

Handbook 2020

Coursecode

M1292

MASTER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE (PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH)

Murdoch University

Correct as at: 6 December 2019 at 5:55am

Correct as at: 6 December 2019 at 5:55am

The information contained within this publication was correct as at the generated date shown above but is subject to amendment without notice. Enquiries concerning its contents should be addressed to:

University Secretary
Murdoch University
South Street
Murdoch
Western Australia 6150

Telephone: (08) 9360 6000

Facsimile: (08) 9360 6847

<http://www.murdoch.edu.au>

TEQSA Number PRV12163; CRICOS Provider Code: 00125J

Cancellation of Courses, Majors, Minors and Units

The University reserves the right to cancel, without notice, any course, major, minor or unit if the number of students enrolled falls below limits set by the University or in other unforeseen circumstances.

Alternative Formats

Handbook home page:

<http://handbook.murdoch.edu.au>

This publication can also be provided in alternative formats by contacting the Equity and Social Inclusion Office at Murdoch University

Telephone: (08) 9360 6084

Facsimile: (08) 9360 6502

equity@murdoch.edu.au

<http://goto.murdoch.edu.au/EquitySocialInclusion>

ISSN 0815-9068

Published by

University Secretary's Office

Murdoch University



© Murdoch University 2019

This Handbook, and its sections as individual works, is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial No Derivative Works Australia 2.5 licence. You may download, reproduce, communicate, print and distribute copies of the Handbook (or any part of it) as long as it is for non-commercial purposes, you do not alter the content, and you attribute Murdoch University as the original author. For more information on this licence, see <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/au/>

Cancellation of Courses, Majors, Minors and Units

The University reserves the right to cancel, without notice, any course, major, minor or unit if the number of students enrolled falls below limits set by the University or in other unforeseen circumstances.

Group**Course****Offerings****Graduate Coursework Degrees and Professional Doctorates**

Group	Course	Offerings
Forensic Science	Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research) (MForSc(ProfessionalPracticeRes))	• Murdoch campus (internal)

FORENSIC SCIENCE

MASTER OF FORENSIC SCIENCE (PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH) (MFORSC(PROFESSIONALPRACTICERES))

Course Codes: M1292

This course provides science graduates or equivalent, with professional training in crime scene investigation and the associated forensic science disciplines to international standards. Students develop the theoretical and practical skills relevant to the forensic investigation of volume and serious crimes. In addition to gaining instruction in the core forensic disciplines, training is also provided in forensic specialisms (anthropology, disaster victim identification (DVI) entomology, palynology and pathology). Reconstruction of the different crime scene types and processing by the students is emphasised, as is the collection, processing and interpretation of biological and physical evidence. In addition, as a forensic/ crime scene investigator you will undertake 'capstone' field trips to a dedicated outdoor facility, to process a mock murder scene and a body recovery exercise. The mock scene processing: interpretation, recording/ documentation, evidence collection sources of contamination, quality assurance procedures and the admissibility of evidence are undertaken as a prelude to your generation of expert witness reports and courtroom testimony.

In the final year, students will undertake a comprehensive research project focusing on enhancing the operational needs of the Western Australian and national forensic provider. Completion of this programme, with the 24 point research unit (BIO615), will provide students with a pathway into a PhD programme.

Employment Prospects:

This course is designed to generate graduates with the skills needed to work with the police and other investigative authorities as Forensic Investigators or Crime Scene Officers.

Duration: 2 years full-time or part-time equivalent

Availability:

- Murdoch campus (internal)

Restriction: All graduate courses are subject to restriction.

Medical, Molecular and Forensic Sciences

Main Research Areas:

Forensic DNA Analysis; Fingerprinting and Impression Evidence Technologies; Toxicology, Drugs of Abuse and Metabolomics; Bloodstain Pattern Analysis; Forensic contamination surveys and prevention procedures.

Admission Requirements (Offshore):

A recognised Bachelor Degree (AQF Level 7) with evidence of studies in biology or biochemistry or chemistry, or, completion of the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) (C1131) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) (G1085) with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Admission Requirements (Onshore):

A recognised Bachelor Degree (AQF Level 7) with evidence of studies in biology or biochemistry or chemistry, or, completion of the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) (C1131) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) (G1085) with a GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)
(MForSc(ProfessionalPracticeRes))

Course Structure - 48 credit points

Core Units - 48 credit points

BIO596 Crime Scene Investigation I - 3 points
MURDOCH: S2-internal

BIO597 Homicide and Death Investigation - 3 points

MURDOCH: S2-internal

BIO598 Fingerprinting and Impression Evidence - 3 points
MURDOCH: S2-internal

BIO599 Human DNA Profiling - 3 points
MURDOCH: S2-internal

BIO685 Crime Scene Investigation II - 3 points
MURDOCH: S1-internal

BIO682 Forensic Chemistry - 3 points
MURDOCH: S1-internal

BIO692 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis - 3 points
MURDOCH: S1-internal

VLS683 Advanced Research Methods for Scientists - 3 points
MURDOCH: S1S-internal, S1S-external, S2N3-internal,
S2N3-external

BIO615 Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)
Masters Project - 24 points
MURDOCH: H-internal, Y-internal

PREREQUISITES

Advanced Research Methods for Scientists (VLS683)

Enrolment in Honours or a graduate-level (AQF level 9) course or Bachelor Environmental Science.

Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (BIO692)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)

Crime Scene Investigation I (BIO596)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)

Crime Scene Investigation II (BIO685)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)

Fingerprinting and Impression Evidence (BIO598)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research).

Forensic Chemistry (BIO682)

Enrolment in: C1131 Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) OR Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) OR M1255 Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) OR Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)

Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research) Masters Project (BIO615)

Completion of all coursework units in M1292 being BIO596; BIO597; BIO598; BIO599; BIO682; BIO685; BIO692 and VLS683 or unless otherwise approved by the Academic Chair.

Homicide and Death Investigation (BIO597)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or

Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)

Human DNA Profiling (BIO599)

Enrolment in Graduate Certificate in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or

Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or

Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice) or

Master of Forensic Science (Professional Practice and Research)