



## Module Definition Form (MDF)

**Module code: MOD006138**

**Version: 7 Date Amended: 13/Jun/2024**

### 1. Module Title

Mass Fatality Incidents

### 2a. Module Leader

Georgina Belsham

### 2b. School

School of Life Sciences

### 2c. Faculty

Faculty of Science and Engineering

### 3a. Level

5

### 3b. Module Type

Standard (fine graded)

### 4a. Credits

15

### 4b. Study Hours

150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
<b>Courses to which this module is restricted:</b>	FdSc Crime and Investigative Studies BSc (Hons) Crime and Investigative Studies, BSc (Hons) Crime and Investigative Studies (extended degree), BSc (Hons) Crime and Investigative Studies (sandwich)		

## LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
<p>Mass fatality incidents are the largescale crimes and natural disasters which are often front page news. You will be introduced to the concepts of mass fatality incidents and explore examples both local (e.g. London bombings) and international (e.g. Asian Tsunami). You will be shown how the dramatic consequences of such incidents can be limited by implementation of an effective pre-planning procedure, and management by the incident management teams. The roles and responsibilities of each team member will be highlighted.</p> <p>You will also cover in detail the response procedures used for the recovery of victims and personal effect, as well as the stages through which the victim is passed through for examination while filling the international accepted post-mortem form. We will review the principles and procedures used to identify of victims through various scientific methods (such as DNA, fingerprints and odontology), physical and external features. We will also discuss the procedures used to gather information from the relatives on the ante-mortem form that aids in disaster victim identification (DVI). The roles and the responsibilities of the people involved in the various areas will also be discussed.</p> <p>By working through the different stages of mass fatality incidents, you will appreciate the complexity of such incidents, gain an insight of how they are managed, and develop your critical skills in using standard verified techniques for more complex case scenarios. You will thus be equipped to aid in victim identification, an essential role following mass disasters.</p>

6b. Outline Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International and domestic mass fatality incident: accidental, intentional, natural, manmade</li> <li>• Planning and management for mass disasters; authorities, responsibilities, and legislation. Multidisciplinary field, national and international agencies.</li> <li>• Scene management, forensic search methods and recovery of victims from the scene. Use of personal effects for identification, family assistance, policy and forms.</li> <li>• Temporary mortuaries and identification criteria.</li> <li>• Decomposition , Entomology, Odontology, and Post Mortem interval.</li> <li>• Mass Graves – co-mingled remains, problems and limitations.</li> <li>• Disaster victim identification, methodologies and ethical considerations.</li> <li>• Mass graves, co-mingled remains, problems and limitations.</li> <li>• Taphonomy and thermal damage</li> <li>• Forensic Radiography – uses.</li> <li>• Repatriation of victims; considerations regarding international repatriation.</li> <li>• Case studies.</li> </ul>

**6c. Key Texts/Literature**

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

**6d. Specialist Learning Resources**

None

**7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)**

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Describe the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies and personnel who respond to mass fatality incidents.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Explain the potential problems associated with the response to mass fatality incidents.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Explain the planning for and management of mass fatality incidents.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Evaluate the various procedures involved in response to a mass fatality incident.

**8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers**

Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	22	1-4	11 x 2 hrs lectures/active learning
Other teacher managed learning	20	1-4	Practical 1x2hr Field trip 1x3hr Poster Presentations 2x4hr Computer workshop 1x2hr Practical 1x3hr In-class test 1x2hr
Student managed learning	108	1-4	Background reading, online activities, preparation for lectures and practicals, and completion of assessments
TOTAL:	150		

### 9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	30 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

#### Poster Presentation (1000-word equivalent)

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	70 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

#### In class test (up to 2 hours)

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7\*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[\* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]