



Component Standard

Interpretation, Evaluation, and Presentation of Evidence (Undergraduate Courses)

Purpose

To ensure that students have sufficient knowledge and skills to record evidence and all aspects of hypothesis testing, manage data, evaluate and interpret evidence, and effectively present their findings in various legal contexts.

General Outcomes

The course should be designed to enable the student to:

1. demonstrate an understanding of relevant legislation, regulation, standards and codes of practice for all aspects of an investigation, including issues relating to conflict of interest, data protection, confidentiality and legal privilege;
2. record observations in the form of notes in a logical, comprehensive and contemporaneous manner;
3. demonstrate an understanding of the investigative process and the requirements of continuity of evidence;
4. demonstrate an understanding of safe working practices and the function and practice of quality assurance;
5. evaluate and interpret data from appropriate equipment applied to a range of forensic examinations. Include the use of statistical tests to aid interpretation;
6. demonstrate an understanding of how to set up a series of suitable tests for hypothesis testing to aid in the interpretation of analytical results;
7. demonstrate the ability to effectively identify and search relevant proprietary and open databases, including, where appropriate, frequency of occurrence of evidential materials to support interpretation;
8. write robust, balanced, logical and transparent reports which are understandable to the intended recipients;
9. demonstrate good oral and presentational skills which are understandable to the intended recipients;
10. demonstrate effective working as part of an investigative team, how the scope of an investigation, the roles of others and how the methods they employ, may affect the forensic strategy.