

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	Faculty responsible for the programme Faculty of Science and Technology
Final award(s), title(s) and credits BSc (Hons) Forensic Science (60 ECTS) Level 4 / 120 (60 ECTS) Level 5 / 120	(60 ECTS) Level 6 credits
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits Dip HE Forensic Science – Requires 120 (60 EC HE Forensic Science - Requires 120 (60 ECTS) of	TS) Level 5 and 120 (60 ECTS) Level 4 credits Cert credits at Level 4
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable a if known) F401	and HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load. F410
External reference points UK Quality Code for Higher Education; Part A: Setting and maintaining academic standar Chapter A1: UK and European reference points for Subject benchmark – Forensic Science	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body ((PSRB) links
Places of delivery Talbot Campus, Bournemouth University	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time Full-Time Sandwich Part-time Part-time Sandwich	Language of delivery English
Tunical duration	
Typical duration Full-time – 3 years (1 year for each level) Part-time – 6 years (2 years for each level)	
Full-time – 3 years (1 year for each level)	,
Full-time – 3 years (1 year for each level) Part-time – 6 years (2 years for each level) Full-time with Sandwich Placement – 4 years (1 y	,
 Full-time – 3 years (1 year for each level) Part-time – 6 years (2 years for each level) Full-time with Sandwich Placement – 4 years (1 y Part-time with Sandwich Placement – 8 years (2 y Date of first intake 	years for each level)

Date of this Programme Specification February 2024

Version number

V2.3-0924

Approval, review, or modification reference numbers

EC212218 EC 2223 02 EC 2223 11 EC232407, approved 15/11/2023 FST2324 13, approved 02/01/2024, previously v2.0 FST2324 11, approved 22/11/2023, previously v2.1 FST2324 16, approved 22/02/2024, previously v2.2

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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title: BSc (Hons) Forensic Science

Year 1/Level 4

Students are required to complete all 6 core units

		Credits Weightings				Contact hours	Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus balanced or major/ minor
		Exam 1	Exam 2	Cwk 1	Cwk 2	per unit		load)
Core	20	30		70		40	2.0	100822
Core	20	50	50			40	2.0	100413
Core	20	30		70		20	1.0	100388
Core	20			50	50	40	1.2	100264
Core	20	50		50		40	2.0	100388
Core	20	50	50			40	1.1	100497
	Option Core Core Core Core	OptionCreditsCore20Core20Core20Core20Core20Core20	OptionCreditsExam 1Core2030Core2050Core2030Core2030Core2050Core2050	OptionCreditsWeighterExam 1Exam 2Core2030Core2050Core2030Core2030Core2030Core2030Core2030Core2030	Option Credits Weightings Exam Exam Cwk 1 2 1 Core 20 30 70 Core 20 50 50 Core 20 30 70 Core 20 30 50 Core 20 30 50 Core 20 30 50 Core 20 50 50 Core 20 50 50	Option Credits Weightings Exam Exam Cwk Cwk 2 Core 20 30 70 2 Core 20 50 50 1 2 Core 20 30 70 2 2 Core 20 50 50 1 2 Core 20 30 70 2 2 Core 20 30 50 50 2 Core 20 30 50 50 50 Core 20 50 50 50 50 Core 20 50 50 50 50	Option $Imbox CreditsCreditsExam1WeightingsContacthoursper unitExam1Exam2Cwk1Cwk2Core20307040Core20505040Core20307020Core2030505040Core2050505040Core2050505040Core2050505040$	Option CreditsCreditsWeightingsContact hours per unitVersion No.Exam 1Exam 2Cwk 1Cwk 2Contact hours per unitVersion No.Core203070402.0Core205050402.0Core203070201.0Core20305050401.2Core20505050402.0Core205050401.2Core205050402.0

Unit Name	Core/ Option	No. of Credits	Weightings				Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus, balanced or major/ minor load)	
			Exam 1	Exam 2	Cwk 1	Cwk 2			
Advanced Crime Scene	Option	20	50		50		40	2.0	101222
Crime Scene	Core	20	50		50		40	2.0	101222
Biochemistry	Core	20	50	50			40	2.0	100344
Forensic Law and Practice	Core	20	50		50		40	2.0	100485 / 101222
Forensic Science	Core	20	50		50		30	2.0	100388
Geospatial Science	Option	20			50	50	40	1.0	100369
Introduction to Toxicology	Core	20	50	50			40	2.0	100277
Advanced Cell Biology	Option	20			50	50	40	2.0	100822
Forensic Biology	Option	20			50	50	40	1.1	100386

Exit qualification: Dip HE Forensic Science – Requires 120 Level 5 credits and 120 Level 4 credits

Compulsory/Optional placement year in industry/business: Optional 30 week placement.

