YASS Modules for academic year 2016 – 17

Module title	Credits	Short description
Arts		
L185 – English for academic purposes online	30	This completely online course aims to develop the communication skills you need for successful academic study in English. Throughout the course, you will work with a wide range of texts from different subject areas. By exploring different subject areas you will develop the academic English that is most relevant to your study. You will use your knowledge and experience as you explore ways of reading and writing academic texts. You will also develop your academic listening and speaking skills in an online environment.
Business and Management		
B122 – An introduction to retail management and marketing	30	This course looks at how retailing has developed, how retail outlets operate and how retailers apply retail marketing techniques. During your studies you will consider contemporary factors that affect retailing: globalisation; the impact of ever-changing technology; and social and ethical issues. This course is designed for retail industry employees wishing to develop a career in management, and anyone interested in working in the retail sector, or simply wanting to know more about the world of retailing.
B190 – Introduction to bookkeeping and accounting	10	This short course caters for people who want a good grounding in double-entry bookkeeping and the production of basic financial statements as well as anyone who wants to proceed to professional qualifications as bookkeepers, accounting technicians or fully qualified accountants. It is more demanding than most Level 1 courses and does require you to be highly committed to your studies, as it covers both introductory bookkeeping and accounting within a relatively short time period. You'll gain practical skills in Excel spreadsheets and double-entry bookkeeping, both manual and computerised, as well as knowledge and understanding of the essential principles, concepts, ethics and limitations that underpin bookkeeping and financial accounting.
LB160 – Professional communication skills for business studies	30	This practical introductory Level 1 course will empower you to undertake more insightful case-study analysis, write successful essays, and produce influential documents. From proposals to company reports, you'll work with a wide range of texts from business studies courses and the wider business world, deepening your subject knowledge while developing your written communication skills – helping you to succeed in the field of business studies and business in general.
B124 – Fundamentals of accounting	30	This module provides a broad introduction to accounting study at the university level. It covers the fundamentals of financial and management accounting as well as the essential skills, knowledge and ethics required to be a professional accountant. The module will also be suitable if you are in a general management position as the accounting material covers measuring management performance and improving financial planning, control and decision-making. You will gain an understanding of financial reports through their preparation, based on the double-entry bookkeeping system which is essential for the management of any organisation.
Engineering and technology		
T192 – Engineering: origins, methods, context	30	This introductory module examines the range of human activity that is 'engineering', setting current practice in a historical context and looking forward to new developments that will help shape the future. Key scientific principles, mathematical techniques and design methodologies are introduced and explained, to equip you with a basic toolkit on which to

		build further study. Mathematics is presented in an engineering context to emphasise relevance and build your confidence in framing problems, addressing design challenges and formulating solutions. Reflective practice is encouraged throughout and you will have the opportunity to share and discuss aspects of your work with other students.
TM129 – Technologies in practice (requires Higher Computing or related subject)	30	This module provides an opportunity to sample some of the key areas in computing and information technology. You will be introduced to three topics as tasters for your future studies and career: networking, Linux and robotics. Studying these topics will enable you to develop essential skills if you are considering future employment in the computing and IT industry. You will be applying what you learn to develop a portfolio, to demonstrate your skills and understanding in these areas to potential employers. By studying this key introductory Level 1 module you can also begin to explore where your future career ambitions or interests might lie.
Health and Social Care		
SK124 – Understanding the autism spectrum	15	This 20-week course provides an accessible introduction to the autistic spectrum, principles and problems of diagnosis, and biological and psychological approaches to explaining underlying causes. Approaches to care, education and therapy, and issues concerning social support, legal rights and wellbeing of individuals on the autism spectrum are explored. The course is especially relevant to educators, learning support workers and healthcare professionals; parents, siblings, care-givers and able people on the autism spectrum; and all those with an interest in the psychological and health sciences.
Languages		
L120 – Ouverture: intermediate French	30	Ouverture: intermediate French follows on from Bon départ: beginners' French (L192). It revises and consolidates the knowledge of French you already have and teaches more advanced language in the context of French-speaking societies and French culture.
L130 – Auftakt: intermediate German	30	Auftakt: intermediate German follows on from Rundblick: beginners' German (L193). It revises and consolidates the knowledge of German you already have and teaches more advanced language in the context of German-speaking countries and communities.
L140 – En rumbo: intermediate Spanish	30	En rumbo: intermediate Spanish follows on from Portales: beginners' Spanish (L194). It builds on your existing Spanish knowledge and teaches more advanced language in the context of Spanish and Latin American society and culture.
L150 – Vivace: intermediate Italian	30	Vivace: intermediate Italian follows on from Andante: beginners' Italian (L195). It revises and consolidates your knowledge of Italian and teaches more advanced language in the context of Italian society and culture. It offers insights into many aspects of everyday life in modern Italy, so you'll have a better understanding of issues that concern Italian people.
L161 – Exploring languages and cultures	30	This key introductory Level 1 module is designed to introduce key concepts relating to languages, language learning, plurilingualism and intercultural communication. It will help you develop intercultural skills and language awareness to support and complement the language skills that are covered in language-specific modules. Study resources include printed books, a dedicated website with online activities and audio-visual resources, and a discussion forum. Together, they will introduce you to some of the elements that define studying modern foreign languages and English language studies.
L192 – Bon depart: beginners' French	30	This key introductory Level 1 course – Bon départ: beginners' French – is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple French in everyday contexts. It explores life in France and introduces you to a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out.
L193 – Rundblick: beginners' German	30	This key introductory Level 1 course – Rundblick: beginners' German – is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple German in everyday contexts. It explores life in German-speaking countries and communities worldwide through topics relevant to adult learners – such as impressions of Germany, Austria and Switzerland;

