

Learning and teaching in 2021/22

We are pleased to be able to update you on our plans for learning and teaching in 2021/22.

As you will see from the information which follows below and overleaf, it is our intention that teaching in person will remain at the heart of the student experience at Loughborough. In order to provide structure during the working day we will provide students with a full timetable of scheduled sessions as in previous years.

We received positive feedback from students about some of the changes we made to teaching delivery in 2020/21. Building on these developments, we will be providing even richer resources and opportunities online to support your learning in 2021/22 and complement the in person teaching. We are also mindful that some uncertainty remains over the course of the pandemic and that we must plan for resilience should social distancing or other restrictions be (re) imposed by the UK Government at any stage during the next academic year.

What does this mean for students?

We are planning for each student to have a mixture of in person classes (including practical and laboratory work, where relevant to the course), live online interactive sessions, 'on-demand' pre-recorded lectures/resources, individual/group project work and guided independent study, supported by teaching staff and personal academic tutors. You will find full details of our approach to teaching delivery in the table overleaf.

Will the content of my course change?

Each course, or degree programme, has a formal Programme Specification and each module within the degree programme has a detailed Module Specification. Together, these provide the definitive source of information on the broad structure and content your course.

We do not envisage major changes to the subject content though a few courses may be subject to minor changes before the beginning of the academic year as part of our normal updating processes. Please see our [Terms and Conditions of Study for 2021/22](#) for more details on the circumstances in which we may make changes to the content of our programmes.

You can view the current (2020/21) Programme Specification for your degree programme [here](#). We expect to be able to publish the updated 2021/22 Programme Specifications by the beginning of August 2021. Module Specifications for 2021/22 are close to being finalised although a few may still be subject to minor changes. The majority can already be accessed via the module specifications [webpage](#). As a general guide (but please note there may be some small changes), you can use the module codes from the 2020/21 Programme Specifications to search for a 2021/22 module specification, just replace the 20 at the beginning with a 21 (e.g. 20ABC101 becomes 21ABC101).

How will my course be delivered and assessed?

You will find the planned delivery arrangements for the different aspects of your course under the Teaching and Learning heading in each Module Specification.

The table below aims to summarise what this information means for the 2021/22 academic year. Here we have outlined what you can expect the different types of delivery referred to in our Module Specifications to involve as we begin the next academic year.

Our plans have been developed so that we are able to easily adapt in line with the latest national or local Government advice and still ensure high quality teaching as well as the health and safety of our campus community. If social distancing is required, we will need to move some larger classes, typically lectures, online. If we are not permitted to teach in person at all, the majority of teaching will continue online but some essential practical classes, supervised time in studios/workshops and field trips may need to be modified or rescheduled.

Lectures	The majority of these will be delivered in person, but some may be provided via online live interactive sessions, or as 'on demand' pre-recorded sessions accompanied by live question and answer sessions where we know this type of delivery worked particularly well in 2020/21. Lectures will often involve interactive elements, whether delivered online or in person, such as problem solving or engaging in small group discussions, as appropriate for the subject matter.
Seminars	These will typically be delivered in person, but a small number may be delivered fully interactively online through Microsoft Teams where we know this type of delivery worked particularly well in 2020/21.
Tutorials	We anticipate being able to deliver the majority of these in person, but some will be delivered fully interactively online through Microsoft Teams. We recognise that some students might find it more convenient to hold small group and/or Personal Academic Tutorial meetings online, especially if they do not have other on campus commitments that day.
Practical classes and workshops	These will be delivered in person, although you may be required to engage with some additional online material in preparation for and/or following them.
Project supervision	We anticipate being able to offer the majority of this supervision in person, but some may be delivered fully interactively online through Microsoft Teams. Online tools will be available to facilitate collaboration between students working together on group projects. We recognise that some students might find it more convenient to hold supervisory meetings online, especially if they do not have other on campus commitments that day.
Fieldwork or external visits	These activities will take place in person. Some changes to destinations and detailed arrangements may have to be made from what was originally planned, particularly for international trips, to ensure student and staff safety and to minimise the risk of potential disruption. We will make best efforts to ensure that you can undertake these activities during the course of the academic year. If a planned activity is not able to take place at any point, we will attempt to reschedule it to a different time so that you do not miss out.
Supervised time in studio / workshop	This will take place in person.
Assessment	Your modules will continue to be assessed primarily as described in the assessment section of each Module Specification. The majority of exams in Semester 1 will be online, 'open book' exams. We anticipate having more in person exams at the end of Semester 2 and in Semester 3 for some postgraduate students. We plan to confirm the examination arrangements with you at the start of each Semester.