Progression requirements: Satisfactory completion of a minimum of 30 weeks of work in industry/business

Year 3/Level 6

Students are required to complete 4 core units and choose 2 optional units. Choice of option units may be constrained by the semester within which units are delivered

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Unit Name	Name Core/ No. of Option Credits				lement	Expected Contact hours per	Unit Version No.	HECoS Code (plus				
			Exam 1	Cwk 1	Cwk 2	unit		balanced or major/ minor load)				
Advanced Forensic Science	Core	20	30	70		40	2.1	100388				
Professional Laboratory Practice	Core	20		50	50	40	1.2	100346 / 100410				
Forensic Research Project	Core	20		40	60	12	1.1	100388				
Forensic Toxicology	Core	20	50	50		40	2.0	100277				
Advanced Forensic Biology	Option	20		50	50	40	1.1					
Environmental Forensics	Option	20		50	50	40	2.1	100388				
Forensic Practice	Option	20	50	50		40	2.0	100486				
Science of Human Remains	Option	20	50	50		40	1.0	101218				

Exit qualification: BSc (Hons) Forensic Science

Sandwich UG award: Requires 120 Level 6 credits, 120 Level 5 credits and 120 Level 4 credits and successful completion of a placement year

Full-time UG award: Requires 120 Level 6 credits, 120 Level 5 credits and 120 Level 4 credits

AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme;
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

This program provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge, understanding and skills that will enable them to work in areas, where forensic thinking and practical skills are applied in settings such as crime scenes and natural / environmental disasters.

The primary aim of this programme is the development of graduates who:

- Have a critical understanding of the scientific , technical and legal basis of forensic and scene science
- Have the necessary scientific, regulatory, and theoretical knowledge to develop careers in a forensic or investigative organisation
- Can evaluate the role of forensic science within a legal context and within UK and international humanitarian law
- Recognise the moral and ethical dimensions of their actions and the need for professional codes
 of conduct
- Have the skills and knowledge necessary for postgraduate study
- Can develop excellent communication skills

The degree also aims to provide students with a substantial range of transferable skills in scientific laboratory skills, data analysis report writing, project management and computing as a basis for professional activity and development which may be applicable in other career areas.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

BU identified a number of strategic investment areas as part of its 2025 strategic plan, with Medical Sciences forming one of these key areas, in recognition of the growth of the subject area. The forensic sciences are included as part of that SIA.

This programme incorporates the Fusion learning principles by:

- Embedding Fusion by ensuring that teaching is informed by the latest research and linked to practice/industry
- Personalising learning by use of optional units and choice in assessment
- Using problem-based/enquiry-based/action learning wherever possible
- Prioritising multi and inter-disciplinarity learning

- Enables students to take an active role in degree design via a range of optional and shared units, allowing peer-learning
- Meeting Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation requirements

LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e., formative and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e. lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection, practice (if relevant)).

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. Dissertations and Level 6 and 7 Final Projects are distinct from other assessment types. The word count for these assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a degree is pedagogically sound.

STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians and research students.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES PROGRAMME AND LEVEL 6 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

A: Subject knowledge and understanding This programme/level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate an	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:
A1. Understanding of relevant theories, concepts and principals relevant to forensic, crime and environmental scene science	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
A2. Ability to place scientific knowledge and understanding of forensic investigation techniques within UK and International regulatory frameworks	 lectures (A1 – A6); seminars (A1 – A6); directed reading (A1 – A6); use of the VLE (A1 – A6); independent research (for research project) (A1 – A6).

 A3. Understanding of the multidisciplinary nature of the forensic science and the need to apply knowledge from a range of subject areas A4. Ability to critically analyse published work in the areas 	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • examinations (A1 – A3);
of forensic science, scene investigation and	
understand the need to apply knowledge from a range of subject areas	 coursework (A2 – A4); literature review (A1 – A6).
A5. Recognition of the moral and ethical dimensions of their actions and the need for professional codes of conduct	
A6. Knowledge and understanding of the scientific and management techniques relevant to a range of forensic and disaster investigation	
B: Intellectual skills This programme/level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level outcomes:
B1.Critically evaluate and apply scientific and investigative knowledge and skills in the development and implementation of practical solutions for forensic science	 Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): <i>lectures (B1 – B5);</i> <i>practical laboratory training (B1, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4, B4</i>
B2. Analyse and synthesise information relevant to the programme	 B5); seminars (B1 – B5); directed reading (B1 – B5);
B3. Define problems and devise and evaluate possible solutions, and solve both routine and unfamiliar problems	 use of the VLE (B1 – B5); independent research (for research project) (B1 - B5).
B4. Plan, execute and report on a project involving original research	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
B5. Integrate evidence collected from a range of sources to support findings and hypotheses	 examinations (B1 – B5); coursework (B1 – B5); independent research (for research project) (B1 - B5). practical laboratory assessments (B1 – B5).
C: Practical skills This programme and level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:

