



QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST

INSTITUTE OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
LEGAL STUDIES

# FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LEGAL PROCESS



SHAPING  
A BETTER  
WORLD  
SINCE 1845

# FORENSIC SCIENCE AND LEGAL PROCESS

Queen's University Belfast has developed a new module designed to introduce relevant professionals including doctors, dentists, forensic nurses and lawyers to forensic medicine and the legal aspects of medical practice. This includes the role of the General Medical Council in the regulation of doctors as well as explain the role of the forensic pathologist in the investigation of sudden, unexpected and suspicious deaths and how forensic science can assist in the investigation of crime

The course is wide ranging, providing participants with the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding as to how injuries are interpreted, cases are prepared for court and the court process as well as a special focus on the role of the coroner and the external witness..

## ABOUT THE COURSE

The Forensic Medicine and Legal Process course will provide an inter-disciplinary context to help professional practitioners develop their generic knowledge, skills and understanding of the interaction between the medical and legal professions in relation to forensic medicine.

The course will include consideration of non-accidental injury in infants and young children and forensic aspects of sexual offences. It will consider drugs and alcohol; their misuse and how these substances are detected and quantified. It will also consider various methods by which deceased persons can be identified, both single cases and mass disasters including DNA, dental records and other methods.

The course will include a number of formal lectures and group discussion sessions. There will also be an opportunity for participants to practice their courtroom skills by participating in a mock courtroom presentation and be subject to cross-examination.

## SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN

Upon completion of the course participants will be able to:

- Identify the potential causes of death in a number of difference scenarios
- Apply the appropriate legal principles and procedures to medical practice generally and in particular in the event of a death
- Identify the nature of injuries and interpret these understanding their potential Medico-Legal significance in

particular

- Non accidental injury in children, sexual offences and sudden infant death
- Prepare Medico-Legal Reports and be able to effectively utilize Medico-Legal Reports in Court

## SPEAKERS

### Professor Jack Crane

Honorary Professor of Forensic Medicine and retired State Pathologist in Northern Ireland with international reputation, Professor Jack Crane joined the Northern Ireland State Pathologists department in 1980 as a registrar, later becoming a consultant and then appointed the department head in January 1990.



Professor Crane is highly regarded for his valuable contribution during his time as State Pathologist, having developed a forensic pathology service in Northern Ireland regarded with 'International Renown'. Professor Crane retired after 24 years having held the position during some of the worst violence of the troubles and will be sharing his knowledge and expertise on Forensic Medicine with participants of the course.

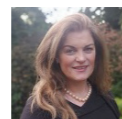
### Barbara Jemphrey

Barbara Jemphrey a qualified solicitor and Director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies.



### Diane Nixon

Diane Nixon was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1997. She practised full-time as a barrister until she returned to Northern Ireland in 2008 when she combined teaching with professional practice at the Bar. She was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 2008.



## Course Details

### DATES

13th September  
27th September  
11th October  
25th October  
8th November  
21st November

Each night the session will run from 6pm-8pm with refreshments available from 5.30pm.

### VENUE

Institute of Professional Legal Studies Queen's University Belfast, 10 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY

### CPD

Time spent by solicitors and barristers attending lectures and workshops in person or completing these via e-learning as part of this course can be claimed towards your annual CPD requirement. Attendance at this course will cover 12 hours of group study CPD.

### TIMETABLE

A full timetable for the course which includes more details of the topics covered and the speakers who will be presenting is available on the CPD section of our website at <https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/CPDCourses/>

### FEES and REGISTRATION

£400

Applicants will be considered on a first-come first served basis. Spaces are limited on the course and therefore you should register and pay as soon as possible by visiting our website at <https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/CPDCourses/>



## Course Outline

### 1 INTRODUCTION TO FORENSIC MEDICINE

- Forensic Pathology
- Clinical Forensic Medicine
- Forensic Toxicology
- Forensic Psychiatry
- The Law and Medical Practice

### 2 NATURAL AND UNNATURAL DEATH

- The Medico-Legal Autopsy
- Death Certification
- The Role and Function of the Coroner

### 3 DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES

- Injury Interpretation
- Medico-Legal Significance of Injuries

### 4 ALCOHOL AND DRUG MISUSE

- Drug/Drinking Offences

### 5 CHILD ABUSE (NON-ACCIDENTAL INJURY)

- Sudden Infant Death
- Sexual Offences

### 6 INTRODUCTION TO COURT PROCEDURE BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL

- Pitfalls in drafting Medico-Legal Reports

### 7 PRESENTATION OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE IN COURT

- The Role of the Expert Witness

### 8 THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

- Fitness to Practice
- Medical Practitioners Tribunal Service

### 9 FORENSIC SCIENCE (INCLUDING DNA)



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## How to get more information

Visit our website for the latest availability, dates and fees:

[www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/InstituteofProfessionalLegalStudies/) or contact us on **028 9097 5699**

or e-mail: **Claire Armstrong** on [c.a.armstrong@qub.ac.uk](mailto:c.a.armstrong@qub.ac.uk)

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