# Reading Lists Accessibility Report

This report has been created by students, for students, with support from Adnan Rahman (your SU Education Officer), the Library, and the Students' Union's Research and Insight Team.

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**Foreword (written 12/10/20):**

This report was originally written at the end of March 2020, using the reading lists from Semester 1 of the 2019-20 academic year as the sample data set. It was put together in order to assist with the transition of essential texts from being available only in print in some modules to being available online in all modules. As this report was being finished, the COVID-19 pandemic had just sent the UK into its first national lockdown, and for the first time ever, millions of students at every higher education institution in the country had to adapt overnight to a programme of completely remote study.

Another massive change has also taken place over the last six months, in response to the pandemic and subsequent restrictions: a significant proportion of essential texts is now available online, either because the situation forced providers to relax some of their requirements, or because module leaders chose to replace the texts they use with different texts that were already available online. In either case, the effect has been that many more essential texts have become more accessible to students.

The broader library experience has however changed considerably. The need for social distancing has forced the university to drastically limit library capacity, with students having the option to book study spaces, instead of being able to use the library on a walk-in basis. The increase in the number of texts available online comes at the same time as the greatly reduced functionality of the library itself.

The following information is based upon the NUS report on the impact of COVID-19 on students:

Students are very concerned about the future of their studies here at Leicester. Many do not know whether they will be returning to study next year due to the current online system that is in place, and many students have found it difficult to adjust to online learning – citing that they feel like they are not getting their money's worth or they are not being properly supported. With the majority of classes taking place online – this may have a big impact on incoming students.

- ➢ 75% (three-quarters) of current students are worried about the effect of coronavirus on their qualification.
- ➢ 78% of current students are currently receiving some form of online learning.
    - ❖ 80% of those students are able to access this online adequately but only 65% of these students believe that the online learning is good quality.
- ➢ COVID-19 has driven 46% of students in rented accommodation to contact their landlords, around issues such as rent payments, tenancy length and their own health.
- ➢ 35% of students would like to be released from their rental contracts early as a result of coronavirus.
    - ❖ 89% of their landlords have not given them the option to do so.

**Overall Findings:**

Every single school and department, with the exception of the School of Biological Sciences and the departments of History of Art & Film and Modern Languages (both School of Arts departments) has a significantly higher (at least 14% higher, see Engineering) percentage of modules with essential texts available online than without. In these three exceptions, the split is close to or exactly 50/50. There is no apparent correlation between schools or colleges in terms of the proportion of essential texts available to students online as opposed to those only available in their physical form. Rather, it seems to be entirely dependent on the module leaders and teaching staff as to which texts they choose to use. It is largely up to the individual module leaders to base their own modules around essential texts that are more accessible to students.

Hard copy texts can be inaccessible to students because they can be expensive for the university, possibly difficult to remove from the library (fragile/ heavy/ numerous books), the number of copies available is naturally always limited, and they are not always available instantly. The problem is exacerbated when students are required to purchase their own copies of core texts instead of relying on the library, as textbooks are often expensive and harder to access for individual customers than for institutions. This could also lead to students opting for less legitimate or less reliable copies of texts which they may find online, especially if they know only a specific section of the book is required. It can be difficult to justify buying an expensive book that they know they will use once, for one chapter, and ultimately at a financial loss, because

when it comes to selling their books as second-hand, they will likely have to sell them at a much lower price.

Online access is preferable for study firstly because it provides instant access regardless of where the student is – the recent COVID-19 situation is making the importance of remote study abundantly clear. This extends also to more common situations, where the student may be ill but still able to study from home, in which case having online access to their course books could mean the difference in an important grade, and it is always preferable to encourage study where it can be done, and empower students to continue despite minor setbacks, instead of relying on the Mitigating Circumstances process for missed work in situations where it is preventable. Furthermore, in many cases, the university is able to obtain access to unlimited copies of online texts so there are no wait times for highly demanded books, which could never feasibly be achieved using only hard copies. It is worth noting also that many texts are used by more than one module, making the demand even higher at critical times in the year.

