



Programme Specification (Undergraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 17/02/2021

Last amended: 04/04/2025

Version no. 1

1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

BA History and Archaeology VV14

BA History and Archaeology with a Year Abroad*

*Students may only enter these degree programmes by transferring at the end of year 1 or year 2

a) [HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100299	(100)

b) UCAS Code (where required)

VV14

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods:

BA History and Archaeology

The normal period of registration is three years

The maximum period of registration five years

Year Abroad variant:

The normal period of registration is four years

The maximum period of registration six years

5. Typical entry requirements

ABB at A2 level. International Baccalaureate – Pass Diploma with 32 points including at least one subject with 6 points at higher level.

For the aims, learning outcomes and application criteria for the GCSA Year Abroad please see

<https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/courses/abroad>

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to

- provide a rigorous, coherent and attractive curriculum that draws on the research expertise and teaching strengths of the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, and of the School of History, Politics and International Relations;
 - provide a stimulating and challenging learning experience for all students;
 - develop students' knowledge and understanding of the full chronological and geographical range of their two complementary disciplines;
 - develop students' abilities to apply historical and archaeological theories, techniques, and concepts to analyse and explain specific periods and themes in History and Archaeology;
 - enable students to demonstrate a variety of approaches to understanding past societies as used by historians and archaeologists;
 - enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of skills necessary for the study of History and Archaeology;
 - enable students to develop and demonstrate a range of transferable skills necessary for successful career development and a lifetime of effective independent learning.
- In addition, the Year Abroad aims to:
 - expand and broaden the curriculum through engagement with alternative academic traditions
 - further deepen students' understanding of the specific periods and themes in History and Archaeology through study in a different academic context
 - develop and enhance students' independence, confidence and global outlook
- reinforce the importance of internationalisation

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- [University Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy](#) [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of an appropriate body of historical and archaeological knowledge	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, resource-based learning.	Essays; short-answer, multiple choice and essay-based examinations; a dissertation; seminar presentations; posters; wikis; weekly in-class quizzes; computer-based exercises and project work; contributions to discussions; oral presentations; problem-based exercises; laboratory classes.

ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate understanding of the complexity of reconstructing the past, the problematic and varied nature of historical and archaeological evidence Demonstrate a variety of approaches to understanding, constructing and interpreting the past Demonstrate comprehension of and practice in a variety of archaeological practical techniques	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises Tutorials, seminars, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises Fieldwork, survey and excavation experience	Essays; short-answer, multiple choice and essay-based examinations; a dissertation; seminar presentations; posters; weekly in-class quizzes; computer-based exercises and project work; contributions to discussions; oral presentations; problem-based exercises; laboratory classes. Participation in level 2 and 3 fieldwork and completion of fieldwork reports.

iii) Critical analysis of key issues

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Compare and analyse the histories of different societies and cultures Analyse past human societies through the assessment of continuity and change over extended time spans Reflect critically on the nature and theoretical basis of History and Archaeology as disciplines	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises	Essays; short-answer and essay-based examinations; seminar presentations; posters; independent research projects; contributions to discussions; problem-based exercises.

iv) Clear and concise presentation of material

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Present historical and archaeological problems and arguments in a variety of written and oral formats	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises	Writing tasks (including examinations); seminar presentations; contributions to discussions; dissertations; reports; posters

v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain historical and archaeological arguments, formulating appropriate questions and utilising evidence	Lectures, tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, team problem solving exercises	Essays; essay-based examinations, seminar presentations; independent research projects; contributions to discussions; problem-based

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Read, analyse, and reflect critically on historical texts and archaeological source materials and their contexts, and on the variety of such sources	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer- aided learning, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises	exercises; dissertations; research proposal; reflective learning journal

vi) Other discipline specific competencies

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Design, research, and present a sustained and independently conceived piece of writing about an historical or archaeological problem	Independent research	Independent research projects; dissertations; fieldwork reports

b) Transferable skills

i) Oral communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate clarity, fluency, and coherence in oral expression of historical and archaeological issues Participate effectively in group discussions	Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises	Seminar presentations; contributions to discussions; summative and formative oral presentations

ii) Written communication

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and sustain historical and archaeological arguments in a variety of literary forms Demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of historical and archaeological issues	Seminars, tutorials, team problem solving exercises Seminars, tutorials, independent research	Essays; essay-based examinations; seminar presentations; independent research projects (including group projects); posters; contributions to discussions; dissertations

