

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	Philosophy BA
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Summary of Overall Plans

For modules with lectures, lecture material will be recorded and made available online for you to watch at a time that suits you. We will typically record the material in manageable chunks and post it on the VLE.

For the vast majority of modules with lectures and seminars, or just seminars, we expect to provide regular, frequent face-to-face seminars for all on-campus students. Wherever possible, seminars will follow the same pattern as they would have done pre-pandemic: typically, weekly. Face-to-face seminars will also often be in smaller groups than would previously have been the case.

For students unable to be on campus, we will provide an online seminar for every module. The length, content and frequency of the online seminar will replicate that of the module's face-to-face seminars, to ensure that students attending in this way are able to meet module and programme learning outcomes.

We will also provide 'bridging' activities in addition to seminars and recorded lecture material. These may vary from module to module but might include quizzes or worksheets. These bridging activities will compensate for a lack of interaction in lectures, as well as ensuring that students are well prepared for seminars. Office hours will also be held, either face-to-face, or online.

We do not expect that most on-campus students will be participating frequently in online seminars. However, we will make sure that students and staff are prepared to transfer from a

face-to-face to an online seminar, in case the need arises—for example, if students or staff need to self-isolate, or in case of local lockdown.

Teaching in Philosophy modules in Summer Term — which was entirely online — was in general very well received. Student feedback was positive, with feedback scores overall as high as for modules in Summer 2019. Student comments indicate that live online seminars, and the other measures we introduced to provide excellent learning opportunities, worked well. We don't currently anticipate having to do a lot of non-lecture teaching online, but we're confident that we can teach well online if it's needed.

We will continue to assess students through a combination of essays and online exams. Details of assessment plans for each module will be available by the start of term.

Programme Structures

We are not planning to make any changes to programme structures in Autumn term 2020/21: we do not plan to cancel any modules or move them between terms.