The university is aiming to make all essential texts available online, available through Bibliotech or through the library, which is an admirable goal. Even if most texts are available however, it is not always the case that there are enough copies available for all students when they are required. Therefore, a few individuals are sometimes forced to buy a book which is in fact available in the library, simply because the demand for it cannot be met by the number of physical copies. This causes an unfair burden to a small number of students, and can be mitigated by adding electronic access to texts which are also available physically.

**Statistics – Reading Lists:**

The schools of Psychology and Criminology are notable for having 100% of their essential reading available electronically. The schools of Allied Health Professions, Geography/ Geology, Mathematics, Archaeology and Ancient History, the school of Criminology, the school of  History, Politics and International Relations, and the school of Media, Communication, and Sociology, as well as the English department in the School of Arts are all notable for having over 75% of their essential reading available electronically. This leaves eight schools/ departments which have less than 75% of their essential reading available electronically, giving us 10 out of 18 schools/ departments which are doing considerably well. It is my suggestion that the first effort be concentrated on those eight schools/ departments which are lagging behind the rest, especially the modules which have only Print copies of their core texts available.

All of this information is illustrated in the table below, where the School of Arts has been divided into its three departments for the sake of added clarity.

Note that the Excel spreadsheet 'College, School, Department...' on which this report is based takes into account only those texts labelled 'Essential' and not those labelled 'Recommended for Purchase', as there are inconsistencies regarding whether the texts labelled 'Recommended for Purchase' are considered essential or background reading by respective module leaders. In some cases, the 'Recommended for Purchase' applies to the library and in some cases to the student, causing confusion.

There are some books on the 'College, School, Department...' spreadsheet and on the original spreadsheet provided by the library which are tagged as Essential but labelled as background reading in the 'Student Notes' section. This confusion seems to arise as a result of inconsistent categorising between module leaders. Those titles are included because they are tagged as Essential, but there is a clear need for consistent criteria for all module leaders to follow, for categorising texts as Essential/ Background, and for categorising them as 'Recommended for Purchase' only when that recommendation applies to the student or when it applies to the library, but not for both.

Where applicable, online access has been obtained for specific chapters/ parts of books where the whole book is not necessary, and this is commendable. However, there are also many cases where the 'library notes' section requests that a specific chapter or section is digitised, which implies that this is still not done for all texts. Again, most of the inconsistency seems to be caused not by a lack of competence on the part of the library or the module leaders, but by a lack of universal structure for all to follow to make their needs and capabilities clearly understood. The work done by the library and Neil Donohue in particular has been incredibly useful and simply requires a higher level of support from teaching staff and the university.

**Table of Reading Lists Data:**

| School | Total number of modules on sem. 1 spreadsheet | Completely Print Modules | Completely Electronic OR Mixed Electronic/ Print | % of books on reading list available Print Only | % available Electronically |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *College of Life Sciences* | | | | | |
| Biological Sciences (BS) | 12 | BS0013 BS2040 BS2076 BS2092 BS3031 BS3064 | BS1040 BS1050 BS1060 BS2013 BS3055 BS2077 | 50% | 50% |
| Psychology (PS) | 8 | | PS1101 PS1102 PS1103 PS1104 PS1105 PS2102 PS2108 PS2109 | | 100% |
| Allied Health Professions (PH, MW) | 12 | PH1002 PH1006 | PH1001 PH1003 PH1004 PH1005 PH1007 PH1008 PH2003 MW1001 MW1002 MW2001 | 16.6% | 83.3% |
| *College of Science and Engineering* | | | | | |
| Chemistry | 1 reading list for entire department, mixed electronic/ print | | | | |
| Informatics (CO) | 6 | CO3007 CO3095 | CO2101 CO2102 CO2114 CO3091 | 33.3% | 66.7% |
| Geography/ Geology (GY) | 17 | GY1413 | GY1411 GY1412 | 5.9% | 94.1% |