C1. Identify and safely use appropriate laboratory and crime scene methodsC2. Observe, accurately record and report laboratory and scene /fieldwork activity	 Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): <i>lectures (C1 – C8);</i> <i>coursework essays (C1 – C8);</i>
C3. Use spatial technologies in addressing problems efficiently	 independent research for research project (C1, C2, C6 – C8); group exercises (C2, C4 – C8). practical laboratory and scene
C4. Prepare technical reports and presentations	training (C1, C2, C6, C7)
C5. Make effective use of the relevant academic and scientific literature and other sources of information	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
C6. Present research findings in a range of effective and appropriate formats	 examinations (C1, C4); coursework (C1, C2, C3, C5, C8); literature review for research project (C5, C6, C8).
C7. Make effective use of IT and software packages relevant to the programme	(00, 00, 00).
C8. Critically analyse and synthesise research data from a wide range of sources and to draw appropriate conclusions	
D: Transferable skills This programme/level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme/level learning outcomes:
D1. Communicate effectively by oral, written and visual means	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
D2. Use IT including the Web, spread sheets and word processing	 lectures (D1, D3); seminars (D1- D5); use of the VLE (D1 - D5, D6);
D3. Apply a range of basic statistical tests on experimental and fieldwork data	 laboratory and scene exercises (D1, D3 – D5); directed reading (D1- D5).
D4. Work in collaboration with others, including staff and students	Assessment strategies and methods
	(referring to numbered Intended
D5. Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across discipline areas	 Learning Outcomes): coursework (D1 – D3, D5, D6);

LEVEL 5/DipHE INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods
This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate:	enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1. An appreciation of the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary nature of forensic science	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
	 lectures (A1 – A6);
A2. Knowledge of the criminal legal system and human rights law, and how these regulate forensic practice and the expert witness	 seminars (A1 – A6); directed reading (A1 – A6); use of the VLE (A1 – A6).
A3. A knowledge of advanced crime scene and investigation skills	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
A4. Knowledge of the range of analytical techniques employed in forensic science and more specialist areas of scientific application (e.g., forensic chromatography, spectrophotometry, and other specialised methods	 examinations (A1 – A6); coursework (A1 – A6).
A5. An appreciation of the moral and ethical issues that surround data analysis in forensic science	
A6. A knowledge of research methods relevant to forensic and crime scene science	
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
B1. Marshal and critically appraise other people's arguments	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
B2. Generate and test hypotheses based on scientific data	• lectures (B1 – B5);
B3. Produce logical and structured arguments supported by relevant evidence	 practical laboratory training (B2,B4) seminars (B1 – B5); •
B4. Exercise judgement in using appropriate methods of data analysis and statistical enquiry	 directed reading (B1 – B5); use of the VLE (B1 – B5).

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B5. Evaluate the current regulatory frameworkB6. Evaluate the applications / limitations of the various investigative methods applied to a forensic context	 Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): examinations (B1- B4); coursework (B1-B5).
C: Practical skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1. Appropriately and safely use laboratory equipment with a view to the presentation of results within the court of law	 Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): <i>lectures (C1 – C4);</i> <i>seminars (C1 – C5);</i>
C2. Observe and accurately record activity within the laboratory	 practical laboratory and scene training (C1,C2,C3).
C3. Discover and recognise the various types and value of forensic evidence	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
C4. Select and apply appropriate statistical techniques with a view to data presentation within a court of law	 examinations (C3); coursework (C1 – C5).
C5. Prepare scientific reports and presentations	
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D1. Be reflective learners by analysing their strengths and weaknesses	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
D2. Communicate effectively both in written and oral form	 lectures (D1,D2,D4);
D3. Work effectively in teams	 seminars (D1 – D4); use of the VLE (D1 – D4);
D4. Demonstrate problem-solving skills	 directed reading (D1- D4); laboratory and scene exercises (D1- D4).

Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
 examinations (D2,D4); coursework (D1-D4).

