Discovery Modules

This document explains how you find out about and choose discovery modules.

The first year of your programme at Leeds is made up of a 5 credit study skills module, plus 120 credits. In most of our programmes, you will find some modules are compulsory (these should already appear in your programme and on your timetable). You make up the difference to 120 credits by choosing from the optional modules listed in your programme and (again, in almost all programmes) from ‘discovery’ modules from outside your programme.

To find out whether and how many discovery credits your programme allows you to take, check the programme catalogue: PRHS Programme Catalogue 2018/19

Programmes that permit discovery modules usually let you take up to 40 credits of discovery modules. You don’t have to take the full 40 credits – you can mix discovery with further optional modules from your programme. Even in programmes that allow discovery modules, you don’t have to take any. But you do need to take 125 credits in all!

So best advice is to begin by choosing 80 credits from the compulsory and optional modules in your programme and then take a pause. In that pause, scan the remaining optional modules to gauge their appeal. Then then start exploring whether you might be interested in any of the discovery strands so you can make a comparison. You might choose modules that complement your degree or that allow you to maintain or develop interests or skills alongside it.

In choosing all modules, try to maintain a balance in credits between semesters and, especially with discovery modules, check that you don’t have timetable clashes (sometimes we can sort seminar clashes).

To start exploring discovery modules you should login to the LeedsforLife website https://leedsforlife.leeds.ac.uk/, and click on the “Broadening” link at the top of the page.

To help you get the most from your degree, we have grouped related discovery modules into 10 interdisciplinary Discovery Themes. The Discovery Themes enable you to explore and choose from over 1,000 modules on offer outside your course (these are further broken down into sub-themes to help you to navigate through).

You can click on any of the 10 Discovery Themes to find out more and you are encouraged to explore the modules and different learning pathways available, or feel free to create your own personalised path through one or more of the Themes. Each of the 10 Discovery Themes has sub-themes to help you navigate though.

You can also search by Subject and Keyword if you have an idea of what you might like to study.
When you find discovery modules you are interested in (these must be Level 1 modules), you can add them to a shortlist in ‘My discovery modules’. You can then print off this shortlist when you go on to complete online module enrolment.

When you click the ‘Add to my discovery modules’ you will be asked to log in using your username and password, this will allow you to save the module to a shortlist that you can print out at your convenience.

**Please note clicking ‘Add to my discovery modules’ does not enrol you onto the module, you will need to use the online module enrolment system to enrol onto the modules of your choice (subject to available places and timetable availability).**
Please note

- Not all modules will be available (they may have limited places) or not fit your timetable so it’s a good idea to create a shortlist of modules to choose from and then print off this list so that you can refer to the module codes when using the online module enrolment system.
- You should print off your semester 1 and 2 timetable so that you can refer to this during module enrolment to ensure you avoid choosing discovery modules that clash with your compulsory modules.
- During module enrolment you can use your shortlist to find the discovery modules you wish to take and will be able to view the discovery module's timetable so that you can check if this clashes with your compulsory modules.
- You should, where possible, enrol on these modules online prior to arrival. Discovery module enrolment is often subject to the availability of places, so the sooner you begin the process, the greater the choice available to you.
- **Discovery Themes Fair** - You can opt to wait until you arrive and attend the Discovery Themes Fair; Discovery Theme Leaders and representatives from schools and departments will be present to answer any questions you might have and assist you to enrol however you may find that the more popular modules may be full.

If you are planning to attend the Discovery Themes Fair to enrol on your discovery modules, don’t forget to print out and take with you both your Semester 1 and Semester 2 timetables to check that the modules you wish to take do not clash with the modules you are already enrolled on.