



School of Social Sciences & Law



University Certificate in Professional Development

- **Coroners' Law and the Bereaved**
- **Fundamental Medicine for the Coroner Service**
- **Medico-Legal Death Investigation**

Inspiring success

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UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR



The School of Social Sciences & Law at Teesside University is the only higher education institute designing and delivering courses specifically for staff working within or in close association with the Coroner Service.



Teesside University has been delivering part-time courses for coroner's officers and staff since 2000, providing a theoretical and practical insight into the roles in the coroner's office, contributing to the investigation of sudden or unexplained death on behalf of Her Majesty's Coroner in England and Wales.

Teesside University offers three part-time courses specially developed in partnership with the Coroner's Officers Association. These University Certificates in Professional Development (UCPD) incorporate the training needs identified by the Home Office Report of 2002 (The Provision of Coroner's Officers), and have been designed in consultation with the NHS, the Coroner's Officers Association and Coroners.

Each programme emphasises independent learning and you complete pre-course reading before attending the University for two weeks' full-time tuition. The final component of the course is a written assignment.

Each course is limited to 16 students and the teaching strategies are appropriate for small group learning, most of which involves active student participation, and includes lectures, seminars, whole group discussions and small group exercises. Specialist speakers and experienced practitioners are involved, as appropriate.

The courses also cover the core academic skills required in higher education to confidently and effectively plan and prepare assignments.

Extensive course materials and tutorial support are provided and a range of assessment methods is used to deliver the programme.

Each UCPD attracts 40 CATS credits (Credit Accumulation Transfer Scheme). These may be transferred into a lifelong learning scheme, or after accumulation of 120 credits, a Certificate of Higher Education may be awarded.

Entry Requirements

Staff working within, or in close association with the Coroner Service are normally considered: coroner's officers, coroner's clerks or administrative staff, police family liaison officers, police coroners' liaison staff, hospital bereavement officers, pathology liaison staff and mortuary staff. Others working within public, private or voluntary sector organisations in association with the Coroner Service will be considered on an individual basis.



Coroners' Law and the Bereaved

> Length: 2 weeks full-time tuition

Gain a theoretical and practical insight into dealing with those bereaved by sudden death.

This course has been designed to develop the reflective and professional practice of Coroner Service staff, enabling them to manage interpersonal processes, judicial processes, and meet the needs of the bereaved and wider society

On successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- identify relevant legislative and procedural aspects of death certification, registration and the coronial process
- apply basic coroners' law to practice
- describe and explain key concepts of grief and bereavement
- employ effective communication strategies for working with bereaved people
- describe different religious and cultural perspectives of death
- identify the role of ethics when working with bereaved people.

Fundamental Medicine for the Coroner Service

> Length: 2 weeks full-time tuition

Acquire the fundamental medical knowledge you need to discuss the principal aspects of causes of death with medical and non-medical professionals and with next of kin. This is an ideal course for those who do not have a medical background.

Coroner's staff or those working in close association with the Coroner Service learn how to evaluate, integrate and contextualise medical information within the context of sudden death, enhancing their professional working practice.

On successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- define and construct common medical terminology and understand the structure of hospital notes
- describe and explain the anatomy and physiology of the main body systems and common diseases and disorders causing death
- justify conclusions in the context of the medical certificate of cause of death, death certification, registration and referral to the coroner
- discuss principal aspects of causes of death with doctors, HM Coroner, pathologists and next of kin.

Medico-Legal Death Investigation

> Length: 2 weeks full-time tuition

Explore the role and functions of staff working in the area of medico-legal death investigation on behalf of Her Majesty's Coroner in England and Wales.

The integration of theory and practice enables you to develop your reflective and investigative skills, which are essential for effective death investigation, and ensuring that the judicial process is met.

On successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

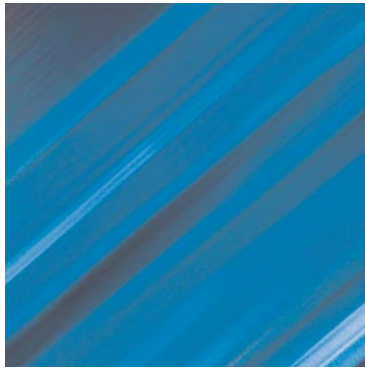
- conduct effective death investigation on behalf of HM Coroner
- employ balanced and logical enquiry, and evidence based approaches to medico-legal death investigation
- demonstrate understanding of forensic pathology and changes after death
- demonstrate understanding of investigative, evidential and forensic procedures
- operate ethically in a professional situation.

For more information, please contact:

Admissions
School of Social Sciences & Law
Teesside University Middlesbrough
Tees Valley TS1 3BA

T: 01642 384658
E: sssl-ug@tees.ac.uk
www.tees.ac.uk/socialsciences&law





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This publication is available in alternative formats on request.
Contact the Admissions Team on **+44 (0) 1642 384658** or email sssl-ug@tees.ac.uk.

All details correct at time of publication.

Teesside University

Middlesbrough T: +44 (0) 1642 218121
Tees Valley F: +44 (0) 1642 342067
TS1 3BA UK www.tees.ac.uk

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