

Forensic Anthropology

Programme Information

2022.01, Approved

Overview

Programme Code	35516
Programme Title	Forensic Anthropology
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Science - MS	N/A
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Engage with advanced levels of theories and practice in relation to the field of forensic anthropology. Identify and apply appropriate research methodologies. Take an informed position in relation to the field of forensic anthropology. Demonstrate personal skills in critical analysis, reflection and contextual awareness in a wide range of modules associated with the field of study.

Alternate Award Names	
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	
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Accreditation

Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional notes
Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences	The Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences provides an accreditation system for both undergraduate and postgraduate courses in forensic science and related topics. Accreditation is given provided the course content meets with the Society's component standards which provide a quality endorsement of the course.			

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length Programme Length Unit
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	1 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme	The overall aim of the MSc in Forensic Anthropology programme is to provide the framework for the students to develop the skills that are necessary for a career in a very demanding and competitive field. The programme will obtain this goal by delivering a curriculum designed to prepare graduates for work in a variety of different settings (e.g. Disaster Victim Identification, Mass Graves, Medical Examiner's offices, Private Forensic Companies, etc.). The programme will produce postgraduates who are able to play a significant role in the search of missing people, recovery of evidence and human remains from clandestine graves, identification of unknown corpses by osteological analysis. The curriculum and approach to Teaching, Learning and Assessment aims to meet the challenges of employment in a global society through the development of intellectual, analytical and research skills relevant to this area of study. The specific aims of the programme are: 1.To provide students with specialist knowledge of biological anthropology applied to forensic contexts including both theoretical and practical aspects. 2.To enhance students' critical, analytical and practical skills relevant to the modern multidisciplinary forensic industry. 3.To enable students to extend their capacity for independent study and to make an original contribution to research. 4.To enhance students to develop their capacity for teamwork. 5.To enhance students to improve and refine their oral and written communication skills. 6.To develop those learning, IT, communication and reflective skills necessary to enable students to participate in lifelong learning.
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Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
PLO1	1	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the fundamental facts, concepts, principles and theories of forensic anthropology supported by in-depth critical knowledge of classical and contemporary literature.
PLO2	2	Critically appraise laboratory methods and the design of laboratory experiments, their implementation and interpretation of their results.
PLO3	3	Assimilate, integrate and critically discuss research findings.

PLO4	4	Apply problem solving skills to the analysis of human remains.
PLO5	5	Convey their findings to specialist and non-specialist audiences in an appropriate manner.
PLO6	6	Collect, analyse and interpret experimental data.
PLO7	7	Display autonomy in planning, design and execution of experiments.
PLO8	8	Critically evaluate current research and scholarship in the student's chosen discipline.
PLO9	9	Develop the organisational skills to manage resources and time.
PLO10	10	Communicate effectively by discussions, written materials, use of images and data to make oral, written and poster presentations. Use of IT to enable this effective communication.
PLO11	11	Collect, record and interpret numerical data.
PLO12	12	Demonstrate a comprehensive and critical understanding of forensic archaeology techniques.
PLO13	13	Exercise initiative and personal responsibility.
PLO14	14	Develop an ability to make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations.
PLO15	15	Demonstrate a critical understanding of various aspects of human identification from skeletal remains supported by classical and contemporary literature.
PLO16	16	Integrate different methods for the resolution of forensic anthropological and scientific questions.
PLO17	17	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the professional and ethical responsibilities of the forensic anthropologist including relevant laws and regulations informing expert witness testimony.
PLO18	18	Critically evaluate information and data from a variety of sources.
PLO19	19	Apply planning, research methodology and analytical skills to an in-depth study of a topic in a chosen field of study.
PLO20	20	Select the appropriate tools for analysing and presenting complex concepts and ideas, communicating findings clearly.
PLO21	21	Demonstrate originality in tackling and solving problems.

Course Structure

Programme Structure Description	The taught component of the programme covers a period of seven months and the project five months. To obtain an MSc., students must acquire 180 L7 credits. Intermediate awards are Postgraduate Certificate (60 L7 credits) and Postgraduate Diploma (120 L7 credits). Students who achieve the full 180 credits with an average mark of 70% or above are awarded MSc. with Distinction. Students who achieve the full 180 credits with an average mark of 60-69% are awarded MSc. with Merit.
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Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 140 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7100NATSCI Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
[MODULE] 7105NATSCI Taphonomy and Trauma Analysis Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7106FSBMOL Law and Court Room Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7106NATSCI Human Identification and Forensic DNA Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7114NATSCI Forensic Research Methods Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 7 Optional - 40 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 7101FSBMOL Trace Evidence Analysis Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7101NATSCI Advanced Osteology and Skeletal Pathology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7104NATSCI Dental Anthropology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7105FSBMOL Forensic Bioscience Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7116NATSCI Archaeological Field Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teaching, Learning and Assessment	Lectures, seminars, data handling workshops, case studies, research project proposal and dissertation. Intellectual skills are developed throughout the teaching and learning programme. Critical analysis and problem solving skills are embedded in all modules and are taught, developed and practised through workshops, formative assessment exercises and all forms of project work. Experimental research and design skills are further developed and practised through a broad range of coursework activities, laboratory work and all project work. Individual feedback is given on all work submitted. The expert witness statement and oral defence within the law and court room skills module assesses a range of specific practical skills. Transferable skills are embedded in the programme. Skills are learned through completion of written assignments, participating in workshops and collecting and transferring data via IT networks, and through the Dissertation. They are assessed via oral presentations (including oral defence of expert witness statement), poster presentations, portfolio, dissertation, project reports and grant proposal assessment. Most modules are assessed separately at the end of the semester in which they are delivered. The assessment may take a number of forms allowing the acquisition and development of a range of work-related skills.
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Opportunities for work related learning

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Students may be offered a research project in a related area of Forensic Anthropology which may be based within an institution in the UK or elsewhere. All work offers individuals the opportunity to develop their critical reasoning and complex problem solving skills further. Throughout the programme, emphasis is focused on the acquisition of new knowledge and skills that would secure future employment within the area of forensic investigation and forensic anthropology using a range of techniques, such as case studies, to deliver work related information.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Other international requirements	Admission will be judged on an individual basis for overseas students, at an equivalent level to UK entry requirements. For North American students, normally a GPA of at least 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 is required, or an equivalent. Applicants with demonstrable relevant experience will be considered on an individual basis by the Programme Leader. If English is not their first language they must have IELTS at 6.5 or the equivalent (with a minimum of 6.0 in each category). If they do not meet the IELTS requirement, they can take a pre-session English course. Admissions are made on the basis of demonstrated ability, qualifications, experience, references, and, occasionally, interviews. A completed application form, references, official transcripts, or a list of modules and grades/marks stamped by the applicant's undergraduate department or student registry are required of all applicants.

Programme Contacts

Programme Leader

Contact Name
Matteo Borrini

Link Tutor

Contact Name