| | | | GY1423 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | GY2410 | | |
| | | | GY2411 | | |
| | | | GY2412 | | |
| | | | GY2413 | | |
| | | | GY2414 | | |
| | | | GY2416 | | |
| | | | GY3411 | | |
| | | | GY3414 | | |
| | | | GY3415 | | |
| | | | GY3416 | | |
| | | | GY3417 | | |
| | | | GY3421 | | |
| | | | GY3426 | | |
| Engineering (EG) | 7 | EG1101 EG1202 EG2112 | EG1006 EG1201 EG2006 EG2211 | 42.9% | 57.1% |
| Mathematics (MA) | 9 | MA1272 MA3012 | MA1104 MA1114 MA1202 MA1407/MA1402 MA3152 MA3153 MA7407 | 22.2% | 77.8% |
| *College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities* | | | | | |
| American Studies (AM) | 11 | AM2013 AM3022 AM3038 | AM1002 AM1005 AM2010 AM2016 AM2212 AM3020 AM3021 AM3024 | 36.4% | 63.6% |
| Archaeology and Ancient History (AR, AH) | 36 | AR2045 AR3012 AR3037 AR3076 | AR1004 AR1005 AR1007 AR2008 | 13.8% | 86.2% |

| | | | AH3080 | AR2028 | | |
| | | | | AR2029 | | |
| | | | | AR2033 | | |
| | | | | AR2034 | | |
| | | | | AR2042 | | |
| | | | | AR2043 | | |
| | | | | AR3047 | | |
| | | | | AR3054 | | |
| | | | | AR3070 | | |
| | | | | AR3085 | | |
| | | | | AH1008 | | |
| | | | | AH1009 | | |
| | | | | AH1010 | | |
| | | | | AH1011 | | |
| | | | | AH1012 | | |
| | | | | AH2012 | | |
| | | | | AH2022 | | |
| | | | | AH2023 | | |
| | | | | AH2027 | | |
| | | | | AH2037 | | |
| | | | | AH2038 | | |
| | | | | AH2044 | | |
| | | | | AH3020 | | |
| | | | | AH3060 | | |
| | | | | AH3062 | | |
| | | | | AH3079 | | |
| | | | | AH3081 | | |
| **School of Arts:** English (EN) | 38 | EN1010 | EN1025 | 21% | 79% |
| | | EN1020 | EN1036 | | |
| | | EN2035 | EN1050 | | |
| | | EN3102 | EN2010 | | |
| | | EN3111 | EN2020 | | |
| | | EN3115 | EN2030 | | |
| | | EN3161 | EN2050 | | |
| | | EN3209 | EN2060/EN2360 | | |
| | | | EN2070 | | |
| | | | EN2080 | | |
| | | | EN2131 | | |

