

### CryptoCurrency Investigator

Until fairly recently, cryptocurrencies were a concept very much confined to the realms of hackers, criminals and other digital enthusiasts. Then, throughout 2016 – 2018, many ransomware cyber-attack cases were publicised in the media, with CryptoCurrency becoming a buzzword surrounding the attention. This only intensified with the value of Bitcoin reaching an all-time high in mid-December 2017 and suddenly, it seems that everyone is crypto-crazy.

No longer is the idea of virtual, digital money considered to be a hare-brained idea dreamed up by somebody on the internet. Whilst previously viewed across the investigative community as primarily as a tool for criminals, its mainstream use is far wider, and also claims many victims.

To effectively utilise investigative opportunities surrounding CryptoCurrency, it is imperative that both cyber and non-cyber investigators have an understanding of the subject – it could be invaluable to the success of a case.

#### Course Overview

Focusing primarily on Bitcoin (the most widely used CryptoCurrency), this two-day course will provide the attendee with a rounded understanding of how the currency is used, both legally in a retail environment and illegally for criminal activities.

Beginning with a basic view on how it is accessed, acquired and exchanged, you will then have the opportunity to create your own Bitcoin wallet and engage in small transactions. The course will guide you through real-world scenarios to illustrate the usage of the currency to give you real-life experience and understandings of both tracing transactions through the blockchain and, importantly, learning how to draw accurate conclusions to potentially be used as intelligence or evidence.

#### Primary Learning Outcomes

- Gain understanding in how Cryptocurrencies feature in investigations and intelligence
- Become familiar with acquisition and exchanges in both legitimate and illegitimate contexts
- Learn best practice for the seizing of CryptoCurrencies as part of an investigation
- Confidently trace transactions through blockchain principles and draw conclusions for evidence
- Understand the Tor network, methods of accessing it, and a demonstration of several onion marketplaces in the context of how bitcoin can be used.

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#### Course Type

Specialized

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#### Course Length

2 days

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#### Course Code

DF – CCI

