



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for POLFOR031 Apply specialised forensic science techniques

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in POL Police Training Package release 8.0

Performance Evidence

The candidate must provide evidence on at least one occasion that they have met the elements and performance criteria and have demonstrated the ability to:

- assess characteristics of biological and non-biological evidence
- identify and apply advanced forensic techniques to enhance, record, collect and analyse evidence
- determine sequence of examinations
- perform comparative analyses through the application of advanced forensic techniques
- gather and record information
- apply scientific methodology to support forensic analyses, critical thinking and problem solving within a crime/incident scene investigation
- demonstrate forensic digital imaging techniques to record results, including exposure, lighting, viewpoints, and composition
- manage continuity of evidence
- use specialised forensic technology and equipment
- interpret and evaluate information critically to develop conclusions/opinions
- justify conclusions/opinions and their rationale
- liaise with peers to review opinions of self and others
- present opinion evidence and reflect on outcomes
- communicate information that includes the description of a complex opinion/point of view/argument in an articulate and informative manner to a wide range of audiences.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must provide demonstrated evidence that they have knowledge of:

- jurisdictional information management systems
- jurisdictional policies and procedures related to forensic investigations, including quality management systems, workplace health and safety, forensic digital imaging, and expert evidence

- fundamental principles of physics and their application within a forensic investigation (including mechanics and motion, forces, trajectory, electricity)
- fundamental principles of mathematics applied/calculated within a forensic investigation (including trigonometry, triangulation)
- fundamental principles of chemistry (including behaviour of acids and bases, catalytic reactions)
- fundamental principles of biology (including molecular biology, cell structure function and replication, serology)
- human anatomy and physiology (including terminology, structural organisation, body systems, death processes and indicators)
- scientific methodologies, inclusive of gathering and analysing information/data, developing and testing hypothesis, ongoing evaluation of hypothesis and ACE-V methodology
- limitations, human cognitive factors, and boundaries of specialist knowledge
- principles and definitions of comparative analysis (including pattern recognition, class, and individual characteristics)
- forensic enhancement techniques (including optical, physical, and chemical)
- supporting scientific principles and operating principles of specialised forensic techniques
- limitations and sensitivity of presumptive/confirmatory tests
- post-mortem medical process and procedures
- risks and hazards associated to specialised tasks for contexts
- current legislation, guidelines, and jurisdictional procedures pertaining to investigations, the legal provision of opinion evidence (including admissibility of expert evidence)
- range and strength of opinions available for the interpretation of results and awareness of impact on court.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment must occur in operational workplace situations or, where this is not available, in simulated situations that replicate workplace conditions. Assessors of this unit must satisfy relevant vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=98c3984e-2cf1-48a8-8ed1-85e4b92e7351>