

## AGCAS Skills Award Case Studies:

### THE LEICESTER AWARD

#### Background

The Leicester Award was established during the 2004/2005 academic year, and has evolved and grown significantly during this time. From the 2016/2017 academic year, the Leicester Award was transformed from an opt in employability programme ran by the Career Development Service, to a personal development programme delivered in partnership with academic departments for all first year, full time undergraduate students.



#### Structure

The programme is made up of three stages: **Discover**, **Experience**, **Achieve**

*Discover* (Semester One) – Self-awareness

- Face-to-face workshop in the curriculum/online workshop
- Online assessment – Personal Summary

*Experience*

- 10 hours of experience outside of degree – can include paid work, volunteering and extra-curricular activities.

*Achieve* (Semester One/Two) – Reflection, articulation of experience, future planning

- Online workshop
- Online assessment – Reflective Summary and CV

#### Recognition

The Award is recognised on a student's final academic transcript and their HEAR. Students also receive a hard copy certificate.

#### Size/Engagement

All students are eligible to take part in the Leicester Award. All first year undergraduates (approximately 3600) are automatically enrolled onto the programme via Blackboard (our virtual learning environment). Non-first years who did not have the Leicester Award as an automatic programme as part of their first year (other undergraduate year groups and postgraduates) can self-enrol via Blackboard and complete the programme entirely online.

#### Evaluation

We collect, analyse and report on qualitative and quantitative data at different touchpoints of the programme, including workshop feedback, engagement, assessment outcomes, along with end of programme feedback.

#### Future Developments

We are working with academic departments across the university to fully embed the Leicester Award into the first year undergraduate curriculum. At present, the Award is embedded to varying levels across different courses, so we are aiming to develop a consistent approach for delivering the Award for all first year undergraduates.

#### Contact

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