| | | | EN2192 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | EN2196 | | |
| | | | EN2320 | | |
| | | | EN3020 | | |
| | | | EN3028 | | |
| | | | EN3071 | | |
| | | | EN3119 | | |
| | | | EN3143 | | |
| | | | EN3144 | | |
| | | | EN3147 | | |
| | | | EN3158 | | |
| | | | EN3174 | | |
| | | | EN3190 | | |
| | | | EN3192 | | |
| | | | EN3195 | | |
| | | | EN3200 | | |
| | | | EN3205 | | |
| | | | EN3206 | | |
| | | | EN3328/EN3028 | | |
| **School of Arts:** History of Art and Film (HA) | 23 | HA1007 HA1112 HA1113/HA1313 HA1115 HA2210 HA2218 HA2219/HA2319 HA2334/HA2434 HA3024 HA3027 HA3439 HA3447 | HA1113 HA1200/HA1201 HA2114 HA2433 HA2435 HA3029 HA3427 HA3438 HA3464 HA3465 HA3478 | 52.2% | 47.8% |
| **School of Arts:** Modern Languages (FR, IT, SP, ML) | 31 | FR1014 FR1050 FR2044 FR2045 FR2047 FR3140 IT1020/IT1021 | FR2010 FR2032 FR2042 FR3208 IT2012 IT3136 SP1022 | 51.6% | 48.4% |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | IT2005<br>SP1020/SP1021<br>SP1031<br>SP1041<br>SP2023<br>SP2070<br>SP3161<br>SP3162<br>ML2060 | SP2025<br>SP2037<br>SP3140<br>SP3155<br>SP3182<br>ML1006<br>ML2020<br>ML2021 | | |
| School of Business (MN, EC) | 53 | MN1020<br>MN2116<br>MN2131<br>MN2133<br>MN2138<br>MN2140<br>MN3110<br>MN3116<br>MN3133<br>EC1001<br>EC1008<br>EC1014<br>EC2010<br>EC2043<br>EC3000<br>EC3023<br>EC3057<br>EC3062<br>EC3066<br>EC3071<br>EC3077 | MN1000<br>MN1019<br>MN1025<br>MN2107<br>MN2110<br>MN2120<br>MN2121<br>MN2141<br>MN3104<br>MN3106<br>MN3109<br>MN3122<br>MN3126<br>MN3138<br>EC1000<br>EC1005<br>EC1007<br>EC1009<br>EC1011<br>EC1012<br>EC1013<br>EC2011<br>EC2013<br>EC2019<br>EC2022<br>EC2033<br>EC2034<br>EC3052<br>EC3058 | 39.6% | 60.4% |

| | | | EC3070 | | |
| | | | EC3076 | | |
| | | | EC3081 | | |
| Criminology (CR) | 21 | | CR1001 | | 100% |
| | | | CR1004 | | |
| | | | CR1006 | | |
| | | | CR2003 | | |
| | | | CR2008 | | |
| | | | CR2019 | | |
| | | | CR2021 | | |
| | | | CR2022 | | |
| | | | CR2023 | | |
| | | | CR2024 | | |
| | | | CR2026 | | |
| | | | CR3013 | | |
| | | | CR3017 | | |
| | | | CR3019 | | |
| | | | CR3020 | | |
| | | | CR3021 | | |
| | | | CR3023 | | |
| | | | CR3024 | | |
| | | | CR3025 | | |
| | | | CR3026 | | |
| | | | CR3028 | | |
| History, Politics, and International Relations (HS, PL) | 88 | HS2237 | HS1000 | 9.1% | 90.9% |
| | | HS2360 | HS1001 | | |
| | | HS2362 | HS1002 | | |
| | | HS3627 | HS1012 | | |
| | | HS3651 | HS1013 | | |
| | | HS3717/HS3718 | HS1016 | | |
| | | HS3767 | HS1100 | | |
| | | PL3076 | HS2027 | | |
| | | | HS2232 | | |
| | | | HS2234 | | |
| | | | HS2238 | | |
| | | | HS2240 | | |
| | | | HS2301 | | |
| | | | HS2307 | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | HS2328 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2329 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2331 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2346 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2348 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2349 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2359 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2365 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2366 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS2400/HS2401 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3608 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3614 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3620 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3634 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3661 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3673 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3678 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3680 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3691 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3693 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3696 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3697 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3699 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3733/HS3734 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3751 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3765 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3766 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3768 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3769 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3771 | | | | |
| | | | | | | HS3773 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1011 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1012 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1015 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1022 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1116 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL1119 | | | | |
| | | | | | | PL2000/PL2200 | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | PL2011 | | |
| | | | | PL2015 | | |
| | | | | PL2019/PL2219 | | |
| | | | | PL2020 | | |
| | | | | PL2021/PL2221 | | |
| | | | | PL2022/PL2222 | | |
| | | | | PL2023 | | |
| | | | | PL2024 | | |
| | | | | PL2028/PL2228 | | |
| | | | | PL2029 | | |
| | | | | PL2094 | | |
| | | | | PL3060 | | |
| | | | | PL3071 | | |
| | | | | PL3098 | | |
| | | | | PL3106 | | |
| | | | | PL3107 | | |
| | | | | PL3116/PL3316 | | |
| | | | | PL3118 | | |
| | | | | PL3119 | | |
| | | | | PL3122/PL3322 | | |
| | | | | PL3127/PL3327 | | |
| | | | | PL3137/PL3337 | | |
| | | | | PL3139/PL3339 | | |
| | | | | PL3141 | | |
| | | | | PL3142/PL3342 | | |
| | | | | PL3143 | | |
| | | | | PL3144 | | |
| | | | | PL3146/PL3346 | | |
| Law (LW) | 26 | | LW2220 | LW1120 | 34.6% | 65.4% |
| | | | LW2240 | LW1130 | | |
| | | | LW3182 | LW1171 | | |
| | | | LW3260 | LW1172 | | |
| | | | LW3380 | LW2181 | | |
| | | | LW3451 | LW2390 | | |
| | | | LW3491 | LW3230 | | |
| | | | LW3511 | LW3270 | | |
| | | | LW3540/3541 | LW3280 | | |
| | | | | LW3290 | | |

