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# Financial Crime Investigation 2023 Student Testimonial

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# MSc Financial Crime Investigation : Student Testimonial

## **Q: Overall, how has your experience been studying with Liverpool John Moores University & Informa Connect Academy?**

Studying with LJMU and Informa Connect Academy has been a highly rewarding and professionally enriching experience. Throughout my MSc in Financial Crime Investigation, I have benefited from a well-structured curriculum, knowledgeable lecturers, and practical learning materials that bridge academic theory with real-world application. The blended learning environment offered flexibility without compromising academic rigor, allowing me to engage with complex topics such as fraud prevention, anti-money laundering frameworks, and investigative methodologies. Now in the final stages of my dissertation, I feel well-equipped with the analytical skills and sector-specific insights needed to progress confidently in my career within financial crime investigation.

## **Q: How have you found the programme specifically?**

The Covert Investigation and Specialist Intelligence module was one of the most impactful aspects of my programme, adding significant depth to my overall experience with LJMU and Informa Connect Academy. The module offered a comprehensive look into covert operational strategies, intelligence collection techniques, and the ethical considerations that underpin effective investigative practice. The blend of academic insight and practical case-based learning strengthened my understanding of how covert methodologies support wider financial crime investigations. This specialist training not only complemented the broader curriculum but also enhanced my confidence in applying structured intelligence processes to real-world investigative scenarios.



**Sam Byrne**  
Police Constable  
Merseyside Police  
2023 MSc Financial Crime Investigation

## **Q: What key takeaways and skills have you taken from the course?**

A key takeaway from the MSc in Financial Crime Investigation has been the development of advanced analytical and critical-thinking skills that directly enhance my capabilities as a Detective within the Economic Crime Team. The course strengthened my understanding of financial crime structures, intelligence frameworks, and covert investigative methodologies, enabling me to interpret complex information with greater precision and confidence. I have gained practical skills in conducting structured intelligence assessments, evaluating risk, and applying evidence-based approaches to decision-making, all of which translate seamlessly into my operational work. Additionally, the programme has reinforced the importance of ethical practice, interagency collaboration, and strategic thinking, leaving me better equipped to tackle complex economic crime investigations and contribute more effectively to policing outcomes.

## **Q: How has this course added to your professional development?**

The MSc in Financial Crime Investigation has significantly strengthened my professional development, directly enhancing my effectiveness as a Detective within Merseyside Police's Economic Crime Team. The course deepened my theoretical understanding of complex financial crime typologies while sharpening the analytical and investigative skills I apply daily in my role. Modules such as Covert Investigation and Specialist Intelligence equipped me with enhanced methodological approaches to intelligence gathering, case structuring, and decision-making in high-risk environments. Balancing academic study with operational policing also broadened my strategic perspective, enabling me to approach investigations with greater critical insight and confidence. Overall, the programme has not only supported my growth as a specialist investigator but has also provided a solid academic foundation that continues to shape my professional practice.



**Ann Stevens,**  
Course Director Financial Crime Investigation  
Liverpool Centre for Advanced Policing Studies

*"Financial and Economic Crime is a topic that is rarely out of the news, and it remains a key challenge for policymakers and practitioners across the world. It is by studying, collaborating, analysing and understanding the patterns, trends and characteristics of offenders and organised crime groups that a more effective response can be devised.*

*I welcome your interest in this ground-breaking course and I look forward to welcoming you as a student to study the ever-changing fields in Security."*