

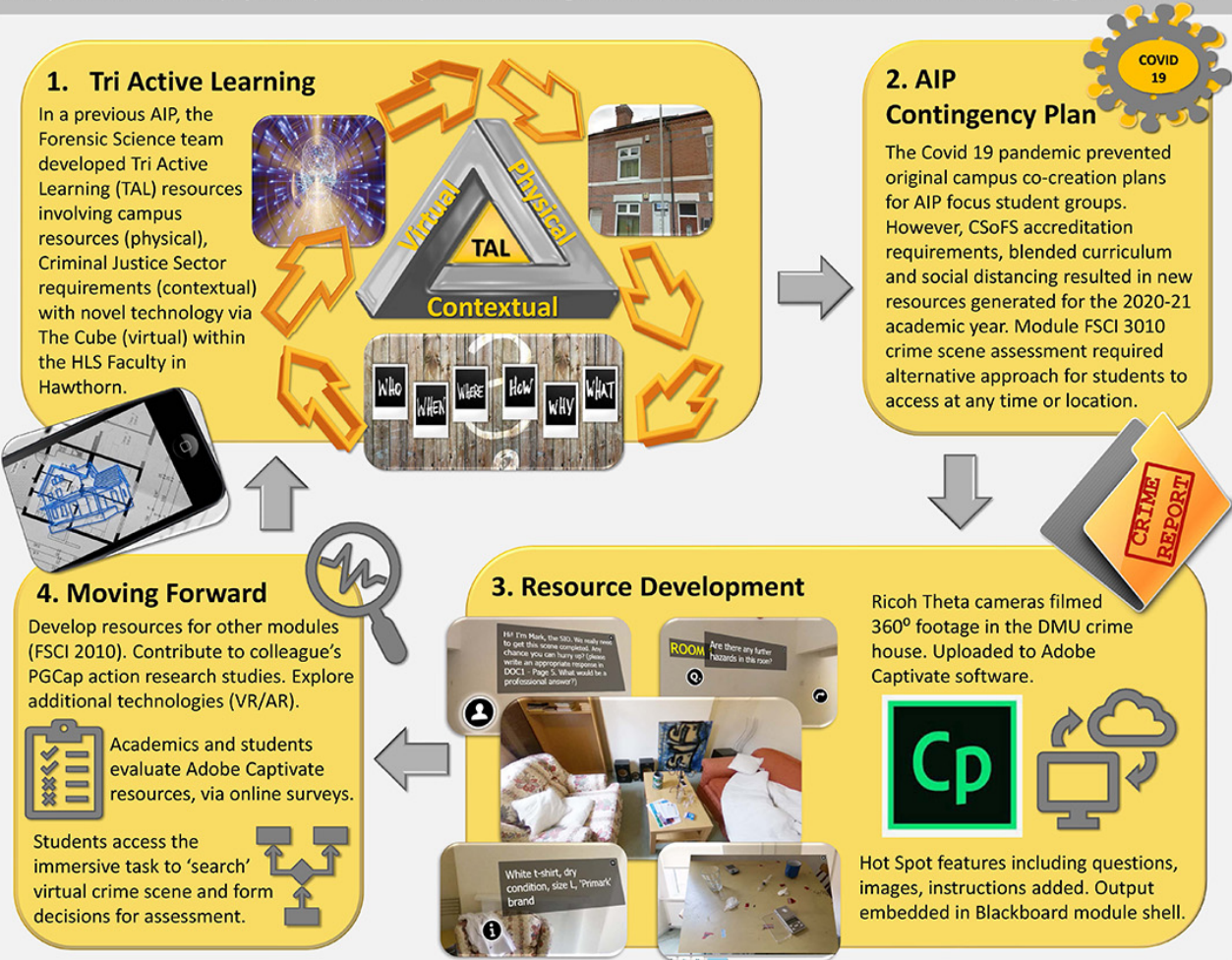
Academic Innovation Project: The Virtual Crime Scene and Forensic Laboratory

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Overview

Within the undergraduate forensic science degree at DMU, students are engaged with all aspects of the Criminal Justice System (from the crime scene, to the forensic laboratory, to court). The physical facilities on our campus are impressive, however, with increasing cohort sizes, the academic team decided to incorporate novel active learning approaches for students to interact with, to further broaden and diversify their learning experiences. By utilising 360° video footage and images, the team have created bespoke virtual learning resources via Adobe Captivate. Additionally, the input from CELT and the technician team via the Technician Commitment, has further evidenced our holistic approach to educational resource development. This enhanced capability was positively welcomed at the course accreditation in 2019 by the Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences. Furthermore, this has been an exciting opportunity for colleagues within the forensic science team, in conjunction with colleagues from the School of Pharmacy, CELT, Faculties of HLS and CEM. Resources have been designed for students to access on Blackboard, such is the system compatibility with this new software. Despite the challenges and uncertainty of the Covid-19 lockdown, which prevented us from sharing these with our students and assessing their responses in focus groups, we are now incorporating these into the 2020-21 curriculum. Evaluative feedback will form a dual purpose, in that it will be used to feedforward for future resource development and will assist colleagues in their PGCap action research. This project is of paramount importance in enabling us to ensure forensic science at DMU is at the forefront of pedagogic advancement.



5. Summary

- Multiple pedagogic approaches utilised: constructivism, humanist and connectivism
- 3D equipment capability and technical editorial skills are essential
- Student engagement enhanced with 'edutainment'
- Tri-active learning has been integral to DMU Forensic Science Covid 19 response
- Adobe Captivate compatible with DMU Blackboard as SCORM output

7. References

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6. Future Outlook

- Collaborative inter-disciplinary research opportunities
- Develop alternative scenarios e.g. court
- Translate Adobe Collaborate to other subject areas at DMU
- Support colleagues with Tri-active Learning
- Provide blended curriculum and distance learning opportunities

8. Acknowledgements

DMU Technicians
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AIP Panel
Nila Patel