LEVEL 4/Cert HE INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
 A1. Awareness of some fundamental themes in the development and practice of forensic science A2. An appreciation of the nature and sources of UK and EU law and the regulation of forensic practice A3. An understanding of the basic principles underlying forensic science including chemistry, molecular biology and human psychology and physiology A4. An awareness of the nature of forensic evidence and its collection from a scene under investigation A5. An appreciation of the moral and ethical dimensions of forensic practice A6. An understanding of crime scene management and investigative techniques 	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (A1 – A6) • seminars (A1 – A6) • directed reading (A1 – A6) • use of the VLE (A1 – A6). Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • examinations (A1 – A3); • coursework (A1 – A4).
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:

 B1. Analyse numerical data and identify appropriate statistical tests B2. Identify key areas of the law as they affect forensic issues B3. Identify and utilise appropriate information sources B4. Demonstrate an awareness of the scientific method 	 Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): <i>lectures (B1 – B5);</i> <i>practical laboratory training (B1,B4,B5);</i> <i>seminars (B1 – B5); directed reading (B1 – B5);</i> <i>use of the VLE (B1 – B5).</i>
B5. Recognise situations in which science can be applied to forensic situations	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • examinations (B1- B5); • coursework (B1,B2, B4).
C: Practical skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1. Observe, record accurately and report laboratory and crime scene activity	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
C2. Use laboratory and crime scene equipment to generate data and gather forensic evidenceC3. Recognise the importance and value of certain materials which constitute forensic evidence	 lectures (C1 – C4); seminars (C1 – C4); practical laboratory and scene training (C2,C3).
C4. Write appropriately structured reports	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
	 examinations (C3); coursework (C1 - C4).
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:

D1. Communicate effectively by oral, written, and visual means	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):
D2. Use IT including the Web, spread sheets and wordprocessing	 <i>lectures (D1,D3);</i> <i>seminars (D1 – D6);</i>
D3. Apply a range of basic statistical tests to experimental and crime scene data	 use of the VLE (D1 – D6); directed reading (D1 – D6); Laboratory and scene exercises (D1,D3,D4,D5).
D4. Work in collaboration with others, including staff and students	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended
D5. Demonstrate problem-solving skills and the application of knowledge across discipline areas	coursework (D1 –
D6. Be independent and reflective learners	D3,D5,D6); • examinations (D1,D3,D5,D6).

Programme Skills Matrix

Un	Units										Prog	gramm	e Inter	nded L	earnin	g Outc	omes									
		A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	A 5	A 6	В 1	В 2	В 3	В 4	В 5	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4	C 5	C 6	C 7	C 8	D 1	D 2	D 3	D 4	D 5	D 6
	Advanced Forensic Science	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
	Professional Laboratory Practice	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х		х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х
L E	Forensic Research Project	х	х	х	х				х	х	х	х				х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х
E V E L 6	Forensic Toxicology	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х		х	х	х			х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
	Environmental Forensics	х	х	х	х			х	х	х		х			х		х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х
	Forensic Practice	х	х	х	х			х	х	х		х					х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х
	Advanced Forensic Biology	х	х	х	х			х	х	х	х		х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х
	The Science of Human Remains	х	х	х	х			х	х	х		х	х	х			х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х
	Advanced Crime Scene	х		х	х						х	х	х	х	х		х				х	х	х	х		1
	Crime Scene	х		х	х		х				х	х	х	х	х						х	х	х	х		
L	Biochemistry				х								х	х							х					
E V	Forensic Law and Practice	х	х			х		х		х		х									х	х				
E L	Forensic Science	х	х	х	х		х		х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х				х	х	х	х		
	Geospatial Science				х		х				х										х	х		х		
5	Introduction to Toxicology			x	x		x	х													х	х				<u> </u>
	Advanced Cell Biology				x				х				х													<u> </u>
	Forensic Biology	x			x	x	x		x		x		х	x	x						х	x	x	x		+

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	Cell Biology			х						х	х	х		х	х			х	х		х	х	х
L E	Chemistry			х				х		х	х	х	х	х	х			х	х	х	х	х	х
V F	Exploring & Understanding Science	х						х		х	х	х			х			х	х	х	х	х	x
L	Human Anatomy and Physiology			х						х								х	х		х	х	х
4	Introduction to Forensic Investigation	х	х		х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х				х	х		х	х	х
	Introduction to Forensic Psychology							х		х	х	х		х				х	х		х	х	х

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

Please refer to the BU website for further information regarding admission regulations for this programme. <u>https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/</u>

PROGRESSION ROUTES

Recognition arrangements provide formally approved entry or progression routes through which students are eligible to apply for a place on a programme leading to a BU award. Recognition does not guarantee entry onto the BU receiving programme only eligibility to apply. In some cases, additional entry criteria such as a Merit classification from the feeder programme may also apply. Please see the <u>Recognition Register</u> for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

In order to take advantage of exciting new approaches to learning and teaching, as well as developments in industry, the current, approved Articulation/Recognition/Progression route(s) for this programme may be subject to change. Where this happens, students will be informed and supported by the Faculty as early as possible.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Undergraduate <u>Assessment</u> <u>Regulations</u>

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

The programme will include an optional 30-week placement year in the third year of study. Those students who successfully complete the one-year placement will be eligible for the award of full-time sandwich degree.

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