or work, at your own pace and in your own time. What's more, you will have your own personal tutor offering support via email and post, and our student advisors are also contactable by telephone for general enquiries.

How is the course designed?

The Forensic Science course is designed into three main areas covering:

- Introduction to Forensics
- Criminology
- Human Anatomy and Physiology

There are a total of 33 units and you will complete a series of assignments, submitted by post or email and marked by your personal tutor. The course is paper based and delivered via courier.

Is there an exam?

There is no exam as such, although you will be required to complete a series of assignments. These assignments have no word count. However, you do have to prove to your tutor that you have fully understood the questions asked.

Tutor Support

You will receive full tutor support for a full 12 months from the day you receive the course. To complete this course it will take in the region of 100 study hours which can be spread over a 12 month period to suit the student.

Will I be able to work in

forensic science after taking the course?

To become a qualified forensic scientist you would need to study further, and career prospects are numerous and varied. This course is an excellent introduction to a fascinating subject. You should contact one of the Forensic bodies for more information and help on how to obtain employment in, perhaps, a laboratory as a junior technician.

Is the Forensic Science course a recognised qualification?

The course has been validated by the Open College Network which is licensed by the National Open College Network which is approved as an awarding body by the government's Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA).

Qualification Terms Explained Recent development in England have meant that the terms Diploma, Certificate and Award now have specific meanings and can only relate to qualifications approved by Ofqual, the government regulatory authority. Consequently, our Open College Network courses will henceforth have the description '...a course validated by Open College Network'. This in no way diminishes the value or importance of the course but rather avoids the vagueness associated with the above terms. Should you need further information concerning this, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Why should I choose a course accredited by OCN instead of another awarding body?

OCNs work with organisations providing your learning to ensure that the way it is assessed is of the highest quality and is suitable for the people who wish to take it.

As a learner on an OCN approved course you are entitled to earn credits for the work that you do. For each successful course you complete, you will be awarded a certificate detailing the number of credits you have achieved.

You can then use your credits

to move to a higher level of learning, or to prove to an employer, or anyone else, that you have obtained new skills and knowledge. OCN credits are generally accepted as a means of entry to further study by Further and Higher Education providers, and by a large number of employers and trainers.

You can use your credits to demonstrate your achievements and prove that you have knowledge and skills in a wide range of subjects. Depending on which level of course you take, you can use the credits to progress onto other courses. Contact your local college and other

providers to find out more about what opportunities are open to you.

How long do I have to complete the course?

You have a full 12 months from the day you receive the course to complete it.

What happens if I've paid for the course but find it unsuitable?

Not a problem. If you return it within seven days, we'll give you a complete refund as long as the course is in a re-saleable condition.

COURSE CONTENTS

The course is divided into three sections

Human Anatomy and Physiology (3 learning credits)

KEY TOPICS

Unit 1: Introduction to the Human Body

- Human body structure
- Body functions
- Life process
- Anatomical terminology

Unit 2: Cells, Tissues and Membranes

- Cell structure and function
- Body tissues
- Membranes

Unit 3: Skeletal System

- Functions of the Skeletal System
- Bone tissue
- Bone development and growth
- Classifications of bones
- Divisions of the skeleton

Unit 4: Muscular System

- Functions of the Muscular System
- Structure of the skeletal muscle
- Muscle types
- Skeletal muscle groups

Unit 5: Nervous System

- Functions of the Nervous System
- Nerve tissue
- Organisation of the Nervous System

Unit 6: Endocrine System

- Introduction to the Endocrine System
- Characteristics of Hormones
- Endocrine glands

Unit 7: Cardiovascular System

- Introduction to the Cardiovascular System
- Heart
- Blood

Unit 8: Lymphatic System

- Functions of the Lymphatic System
- Components of the Lymphatic System

Unit 9: Respiratory System

- Introduction to the Respiratory System
- Mechanics of Ventilation
- Respiratory Volumes and Capacities
- Conducting Passages

Unit 10: Digestive System

- Functions of the Digestive System
- General structure
- Regions of the Digestive System

Unit 11: Urinary System

- Functions of the Urinary System
- Components of the Urinary System

Unit 12: Reproductive System

- Introduction to the Reproductive System
- Male Reproductive System
- Female Reproductive System

Criminology (6 learning credits)

Unit 1: Introduction to Criminology

- Definition of Criminology and the theories used

Unit 2: Criminal Statistics

- Study of the trends of modern day criminal statistics

Unit 3: The UK Justice System

- The UK Justice system and key legal terms

Unit 4: Understanding Drugs

- The range of drugs, what effects they have, their methods of use, their prevalence, production, marketing and common street names

Unit 5: Understanding Violence

- Different forms of violence and the possible reasons for it

Unit 6: Understanding Property Crime

- Different forms of property crime and when and where they occur

Unit 7: Understanding Crime and the Community

- The role of the community in crime prevention

Unit 8: Understanding Trans-national and Organised Crime

- Forms of organised and trans-national crime

Unit 9: Understanding High Tech Crime

- The use of computers and internet technology in support of criminal activities

Unit 10: Understanding Crime Prevention

- The causes of crime and use of problem-solving tools to reduce or eliminate the factors that can lead to crime

Unit 11: Understanding Youth Crime

- Why youths turn to crime and why everyone has a role in supporting youth and preventing youth crime