| | | | LW3310 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | LW3370 | | |
| | | | LW3410 | | |
| | | | LW3420 | | |
| | | | LW3550 | | |
| | | | LW3561 | | |
| | | | LW3591 | | |
| Media, Communication and Sociology (MS, SY) | 36 | MS2005 SY1005 SY2091 | MS1001 | 8.3% | 91.7% |
| | | | MS1002 | | |
| | | | MS1003 | | |
| | | | MS1011 | | |
| | | | MS2000 | | |
| | | | MS2001 | | |
| | | | MS2009 | | |
| | | | MS2010 | | |
| | | | MS2011 | | |
| | | | MS2012 | | |
| | | | MS2016 | | |
| | | | MS3000 | | |
| | | | MS3003 | | |
| | | | MS3004 | | |
| | | | MS3009 | | |
| | | | MS3011 | | |
| | | | MS3013 | | |
| | | | MS3014 | | |
| | | | MS3025 | | |
| | | | SY1002/SY1006 | | |
| | | | SY1004 | | |
| | | | SY1021 | | |
| | | | SY2078 | | |
| | | | SY2083 | | |
| | | | SY2089 | | |
| | | | SY2093 | | |
| | | | SY2094 | | |
| | | | SY2099 | | |
| | | | SY3079 | | |
| | | | SY3096 | | |
| | | | SY3097 | | |

| | | | SY3098 SY3099 | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

# Appendix

## Additional Costs: Research Study

**General University Costs:**

- Tuition fees
- Accommodation costs
- Other essential student costs:
    - Utility bills (not covered in the rent)
    - Mobile phone bills
    - Books & University equipment
    - Travel
    - Food
    - Socialising – the cost of gym memberships, joining societies and any equipment you may need for it

**Courses & Modules at the University:**

→ *Contact hours (How many contact hours do you have a week, and how much independent study are you expected to do? Also, what is your ability to work around your degree?)*
→ *Placement or commuting costs*
→ *Do you need a specific outfit (smart clothes or sensible shoes?)*
→ *Do you need any specific equipment?*
→ *Will there be field work?*
→ *What about years abroad/ in industry/ placements?*
→ *Is there a chance you will have to do out-of-hours work?*
→ *Do they require a high amount of reading print-only texts?*
→ *Anything else*

**Examples:**

The following serves as an outline of the POTENTIAL additional costs that you may incur during your course. Please note that this tends to vary year-to-year and is also dependent on your module specification so please liaise with your department directly for more information.

**Medicine**

**Contact Hours**

The contact hours for Medicine students vary across different modules and years. The average amount is 20-40 hours a week.

**Course materials (print-only texts etc)**

A free iPad is given to students to aid them with their work. This includes having access to different resources such as digital books and PDFs. However, students may still have to purchase additional or supplementary textbooks or worksheets.