iii) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Use IT effectively to support their historical and archaeological studies, including using IT for	Induction programme; Arts Faculty IT training programme; computer practical classes; independent research; skills workshops	Coursework; independent research projects; computer-based exercises; problem-based exercises; effective use of VLE.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
bibliographic and archive searches, data analysis and written/visual presentation of evidence		

iv) Numeracy

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Consider the uses of numerical data in historical and archaeological analysis	Seminars, lectures, IT practical classes; fieldwork exercises	Research projects; computer-based exercises (databases and spreadsheets); problem-based exercises; fieldwork reports

v) Team working

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Be able to work collaboratively to explore historical and archaeological issues and arguments and to recognise the value of working closely with others	Tutorials, seminars, team problem-solving exercises, field school, excavation training	Seminar presentations; contributions to discussions; contributions to team problem solving exercises; fieldwork reports

vi) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Address historical and archaeological problems in depth using contemporary text and material sources and advanced secondary literature	Tutorials, seminars, team problem-solving exercises	Essays; independent research projects; computer-based exercises; problem-based exercises; research proposal; dissertation

vii) Information handling

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Gather and deploy evidence and data to find, retrieve, sort and exchange information and interpretation	Tutorials, seminars, directed reading, independent research, computer practical classes, team problem solving exercises	Essays; independent research projects; computer-based exercises; posters; problem-based exercises; research proposal; dissertations

viii) Skills for lifelong learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate intellectual independence through the setting of research tasks and the solving	All of the above, particularly independent research Tutorials, career development programmes, resource based learning, personal development	All of the above, particularly first year dedicated academic and transferable skills training; first and second year group project work; curriculum

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
of historical and archaeological problems. Reflect upon own learning and achievements and plan for personal, educational and career development	planning programme	vitae; personal tutor meetings; the dissertation. Portfolio, curriculum vitae

10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of Senate Regulation 5 governing undergraduate programmes relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course

For HS coded modules, certain modules include qualifying elements which students have to pass in order to obtain credits for the module. Please refer to individual module specification forms for further information.

11. Scheme of Assessment

This programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in [Senate Regulation 5](#)

12. Special features

- The student learning experience is enhanced by a commitment to synergy between research and teaching.
- Students taking the programme have the option of a Year Abroad. The Schools of History and Archaeology and Ancient History participate in two exchange schemes: the first is based on a network of European universities, the second involves links with Canadian and Australian Universities (Study Abroad Scheme).

12a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
Research-briefed Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research briefed: Staff research is integrated into the curriculum across all three years of the programme. In year one, survey modules are team taught so that students are introduced to the full range of specialisms from across the department. Year one's People and Places module centres on in-depth microhistories closely related to staff research. In the core year two module Perceiving the Past, tutors introduce different historical approaches by exploring how they apply to their own field of research. Year two and year three optional modules bring staff specialisms into the classroom. The final year dissertation enables students to draw on the expert advice of a supervisor in their field.
Research-based Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-based. The year one core module Making History involves a framed enquiry into current research in a specific field (Bibliographic Exercise), and Year three's Perceiving the Past embeds a research activity on a case of debated heritage (Contested Heritage Panel). In Becoming the Historical Researcher students begin to frame their own dissertation

<p>Research-oriented</p> <p>Students critique published research content and process.</p> <p>Research-apprenticed</p> <p>Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.</p>	<p>research project, preparing the ground for the year three dissertation by exploring existing knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research-oriented. All History modules involve close engagement and assessment of published scholarship. This is a key element of essays, but it is also practiced through a group podcast on a major historical debate (HEurope), through article critiques, and through seminar discussions of articles or books. Once again, this culminates in the final year dissertation, where students assess, critique and advance beyond current scholarship. • Research-apprenticed. The History programme is designed to prepare students to produce their own historical research in the final year dissertation. We begin in year one with an Online Research and Reflection Activity and with close study of primary sources in tutorials and on People and Places. On Becoming a Historical Researcher, students develop a Research Project Proposal in discussion with an academic expert. In year three Special Subjects, three-hour classes involve intensive scrutiny of primary sources with related assignments: a Source-based Analysis and a Document Test. Finally, the 10,000-word research dissertation in year three marks the culmination of the programme, when students (with guidance from a specialist supervisor) become independent researchers in their own right.
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As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

The School has a rich culture of extra-curricular research seminars and public lectures, organised by the Centre for Urban History, the Centre for Local and Regional History, the Stanley Burton Centre for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and the Leicester Medieval Research Centre. These events bring distinguished researchers to campus, and undergraduate as well as postgraduate students are welcome to participate.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

The School holds an annual Teaching Away Day as well as termly teaching meetings for the History team to develop ideas around best practice. These events allow for in-depth discussion of teaching, including the interface with research and how we support students to become research-briefed, research-based, research-oriented and research-apprenticed.

