

Introduction to BPA

LEVEL 1

Lead Trainer

Jo Millington BSc (Hons) MSc PGCert MIABPA MCSFS, a BPA scientist with over 25 years experience in forensic science and more than 20 years in the design of BPA training courses which she has delivered to practitioners from all over the world.

Course Duration

1-day

Course Structure

Lectures interspersed with wet-blood practical sessions (where facilities allow).

Lecture 1: Introduction, Historical Context to BPA, Governance in BPA

Lecture 2: Blood Dynamics

Practical 1: Blood Dynamics

Lecture 3: Main Pattern Types

Practical 2: Main Spatter Patterns

Lecture 4: Scientific Approach to BPA

Practical 3: Simulated Assault

Course Language

English



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AIMS & LEARNING OUTCOMES

HISTORY AND GOVERNANCE IN BPA

In this session we will introduce elements of the history and key developments in the discipline of BPA including research and awareness of the relevant literature and look at some of the organisations that drive standards and consistency in the discipline.

BLOODSTAIN PATTERN CLASSIFICATION & BLOOD DYNAMICS

In this session we will review the frameworks available to identify and classify bloodstain patterns, with reference to standardised terminology, introduce the mathematical principles that relate to BPA and develop an awareness of blood dynamics and the behaviour of liquid blood in flight, including drop formation and flight path.

BLOODSTAIN FORMATION

In this session we will investigate the parameters that influence bloodstain morphology, including target surface characteristics and blood volume, using high-speed videos.

MAIN SPATTER PATTERNS

In this session you will develop an awareness of the main spatter patterns: drip, impact, gunshot-generated, expiration, cast-off & projected bloodstains.

ALTERED BLOOD & TRANSFER PATTERNS

In this session you will develop an awareness of altered blood, including artefacts that are due to adulteration or insect activity, blood deposited as a result of contact and transfer mechanisms and blood enhancement techniques.

SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO BPA

In this session you will develop an awareness of the scientific principles as they relate to BPA, including an appreciation of BPA documentation and approaches to the evaluation of bloodstaining.

RESOURCES

Crime Scene to Court: [The Essentials of Forensic Science \(Edition 4\)](#). P. White (ed). Chapter 7 - Bloodstain Pattern Analysis / Jo Millington. ISBN 978-1-78262-446-2

Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward. National Research Council / [National Academy of Sciences Report 2009](#) (accessed 01-2021) ISBN: 0-309-13131-6

International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA) - [website](#) and [IABPA Resource Links](#)

The Organization of Scientific Area Committees (OSAC) for Forensic Science: [Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Subcommittee](#)

ASB Technical Report 033, First Edition 2017 [Terms and Definitions in Bloodstain Pattern Analysis](#)

Forensic Science Regulator Code of Practice and Conduct [Bloodstain Pattern Analysis FSR-C-102 Issue 2](#)