

FORENSIC SCIENCE



EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL/PEARSON COURSE DURATION: 2 YEARS

Forensic Science is a two-year vocational course, in which students will develop their knowledge of all three academic sciences, physiology and forensic science. Students should have a real interest in science and criminology and be willing to learn new scientific skills, problem solve, and explore the exciting world of forensic science.

The BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Forensic Science is the equivalent of 1.5 A-levels.

There are nine units which are studied over the two-year programme, including four mandatory units, which form the basis of the course, and five optional units which make up the forensic science element.

MANDATORY UNITS

Fundamentals of Science
Working in the Science Industry
Scientific Practical Skills
Scientific Investigations

OPTIONAL UNITS

Forensic Evidence Collection and Analysis
Chemical Laboratory Techniques
Criminal Investigations in Practice
Criminology
Genetics and Genetic Engineering

Assessment is through portfolio evidence and provides opportunities for practical and skills assessments. Due to the broadly vocational nature of the course, students will research and visit scientific organisations throughout the two years. The department has strong links with the NHS and the science departments at Durham, Teesside and Newcastle Universities, making use of their facilities and expertise where relevant. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to engage with a range of guest speakers from industry and academia.

SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

This course complements many subjects including Criminology, Health and Social Care (BTEC), Sport (BTEC), Physical Education, Psychology and Law (BTEC).

CAREERS/HE INFORMATION

Popular courses which could be studied after this qualification include Crime Scene Science and Forensic Psychology. Alternatively, students can progress to higher education to complete a degree in teaching, nursing or midwifery.