13. Indications of programme quality

The School of Archaeology & Ancient History's research is regularly classed as 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent', placing us in the top half-dozen Ancient History and Archaeology departments in the UK. We deliver undergraduate and master's teaching to the highest standards with National Student Survey feedback indicating outstanding student satisfaction. The School of History is one of the largest groups of historians in the UK. It is rated excellent for teaching by TQA and its research is regularly classed as 'world-leading' and 'internationally excellent'.

Graduates of our programme take postgraduate taught courses and pursue research degrees at Leicester and many other universities. Many take Master's courses at Leicester or elsewhere; many have entered teaching or archaeological careers; and many enter graduate employment soon after graduation.

External Examiners' reports consistently praise the quality of work produced by students on this degree programme.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The most recent External Examiners' reports can be found [here](#)

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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module	Update
2025/26	HS1012 Global History: Connections and Cultures in a Changing World, 1750-Present	Core module removed
2025/26	HS1016 Europe 1861-1991	New core module

BA History and Archaeology

Level 4/Year 1 2025/26

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

FIRST YEAR MODULES

SEMESTER 1

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	AR1004	Introduction to World Archaeology BC	15 credits
Sem 1	AR1007	Archaeology: The Essentials	15 credits
Sem 1	AR1012	Thinking Through Things	15 credits
Sem 1	HS1000	Making History	15 credits

Semester Total 60

Semester 2

Core Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	AR1005	Introduction to World Archaeology AD	15 credits
Sem 2	HS1001	Medieval and Early Modern Europe: People, Power, Faith, and Culture	15 credits
Sem 2	HS1013	Modern Britain: c1700-Present	15 credits
Sem 2	HS1016	Europe, 1861-1991: Emancipation and Subjugation	15 credits

Semester Total 60

Level 5/Year 2 2026/27

Route A – With History Dissertation

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Semester 1**Core modules**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2401	Perceiving the Past	15 credits
Sem 1	AR2044	Fieldwork I	15 credits

Semester 2**Core modules**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS2502	Becoming the Historical Researcher	15 credits
Sem 2	AR2029	Theory and Archaeology	15 credits

Optional Modules

Students should take 30 credits of History modules and 30 credits of Archaeology modules from the list below

Route B – With Archaeology Dissertation

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	15 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	45 credits

120 credits in total

Semester 1

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2401	Perceiving the Past	15 credits
Sem 1	AR2044	Fieldwork I	15 credits

Semester 2

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	AR2029	Theory and Archaeology	15 credits

Optional Modules

Students should take 45 credits of History modules and 30 credits of Archaeology modules from the list below

History Options

Semester 1

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS2302	Blood, Position and Power: The Nobility of Later Medieval England, 1066-1485	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2329	A World Connected: Welfare, Economy and Government since 1945	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2354	Beastly Histories	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2362	Living with Dictatorship: European Societies, 1918-1941	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2368	Fight the Power! Race, Rights and Protest in the USA	15 credits
Sem 1	HS2369	Digital Histories	15 credits

Archaeology options:

Semester 1

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	AR2008	Environmental Archaeology	15 credits
Sem 1	AR2031	Artefact Analysis	15 credits
Sem 1	AR2032	Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age Britain and Ireland	15 credits
Sem 1	AR2036	Heritage Skills	15 credits

History options:

Semester 2

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS2027	The Latin World: Ancient, Medieval and Modern	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2307	Madness, Monarchy and Politics in Georgian Britain	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2311	Domestic Revolutions: Women, Men and the Family in American History	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2314	Imperialism and Decolonisation	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2328	Jack-the-Ripper: Crime, Popular Culture and Policing in Victorian Times	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2348	Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2360	History in the Classroom	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2802	Working with History: The Heritage Field Project	15 credits
Sem 2	HS2803	World's End: Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Environmental Crises	15 credits

Archaeology options:

Semester 2

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	AR2034	Living in Towns: Medieval and Post Medieval Archaeology	15 credits
Sem 2	AR2043	The Medieval Mediterranean World.	15 credits
Sem 2	AR2046	Archaeology of the Roman Empire	15 credits

Level 6/Year 3 2027/28

A. For students taking a dissertation in Archaeology

Credit breakdown – with a special subject

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	30 credits	15 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Credit breakdown – without a special subject

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Students must take AR3044, AR3059 and AR3060 and may take EITHER:

A History Special Subject from the list below (HS 37XX) **AND** two 15 credit option modules from the list below of those available in Archaeology and History **OR** four option modules in Archaeology and History

All students must have at least 45 credits in each discipline, including at least 15 credits of taught options.

