

ADVANCED BPA TRAINING PROSPECTUS



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Who are we?

SPATTER/ED Ltd is a bloodstain pattern analysis training and education platform dedicated to the delivery of professional development products for practitioners and enthusiasts. We offer a range of training courses designed to enhance BPA understanding including a portfolio of online and classroom-based training modules each of which can be supplemented with a range of practical sessions. Each element is designed to support ongoing professional development and can be delivered as part of an individual or agency's competency and proficiency programme, or as a standalone event.

Our ethos

Our aim is to deliver world-class BPA training that is contemporary and gives key personnel the knowledge they need to understand the contribution that BPA can offer to criminal investigations and skills that are relevant to their day to day role. We are committed to widening participation, driven by knowledge transfer and thrive through collaboration, and we can't wait to work with you.

Our BPA training

We offer a range of residential and online training courses in bloodstain pattern analysis (BPA) that are based on standards set by the international scientific community and support the investigation of major and critical incidents.

Our residential courses are standalone training events with clearly defined learning outcomes. They are usually attended by people from different agencies which, in our opinion, enriches the learning experience. The more advanced level courses are specifically aimed at individuals specialising in searching for and interpreting blood on items of physical evidence as well as at crime scenes. Our Level 2 (intermediate) '40-hour' course has been assessed by the Education Sub-committee of the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA) and meets the educational standards as defined by them (and OSAC, formerly SWGSTAIN). Successful participants of this training can apply for industry standard membership of the IABPA. We also offer post-training support to agencies that do not have in-house provision so that their people can maintain and retain competency in BPA and develop in-house BPA capability.

How, when, where?

The delivery of our training courses is flexible. We hold training events on a regular basis either online or at our partner sites. We also deliver training at third party facilities, including overseas. For an up to date schedule, including dates, please refer to our [website](#) or contact us with your requirements and we will be able to work something out.

Our next course will be held at Thames Valley Police Training Centre, Reading, UK

16th-20th MARCH 2026

What is Level 3 (Advanced) BPA training?

Our LEVEL 3 BPA / ADVANCED (40-hour) Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Training course is structured to allow participants, who have previously attended the Level 2 / Intermediate BPA Training course (or a documented equivalent), to improve their skills and knowledge and attain competency in the independent analysis of bloodstain patterns at crime scenes and provide subsequent testimony as an expert witness.

It is suitable for Law Enforcement Personnel, Crime Scene Investigators, Forensic Scientists, Laboratory Practitioners and other individuals aligned with BPA (in the laboratory or at crime scenes) as part of their ongoing professional development in BPA.

The training comprises classroom-based presentations to deliver teaching across 5 modules and practical (wet-room) sessions along with instructor demonstrations, syndicate exercises, mock scenes and individual practical assessments.

Participants are required to undertake an assessment, for which feedback will be provided, and will receive a Training Manual and Certificate of Completion. Post-course mentoring can be developed following consultation with the participant and their agency.

Course outline

Aims & learning outcomes

- Re-familiarisation of the cause and effect relationships contributing to the creation of simple and complex bloodstain patterns; and review of the frameworks available to identify and classify bloodstain patterns with reference to standardised terminology, principles of blood dynamics and their application to BPA, including 'Objective Criteria'
- Determine the location of projected sources of blood by applying mathematical and physics principles underpinning the basic dynamics of bloodstain formation
- Employ a holistic approach to the analysis of complex bloodstain patterns and explain the limitations of bloodstain pattern analysis at a crime scene
- Gain a practical understanding of gunshot-generated bloodstain patterns (where facilities allow)
- Deploy an effective strategy for bloodstain sampling and the application of chemical enhancement techniques (e.g. luminol)
- Demonstrate the photographic and written skills for documenting bloodstain patterns at crime scenes
- Provide an investigative report detailing the assessment of the bloodstain patterns at a crime scene
- Present expert testimony on bloodstain pattern analysis in a mock court setting

Modules

Module 1 - Review

Re-familiarisation with the cause and effect relationships contributing to the creation of simple and complex bloodstain patterns

Review the frameworks available to identify and classify bloodstain patterns with reference to standardised terminology, principles of blood dynamics and their application to BPA, including 'Objective Criteria'

Undertake an analysis of Complex Bloodstain Patterns

Module 2 - Area of Origin Determination

Establish the area of origin for an impact pattern

Formulate a stain selection and measurement strategy including assessment of stain shape, stain location in the pattern, number of stains and sampling

Determine the impact angle for a variety of well-formed bloodstains to an acceptable level of accuracy and determine area of convergence

