

Liberal Arts and Sciences: Modules

## Second Year

*20 credits interdisciplinary core, plus 100 credits of other subjects, typically including a Major.*

## Interdisciplinarity I (10 credits, semester 1)

Interdisciplinarity is an advanced method of research that requires a unique set of skills. Unlike multidisciplinarity, this kind of research integrates different methodologies and blurs the lines between disciplines.

In 2020-2021, this module used plastic as a theme for students to develop two key skills required for interdisciplinarity – firstly, the ability to research in depth in different disciplines and, secondly, to be able to synthesize and present this information to others.

The module is predominantly composed of independent research with guidance from small group teaching sessions and online lectures to help students develop their ideas.

The interdisciplinary practice you engage with in this module feeds directly into the research group work next term. However, it also gives you training in the academic processes expected in your final year dissertation projects where reading at the edge of what we know and consolidating that information will be a key part of you work.

## Interdisciplinarity II (10 credits, semester 2, plus a summer term study visit – e.g. to Brussels)

The final core module is the culmination of your training on the core modules. Having practised interdisciplinarity on your own in

semester 1, in this semester, you will collaborate as part of a group. Each group will choose what topic they wish to study throughout the module and will carry out interdisciplinary research into it. In 2020-2021, topics include:

* The migrant crisis in Calais
* Cancel culture
* Blue light glasses

Like other LANS core modules this is a student-centred module, meaning that instead of lectures, students teach and learn from each other. This is formalised, in the middle of the module, when each student leads a seminar for their research group, setting the reading and facilitating discussion. There are many opportunities for practising integration and creating new, interdisciplinary insights.

## Research Methods Made Easy (20 credits, semester 1)

The importance of research methods cannot be overstated: they are essential to getting into post- graduate programmes (masters) and in delivering a high-quality research project. They are highly sought-after by employers and the easiest skills to transfer to any job role. In a world of increasing information, they are essential to making sense of it as many of the controversial issues of today stand or fall on problems of methodology.

This module offers a crash course into the basics of research methods in the humanities, social sciences and evidence-based sciences. It goes to the heart of interdisciplinarity by enabling functional reading, evaluation, and integration of knowledge from all these areas.

Topics that will be covered are:

* Running opinion polls
* Doing interviews and participant observation
* Performing statistical analyses
* Discourse analysis.
* The historian’s craft
* Presenting quantitative data for maximum impact.

These techniques are all illustrated through real-world applications, with the focus this year having been on the Coronavirus crisis.

## Fourth Year

**Learning Entrepreneurial Skills (20 credits, semester 1)**

An enterprising and entrepreneurial mindset and skills is highly prized by employers globally, and ensure that you are able to compete at a high level within the graduate labour market. This module will help you to become enterprising in your approach to problems by enabling you to develop abilities, behaviours and qualities to ‘make things happen’. Through engagement with a range of experts and hands-on activities you will strengthen your skills in approaching challenges in a creative and resourceful way.

Working in teams, and through research, business-plan creation, and a pitch of the business plan, this module supports your development as a:

* Creative, enterprising and transformative thinker
* Skilful and technologically astute problem solver
* Persuasive communicator
* Globally and locally aware citizen
* Confident, flexible lifelong learner
* Resilient and dynamic leader.

## Entrepreneurial Start-up (20

**credits, semester 2)**

Your business plan has successfully been pitched, what next? Students now explore product viability through to launch. The actual product launch is not embedded in the module, but you can of course pursue this outside of your studies.

You receive initial practical training

in Website design, Social Media marketing, Finances for Start-ups, Intellectual Property law and engage in independent guided learning as part of a team, collaborating on the design, planning, and viability-testing phases. Your progress through this module is supported and guided by the University’s outstanding Careers Network team.

Throughout your learning journey on these modules, you will benefit from the expertise and guidance of our external partners, which in 2019/2020 included: international technology companies (IBM, Google), local Start-up accelerators (BizzInn), Accountancy firms (Jerroms Accountants & Business Advisors) and Law firms (HGF Intellectual Property Specialists).

*This document was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes, courses and modules offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes, courses or modules are offered every year. Our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study, therefore some courses or modules may be amended or withdrawn and new ones offered in their place.*



**LANS Module Options**

# Incoming students would need to take a minimum of 20 credits in LANS over two Semesters or 10 credits minimum for one Semester only. Information about the available modules is attached and below. Please note we can offer modules at 2 different levels:

→Year 2 (Intermediate) are the Interdisciplinarity I and II modules and the Research Methods Made Easy module

→Year 4 (Higher) are the Entrepreneurial modules Semester 1 only

* Interdisciplinarity I (10 credits)
* Research Methods Made Easy (20 credits)
* Learning Entrepreneurial Skills (10 or 20 credits)
* Any combination of 2 modules for up to 30 credits

Semester 2 only

* Interdisciplinarity II (10 credits)

Both Semesters

* Interdisciplinarity I (10 credits) and Interdisciplinarity II (10 credits)
* Learning Entrepreneurial Skills (10 or 20 credits) and Interdisciplinarity II (10 credits)
* Learning Entrepreneurial Skills (20 credits) and Entrepreneurial Start-up (20 credits)
* Research Methods Made Easy (20 credits) and Interdisciplinarity II (20 credits)
* Both Interdisciplinarity skills modules (20 credits) and both Entrepreneurial modules (40 credits)
* Both Interdisciplinarity skills modules (20 credits) and Learning Entrepreneurial Skills (10 or 20

credits)

* Both Interdisciplinarity skills modules (20 credits) and Research Methods Made Easy (20 credits) The main difference between the 10 and 20 credit module in Learning Entrepreneurial Skills is the assessment.