		travelling; lifestyles; cultural events; and technology.
L194 – Portales: beginners' Spanish	30	This key introductory Level 1 course – Portales: beginners' Spanish – is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple Spanish in everyday contexts. It takes you through a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out in Spanish-speaking countries.
L195 – Andante: beginners' Italian	30	This key introductory Level 1 course – Andante: beginners' Italian – is designed to give you the skills you need to speak and understand simple Italian in everyday contexts. The course takes you through a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out in Italy.
L197 – Beginners' Chinese	30	Beginners' Chinese will give you the skills you need to speak and understand simple Chinese (Mandarin) in everyday contexts. No previous knowledge of Chinese is required. This key introductory Level 1 course will take you through a wide range of practical situations such as socialising, shopping and getting around.
Law		
W150 – An introduction to law in contemporary Scotland	15	This course looks at law making in contemporary Scotland. It considers the role of both the Scottish Parliament and Courts in law making, looking at the structure of the court system and the role of the judiciary. It explores the relationship between the law making power of the Scottish and Westminster Parliaments. It introduces you to some specific areas of Scots law, including the law relating to human rights and children. This course will be of particular interest to anyone needing an overview of the Scottish legal system, and will provide an excellent beginning for students who want to understand how modern Scotland works.
Mathematics		
M140 – Introducing statistics	30	From this key introductory course you will learn how to use basic statistical tools and quantitative methods that are useful in business, government, industry, medicine, the economy, and most academic subjects. Topics covered include: summarising data; examining relationships; randomness and sampling distributions; probability; testing hypotheses; and estimation. Using data from a range of applications, you'll learn practical statistical techniques and fundamental principles, as well as using software and a calculator to analyse data.
MST124 – Essential mathematics 1	30	This key introductory module provides a broad and enjoyable foundation for university-level mathematics, but you do require some prior knowledge. It teaches you the essential ideas and techniques that underpin university-level study in mathematics and mathematical subjects such as physics, engineering and economics. You'll study a range of fundamental topics – including calculus, vectors, matrices and complex numbers – and use mathematical software to solve problems. You'll also develop your skills in communicating results and defining problems. This is not a module for beginners.
MU123 – Discovering mathematics	30	This key introductory Level 1 course provides a gentle start to the study of mathematics. It will help you to integrate mathematical ideas into your everyday thinking and build your confidence in using and learning mathematics. You'll cover statistical, graphical, algebraic, trigonometric and numerical concepts and techniques, and be introduced to mathematical modelling. Formal calculus is not included and you are not expected to have any previous knowledge of algebra.
Science		
S142 – Topics in science	30	In this course you will study three exciting topics in contemporary science which will provide you with a broad understanding of Level 1 science. These topics include *Human genetics and health issues*, which deals with our genes – an area at the forefront of medical science and *Empire of the microbes*, which explores the intriguing world of bacteria, viruses, yeast and other microscopic organisms. To allow some specialisation between studying health sciences or environmental sciences you will have a choice between *Molecules, medicines and drugs,* which explores drug

		development, infection and disease and *The frozen planet*, which explains the science behind the polar regions.
S151 – Maths for Science	10	Do you want to further your study of science but worry that you lack confidence in mathematics? Then this course could be for you. Mathematical techniques are explained, and worked examples are included throughout the course, but the main emphasis is on providing examples for you to try for yourself. Many of the examples have a scientific flavour and detailed answers are also provided.
S175 – The frozen planet	10	This course explores the wonder of the polar world and explains how ice has shaped and controls our planet. It is about the physical controls on the shape and character of our planet over millions of years through to the climate we experience today. You will investigate the different environmental where wildlife flourishes, and the strategies some species have developed to exploit them. You will discover the influence of humans on the environment and the discoveries of the early polar explorers.
S176 – Living without oil: chemistry for a sustainable future	10	This course explores oil's vital role in the modern world and assesses some of the exciting scientific developments that could lead to sustainable alternatives to oil. You will explore the properties of crude oil that make it so useful and then use this knowledge to examine some potential sustainable alternatives. You'll study the development of biofuels; battery electric vehicles; hydrogen as fuel; and the production of biologically derived materials to replace plastics. Throughout the course you'll focus on assessing the environmental impacts of these potential alternatives to oil products.
S177 – Galaxies, stars and planets	10	Galaxies, stars and planets is one of a series of short, five month 10-credit courses introducing fascinating topics in science. It covers the exploration of our Solar System; the discovery of planets orbiting other stars; the birth, life and violent death of stars; and the creation of the Universe itself.
S186 – Volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis	10	Volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis is one of a series of short, five month 10-credit courses introducing fascinating topics in science. If you've ever been intrigued or affected by volcanic eruptions, earthquakes or tsunamis and want to find out more about why they happen and what they do, then this is the course for you.
SK185 – Molecules, medicines and drugs: a chemical story	10	Molecules, medicines and drugs: a chemical story is a highly interactive online course that focuses on the chemistry that underlies medicines .After a brief introduction (which discusses the development and testing of drugs within a social and economic setting), you'll move on to explore the discovery and development of a range of drugs and medicines that relieve pain, effect cures and alleviate the symptoms of ill-health. You'll find out how drugs interact with and affect their target areas in the human body.
Social Sciences		
DB123 – You and your money: personal finance in context	30	Are you interested in making more informed decisions about your personal finances? You and your money is a practical course that will develop your financial skills and improve your understanding of the constantly changing social and economic environment in which financial decisions are made. You'll explore questions such as: Why do people borrow so much? How can I plan for my retirement? By the end of this key introductory Level 1 course, you'll have a detailed understanding of some key personal finance issues that affect people's lives, and the skills and knowledge needed to improve your own financial capability.