Apply "stringing" for area of origin determination

Review software for determining area of origin for an impact pattern

Module 3 - BPA as part of a holistic approach to crime scene examination

Determine how the analysis of bloodstain patterns can be assisted by considering additional scientific and non-scientific information known to the crime scene personnel / police investigators, including management of bias

Correlation of bloodstain patterns to wound pathology

Apply scientific methods to questioned stains including use and limitations of presumptive tests for blood stain testing/selection and the review of DNA profiling techniques

Sequencing of bloodstain pattern events

Visualisation of latent blood marks using chemical enhancement techniques e.g. LMG, luminol

Review of BPA validation frameworks

Module 4 - Documenting Bloodstain Patterns

Recording of Bloodstain Patterns and assessment of the value of the use of scale and overall, mid-range and close-up photography to document bloodstain patterns

Note-taking, sketching, stain labelling and report writing

Development of reporting skills including consideration of the strengths and limitations of investigative versus evaluative reporting and management of bias

Review of pattern transfer determination and identification

Presentation of bloodstain pattern analysis findings through debrief and expert testimony

Module 5 – Gunshot-generated bloodstain patterns (where facilities allow)

Demonstration of bloodstain patterns produced as a result of gunshot impacts and assessment of resultant (back and forward) stain patterns.

Instructors

The course instructors are internationally recognised BPA experts with a rich forensic and crime scene expertise and each have extensive operational experience in a range of related forensic disciplines including giving expert testimony in national and international courts of law.

The training courses are delivered by Jo Millington BSc (Hons) MSc PGCert MIABPA MCSFS, Director and Forensic Scientist of Spattered Ltd and Millington Hingley Ltd, and Gillian Leak BSc (Hons) CBiol MRSBiol MIABPA MCSFS Director and Forensic Scientist at Principal Forensic Services Ltd and Gillian Leak – Principal Forensics Ltd.

Jo and Gillian have a combined experience of ~70 years working in the UK forensic science industry and both have extensive experience in the multi-disciplinary forensic investigation of major and critical incidents. They have delivered professional BPA training to crime scene and laboratory-based practitioners from around the world and are able to adapt the training in accordance with local requirements. Other instructors join this course during the week.

Jo and Gillian held national quality positions within the UK's Forensic Science Service and had responsibility for audit and competency monitoring. Both have contributed to various forums including the Scientific Working Group of Bloodstain Pattern Analysis (SWGSTAIN), now OSAC, and the working group that led to the BPA Codes of Conduct issued by the UK Forensic Science Regulator (FSR). They are both professional members of the Chartered Society of the Forensic Sciences and the International Association of Bloodstain Pattern Analysts (IABPA).

Jo is chair of the Body Fluid Distribution group for the FSR, Honorary Professor of Forensic Practice at University College London, Visiting Fellow at Bournemouth University and a visiting lecturer at several UK universities, including Kings College London, LSBU, Kingston and the Academy of Forensic Medical Sciences.

Training course logistics

Duration

5 days (40 hours) – Monday to Friday.

Participants and class size

In order to provide the most effective training environment for our students we limit the number of spaces available on each course. We often have more applicants than spaces but we do run courses on a regular basis - see [website](#) for updates. We also maintain a waiting list for each course which operates on a first come - first refusal basis.

Group learning and discussion play an important part in the training and we have a minimum requirement for each course. If we have less than 5 applicants, we may need to consider cancelling the course and transfer bookings to the next available course.

Participant feedback has also shown that the training experience is enriched when the course is attended by practitioners from different agencies, and when the training is delivered away from the participant's workplace as this enables them to focus on the training. We usually welcome a multi-agency cohort and have built a strong collaborative relationship with our training venues in order to provide the best possible environment for learning.

We will always endeavour to optimise the training experience and deliver cost-effective solutions to agencies that have a number of colleagues that require training. We have found that if practitioners are able to follow a similar training path to their colleagues that this facilitates mentoring and support when they return to their home institution. Where required we will arrange to provide after-course support to ensure that the training can be robustly applied in practice. We have worked with a number of agencies to help develop BPA capability and if you would like to discuss this, please contact us at team@spattered.co.uk.

Training venue

Thames Valley Police (TVP) Training Centre, Sulhamstead, Reading, RG7 4DX, UK.

Accommodation

Students need to make their own accommodation arrangements. There are a variety of local hotels and places to eat within driving distance of the Training Centre. We can help to point you in the right direction but you will need to make your own reservations.

Security & safety requirements

The Training Centre operates a strict security policy. Participants who are not resident in the UK, work overseas and/or work for a non-police or forensic organisation, will be asked to provide a form of identification (e.g. passport or identity card) and confirmation of their residential and work address. These will be reviewed by TVP personnel before a place on the training course can be confirmed.