**Placements (including workwear & travel)**

In the third year of your course, you will be required to undertake an apprenticeship in surgery, medicine, or primary care. In year four, you will be undertaking a placement in a number of sectors such as: child health, mental health care and reproductive care etc. You can be placed in an institution within Leicester or outside of it so you will have to keep in mind your **travel costs.** The Medical School does provide funding for travel at a maximum of £150 for the year – anything in excess of this, you will have to pay for. **You are also required to wear professional attire throughout the duration of your placement** – again, the University does not cover any of these costs.

During your course, you will also have the option to apply for a placement at a location of your choice – this is compulsory. You will have to **pay the application fees for this.** For those undertaking a **Medical Elective abroad, you will have to pay for your travel, insurance, accommodation, visas, vaccinations, and other medication (e.g. anti-malarial tablet) to prepare you for your travels.**

**Other costs**

There are quite a few additional costs for medical students to ensure that they are well equipped for the working world. These include (but are not limited to) the **purchasing of lab equipment (lab coat and boots), a stethoscope, and a watch-pin.** You are also required to purchase a hard copy of the **Clinical Medicine Dictionary.** You may also be asked to purchase a **membership to Passmed** and other online education tools to help you with your studies – this will be specified to you by your department.

Students who wish to take on their own research project during their course and decide to submit their findings, may be invited to **national and international events such as research conferences** in order to present their work. Travel and accommodation will not be provided by the University as **this will be independent from your course.**

Commuting costs from Halls of Residence to campus may be required depending on where you choose to live during your time at University. **You may have to purchase a bus pass** in order to

travel between the two areas. **In the case of commuter students, you will also have to provide your own travel between your home and the University.** There is parking available for students who wish to drive but please keep in mind the **cost of parking** and that **you may be required to apply and pay for a permit to be able to park on/near campus.**

## Psychology

### Contact hours

On average, contact hours including lectures, seminars and tutorials range from 20 to 30 hours for Psychology students, from first to third year. Though, you are expected to undertake 150 hours of independent study for each module you take but this also differs depending on your year of study and specification.

### Course materials

A reading list is given at the beginning of each semester with a mixture of print-only and digital texts. There are a limited number of physical textbooks stored at the library so **purchasing your own books is recommended for essential reading** such as the SPSS Statistics book which can be used for the whole duration of the course. Some lecturers provide their own hand-outs and links to their books in a PDF format.

### Placements/Year Abroad

A year abroad is optional for psychology students – this is to be taken between your second and third year. One example of a placement option that is available to students is the 'SLV Global Mental Health' placement which can be based in countries such as Indonesia. For this placement, **you will have to pay for your preparation (VISA, acceptance fees, moving costs etc) and your own travel.**

In terms of a year abroad, students are not required to pay their tuition fees to the partner university but to the University of Leicester directly. If you wish to undertake a year abroad, please note that you will have to factor in **costs for living, travel, visas', insurance, and other course material such as textbooks.** These are not covered by the University, so you will have to pay for them yourself. Bursaries and scholarships are available depending on the course and location of the placement year. Your eligibility to apply for these is dependent on a range of factors such as your household income.

### Other costs

**Printing services for poster conferences** – normally this is covered by the University but in the rare occasion that you would like to use a different printing service for your poster, you will have to pay for this, and you will not be reimbursed. You may also be asked to **provide leaflets during**

**your conference** – if you wish to do so, you will also have to pay for this, and no reimbursement will be available. Some dissertation costs are not factored into the tuition fees – for example, you may be required **to purchase a premium survey** account in order to host your study and be able to download the data from it. **You may also be asked to print out your own dissertation or print out your own lecture hand-outs.**

Commuting costs from Halls of Residence to campus may be required depending on where you choose to live during your time at University. **You may have to purchase a bus pass** in order to travel between the two areas. **In the case of commuter students, you will also have to provide your own travel between your home and the University.** There is parking available for students who wish to drive but please keep in mind the **cost of parking** and that **you may be required to apply and pay for a permit to be able to park on/near campus.**

### English

**Contact Hours**
The average contact hours for English student ranges from 10-30 hours a week depending on the year of study and module specification. In addition to this, over 150 hours of independent study is required.