Unit 12: Understanding Anti-Social Behaviour

- Different forms of anti-social behaviour, who it affects, its long term effects and approaches to tackling it

Unit 13: Introduction to Forensic Psychology

- What Forensic Psychology is, how it works - from basic theories

and principles, through research, understanding and explaining results, to the actual application of psychological techniques

Unit 14: Introduction to Criminal Profiling

- Criminal profiling and how the use of scientific methods, logical reasoning, sources of information on people, criminology, victimology, and experience or skill are employed to interpret the events that surround the commission of a crime

Unit 15: Introduction to the Theory of Terrorism

- Terrorism and why it is a deliberate use of violence against civilians for political or religious ends

Forensics (9 learning credits)

Unit 1: Introduction to Chemistry

- The different branches of chemistry and topics such as the Periodic Table

Unit 2: Introduction to Forensic Psychology

- The application of Psychology in the field of Forensics and its history plus an overview of Forensic Psychology

Unit 3: Introduction to Criminal Profiling

- Crime reconstruction, its history and applications

Unit 4: Introduction to Fingerprinting

- A complete overview of Fingerprinting, methods of obtaining fingerprints and how they are used in Forensics

Unit 5: Introduction to DNA

- This complex subject is broken down into easy bite-sized sections to provide an understanding of how DNA is used to catch criminals

Unit 6: Introduction to Crime Scene Analysis

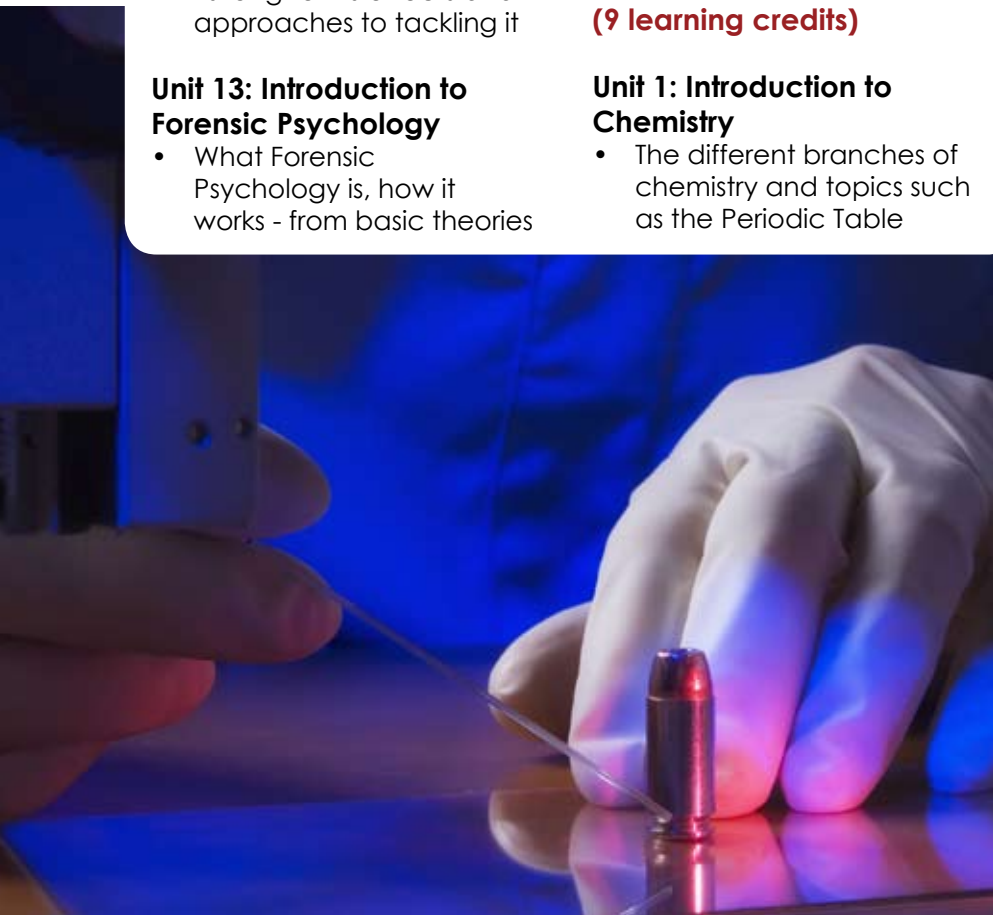
- How to analyse and collect evidence from a crime scene

Unit 7: Introduction to Examining Evidence

- An overview of examining evidence collected from a crime scene

Unit 8: Introduction to Forensic Computing

- An overall view of the world of Forensic Computing and how technology is used to capture criminals



Advice on further studies-training to become a Forensic Scientist

There are two main elements in the training required to become a general forensic scientist. The first involves academic courses, and the second, on-the-job training, usually with one of the main suppliers of primary services to the police.

Academic requirements

Requirements in respect of academic qualifications depend on the ultimate goal. For instance, to become an assistant forensic scientist or equivalent or a technical specialist, you are likely to need at least four good passes at GCSE including English and either science (Biology/Chemistry) or Maths, and at least one 'A' level in a science subject. To become a case-reporting forensic scientist and/or a forensic science researcher, you will usually require at least a good first degree in Biology, Chemistry or related subject, followed up, in many cases, by a postgraduate/ MSc qualification in forensic science or by direct employment.





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