Fees

The course fee is £1850 + VAT per participant and includes course materials, refreshments and lunch on each training day. It does not include costs for overnight accommodation, other meals or travel.

Fees must be paid within 30 days of the invoice or in advance of the training course start date, whichever comes first. The participant's place on a course can only be confirmed once their fee is received.

Please note: we will always endeavour to optimise the training experience and deliver cost-effective solutions to agencies that have a number of colleagues that require training. This fee relates to training courses run at our partner site. If you would like us to come to you or wish to book multiple spaces, then we will work up a bespoke quote.

Refund and cancellation policy

Due to the nature of the training, last minute cancellations can jeopardise the course and so we have to enforce a strict *refund and cancellation policy*. This is outlined in more detail below, but we appreciate that there may be extenuating circumstances and wherever possible we will work with our customers to find a fair and reasonable solution. We will always, where possible, provide confirmation that the course will go ahead one calendar month from the start date.

Cancellations by the participant

Cancellations made by the participant are subject to a 25% (of net fee) administration charge where the cancellation is made more than one calendar month before the start date of the training course.

No refund is payable for a cancellation made within one calendar month of the training course start date. In this event the full sum, as shown on the invoice, will be payable.

In the case of all cancellations, places can be transferred, free of charge, to another participant with the required pre-requisites. That person must attend the original planned course.

Where the cancellation is made more than one calendar month before the start date of the training course, and no replacement is identified, the original named participant may transfer to the next available course and pay the balance due to the administration fee above. Transfers are limited to one per participant.

Where the cancellation is made within one calendar month before the start date of the training course, and no replacement is identified, no refund or transfer will be possible.

Cancellations by us

In the unlikely event that we have to cancel the training, participants will be offered a full refund or the option to transfer their booking to an alternative course.

For all bookings, our liability will be limited to the amount of the fee that has been paid to us by the participant or their agency. We cannot accept liability for costs incurred beyond the course fee and we encourage participants to only book travel or accommodation once we have confirmed that the course will run.

Pre-course requirements

Participants must have at least 1 years field experience, involving Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, after completion of the Level 2 / Intermediate Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Training (or a documented equivalent).

Attendees must also offer either a personal case study in which they have applied the basic principles of Bloodstain Pattern Analysis or an individual profile detailing their experiences of attending crime scenes involving Bloodstain Pattern Analysis. The submission, which should be anonymised, must be countersigned by a peer/or line manager, their mentor or equivalent.

A pre-course questionnaire must be completed by all participants.

Performance appraisal

Participant appraisal will include assessment based on the participant's ability to communicate their interpretation of bloodstain patterns at crime scenes, including:

- Individual/group BPA examination, documentation & interpretation of mock crime scenes
- Communication of findings in the form of an investigative report
- Debrief presentation
- Presentation of BPA findings in a mock court

Following successful completion of the course, students have the option to provide a field report (in English) in which they have communicated their observations and interpretation of bloodstain patterns observed at a crime scene. The instructors will evaluate each report and provide feedback in order to support ongoing professional development.

Language

The training will be delivered in English.

The participant/agency is responsible for providing an interpreter if necessary.

Other requirements

Please advise us if you have any special dietary and/or other requirements when you book your place on the course using the booking form and we will make every effort to accommodate you.

Where possible participants are asked to donate a set of light-coloured clothing (top and bottoms) and a pair of white/light-coloured shoes with them to the training course for use during the simulated assault sessions. These can be second-hand/worn but must be clean. Participants should also bring a laptop, camera, sampling equipment and a stringing kit. You will be notified if there is a requirement to bring anything else, such as facemasks/PPE. Please email team@spattered.co.uk if you have any questions regarding this.

Need more information?

If you would like to chat more about the training courses or would like to discuss your individual requirements please email team@spattered.co.uk - we look forward to the chance to work with you. You'll also find some more information on our website at www.spattered.co.uk.



RECENT PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

Most valuable topics: Learning objective criteria for each spatter pattern type & gunshot-generated spatter presentation

All of the blood practical work was fab and a great opportunity to see examples in person. The wearing of clothes & work with meat in simulated assault situations was really good.

Professional training at its best - all relevant to my job [CSI]

Great to have such a varied group of participants: CSIs, FSPs, students, bringing all our experiences together.

Extremely interesting and stimulating course, delivered by instructors who are at the top of their game. A career highlight.

A fantastic opportunity to refresh my understanding of BPA, after 25 years in practice.