**Course materials**
Due to the nature of the course, the **students will often be required to purchase their own books** for reading and analysis. They are also required to **print their own resources** – the cost of these abide by the University's printing services price list.

**Placements/Year Abroad**
Students have an option to go on a year abroad if they wish – the process & cost is the same as what is outlined above for Psychology students.

**Other costs**
Commuting costs from Halls of Residence to campus may be required depending on where you choose to live during your time at University. **You may have to purchase a bus pass** in order to travel between the two areas. **In the case of commuter students, you will also have to provide your own travel between your home and the University.** There is parking available for students who wish to drive but please keep in mind the **cost of parking** and that **you may be required to apply and pay for a permit to be able to park on/near campus.**

**Law**

**Contact Hours**

Contact hours range from 10-40 hours a week for Law students. Depending on your module specification, you will also be required to undertake over 200 hours of independent study.

**Course materials**

Law students are given a compulsory reading list before the semester begins and are **required to purchase various textbooks** to complete assignments or general learning. Some of these books are available at the library but are limited, so purchasing your own books is encouraged and more beneficial for future references or tasks. You have the option of purchasing a physical copy of the book or a digital copy which can sometimes be more expensive.

**Placements/Year Abroad**

Students have an option to go on a year abroad if they wish – the process & cost is the same as what is outlined above for Psychology students.

**Other costs**

Commuting costs from Halls of Residence to campus may be required depending on where you choose to live during your time at University. **You may have to purchase a bus pass** in order to travel between the two areas. **In the case of commuter students, you will also have to provide your own travel between your home and the University.** There is parking available for students who wish to drive but please keep in mind the **cost of parking** and that **you may be required to apply and pay for a permit to be able to park on/near campus.**

**Engineering**

**Contact Hours**

Students are required to have an average of 20-40 hours of contact time a week, depending on the nature of the module. For example, 'experimentation' modules have different workload requirements. On average, students will undertake 100 hours (roughly) of workshops, and an additional 100 hours of independent study.

**Course Materials**

A compulsory reading list will be distributed at the beginning of your course – it is **recommended that you purchase the core textbooks** within these lists to aid in your learning and assignments.

**Placements/Year Abroad**

Students have an option to go on a year abroad if they wish – the process & cost is the same as what is outlined above for Psychology students.

For students who wish to take a year in industry, you will be required to pay the University tuition fee at a subsided cost during that year (this can be covered by Student Finance). You will be paid an annual salary during your year in an industrial placement and are still eligible for student maintenance loan payments.

**Other costs**

Commuting costs from Halls of Residence to campus may be required depending on where you choose to live during your time at University. **You may have to purchase a bus pass** in order to travel between the two areas. **In the case of commuter students, you will also have to provide your own travel between your home and the University.** There is parking available for students who wish to drive but please keep in mind the **cost of parking** and that **you may be required to apply and pay for a permit to be able to park on/near campus.**

**Other course-specific costs:**

**Geography**

Students are given the opportunity to attend fieldtrips. An example of this is a fieldtrip to Colombia to visit the Amazon Rainforest. You will have to **self-fund these trips,** but bursaries may be available depending on your eligibility.

**Ancient History and Art**

As part of your studies, you may be required to **purchase subscriptions or memberships to services such as Ancestry** to aid you in your learning and assignments. This cost is not funded by the department or the University.

**History**

Students may incur costs associated with field-work such as **travel and accommodation.**

**Medical Genetics**

Students undertaking a dissertation may be required to pay for a **survey membership** to complete their research. Companies such as SurveyMonkey are pay-monthly services which are not covered by the University.