Special Subject

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Year long	HS3766	Ideals of Womanhood in 19th-Century America	30 credits
Year long	HS3768	The British Antislavery Movement, 1787-1833	30 credits
Year long	HS3771	After Hitler	30 credits
Year long	HS3777	The Presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt	30 credits

Core Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	AR3059	Archaeology Dissertation: Part I	15 credits
Sem 1	AR3044	Fieldwork II	15 credits
Sem 2	AR3060	Archaeology Dissertation: Part II	30 Credits

B. For students taking a Dissertation in History

Credit breakdown – with a special subject

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	30 credits	15 credits	15 credits

120 credits in total

Credit breakdown – without a special subject

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	30 credits	30 credits

120 credits in total

Students must take AR3044, HS3505 and HS3506 and may take EITHER:

A History Special Subject from the list above (HS 37XX) **AND** two 15 credit option modules from the list below of those available in Archaeology and History **OR** four option modules in Archaeology and History

All students must have at least 45 credits in each discipline, including at least 15 credits of taught options.

Core Modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS3505	History Dissertation I	15 credits
Sem 1	AR3044	Fieldwork II	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3506	History Dissertation II	30 Credits

Semester 1 Optional Modules

History Options:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	HS3627	The Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1968	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3634	Apocalypse Then: The USA and the Vietnam War	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3646	Fourteenth-Century Crisis in England?	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3653	The Death Penalty and its Abolition: A Global History	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3677	Sport and the British	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3681	You are what you Wear? Clothing, Fashion & Belonging in the Modern World	15 credits
Sem 1	HS3694	Diasporas and Migrations in the Modern World	15 credits

Archaeology Options:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	AR3076	Human Skeletal Analysis	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 1	AR3085	The Archaeology of Colonialism in the Americas	15 credits
Sem 1	AR3093	Human Evolution	15 credits

Semester Total 60

Semester 2 Optional Modules

History Options

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	HS3614	Britain's Imperial Economy: Power, Wealth and Colonialism 1830-1939	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3620	What Difference did the War Make? British Society and the Great War, 1900-1939	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3682	Daring to be Free: The Women's Movement, 1850s to 1970s	15 credits
Sem 2	HS3808	Gender, Crime and Deviance in Eighteenth-Century Britain	15 credits

Archaeology options:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Sem 2	AR3070	Archaeology/Ancient History in Education	15 credits
Sem 2	AR3083	Conflict, Heritage and archaeology	15 credits
Sem 2	AR3094	Archaeology and Materials	15 credits
Sem 2	AR3095	Lived Experience in Imperial Rome	15 credits

Semester Total 60

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE

Joint degree students may study abroad at one of the following partner institutions for one semester, taking modules equivalent to those the students would have taken at Leicester, ensuring appropriate academic progression. The following are the approved partner institutions: Flinders University, Australia, La Trobe University, Australia and James Madison University, Virginia, USA. Students should contact the School of History for further information.

BA HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY WITH A YEAR ABROAD

The above four-year degree is also available. Students may only enter the four-year variant of the relevant three-year programme by transferring at the end of the first or second-year and on the recommendation of the heads of the divisions concerned. Transfer is conditional on successful completion of first and second-year modules. The programme structure is as for first, second and final year modules for the three-year programme (above). The third year is spent abroad at an approved partner institution.

For students wishing to follow the History programme:

The programme is assessed as a Four Year Programme with a year out, with the year abroad treated as the 'year out'. The year out does not count towards the final classification, but a student must pass all modules taken during the year abroad to proceed to the final year of the programme. The second and fourth years are used in determining the degree class, according to the standard scheme for three-year programmes.

Degrees will be classified using the same scheme as for three-year programmes.

To take part in the History Year Abroad programme students must pass all modules in years 1 and 2, and achieve a credit weighted average of 55% in year 2. They must also have learned the language of the destination country, providing the Office with a language certificate as evidence of satisfactory completion of training through the 'Languages at Leicester scheme' or an appropriate alternative. Failure to meet these criteria will lead to the School recommending transfer to the 3-year degree which the student would otherwise have taken.

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See undergraduate [module specification database](#) [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).