## Biological Sciences

An additional cost that you may incur is the **hiring of a lab coat.** You will be given a coat to use for practical sessions for free, but should you forget this – there is a £2 charge to borrow one from the department. If you wish to **purchase a new one from the department,** you will also have to pay the full amount.

As part of some modules, students may be asked to take **expeditions abroad,** in which you must gather data to produce a scientific research article. **Travel and accommodation** will not be accounted for by the University so you will have to pay for these yourself. This is the same for compulsory fieldtrips.

## Urban Conservation

Students may be required to attend a **research conference abroad.** For this, you will have to pay for **travel and accommodation arrangements, and the tickets for the conference.**

## Neuroscience

As part of your course, you will be expected to **attend masterclasses, taught sessions and examinations held at other Universities** such as Warwick or Birmingham. Part of your travel will be covered by the University but anything in excess of this, you will have to pay for.

## Chemistry

Students will be provided a list of the **compulsory equipment** they need to participate in lab work – this includes, but is not limited to: calculators, lab coats, and safety goggles. Students are **required to purchase these.**

## Human Resource Management and Training

As part of your course, you may be asked to get a **student membership for services such as CIPD,** which will allow you access to assessments and accreditation upon graduation.

## Geology

As part of some final year modules, students are required to go into schools and teach other students. For this, you will need **appropriate and smart attire which you will have to provide yourself.**

## Sociology

As part of your research studies, you may be required to purchase **a membership for data collection services** such as SurveyMonkey. This is a monthly subscription.

## Benefits Summary 2019

**Cost of Living – University of Leicester**

**Essentials**

- Rent: East Midlands average of £130 per week for private, or £136 per week for university accommodation (NUS and Unipol Accommodation Costs Survey 2018).

- Bills: calculating an average can be tricky especially for water, gas and electricity but https://www.splitthebills.co.uk/advice-centre/average-costs/average-costs-of-student-bills/ has a useful table according to house sizes.

  They also suggest that the average cost of broadband is £38.99 per month and a TV licence costs £150.50 per year.

- Groceries: £74 per month (Which? Student Survey 2019).

- Transport: Annual Monday to Friday Oadby Shuttle Bus Pass is £175; Arriva Annual Student Pass for Leicester Zone One is £425, or an Adult Day Ticket is £4.30.

- Course materials and equipment: £60 per month (Times Higher Education 2017).

- Childcare (only applies to those with parental responsibilities): average cost in East Midlands for a nursery for 25 hours per week is around £105, or the cost of a childminder is just under £100 (Family and Childcare Trust Childcare Survey 2017).

**Other costs**

- Contents insurance: annual average of £63.18 (MoneySuperMarket 2019).

- Formal wear: depends on the shop and what the items are being bought for (e.g. an interview for a graduate job will probably require more spending than a part-time retail job during university) but purchasing from the cheaper end (e.g. Asda) could mean spending less than £100.

- Mobile phone: £17 per month (Save the Student student living costs in the UK 2020).

- Takeaways/ eating out: £38 per month (Save the Student).

- Social events: £35 per month (Save the Student).

- Gym: tend to have student discounts which could make the cost around £12 per month. To access University of Leicester's gym facilities, an Annual Gold Membership costs £250 (2019-20) or £5 per visit.

- Sports groups/ societies: for sports groups, must purchase a Team Leicester Membership for £140 to access training and fixtures; registration costs are typically around £40 (SU website).

For societies, membership fees are generally around £5 per year.

– Personal care: £12 per month (Which? Student Survey 2019).

– Parking: https://www.leicester.gov.uk/transport-and-streets/parking-in-leicester/parking-charges/ for specific rates; closest to university is Victoria Park which is £6 for up to 12 hours; charges for on street parking depend on the location.

– Travel: Leicester and Loughborough – East Midlands Railway prices are from £3.20 each way; Leicester and Market Harborough – EMR prices from £5.65 each way; Leicester and Northampton is from £20.70 according to Trainline.