

Following a skills deficit audit from Russell Group (research) universities, universities and employers identified the skills they see lacking in students when they start university or work. Once you start your university course you will be busy with your academic studies. This is where the Academic LORIC will help you.

The Academic LORIC is a set of skills that you need to be able to demonstrate whilst at university. Using the time you have now, you can be ahead of the game in demonstrating that you are **open-minded** and you have a **love of learning outside** of the classroom; using the resources provided, you can prove in your university seminars and tutorials that you have the experience of conducting **reading and research** that make you a **critical thinker** and, most importantly, **interesting to teach**.

We have produced a set of resources to help you explore subjects that you may have chosen to study at university. By using these resources and completing the Academic LORIC work, you will have the best start when you begin university.

- LOVE OF LEARNING**
- OPEN-MINDED**
- READING AND RESEARCH**
- INTERESTING TO TEACH**
- CRITICAL THINKER**



## Resources

**MOOCs** – these are Massive Open Online Courses written by the world’s top universities and organisations. These MOOCs are free of charge and, on average, take 2-3 hours per week over 4-6 weeks. MOOCs are an excellent addition to any discussion as they give you a chance to fully explore a subject or area of interest.

**Podcasts/Radio programmes** – links are given to radio broadcasts or podcasts for you to listen to at your leisure. You will hear from world renowned experts in their fields, helping you to gain an understanding outside of the classroom.

**Articles** – these short articles, written by academic experts, are to help spark your wider reading and interest around your chosen subjects. They will hopefully lead to research the topic or author further.

**TED Talks** – these talks are a maximum of 18 minutes and a chance to hear different takes on subject areas and to discover thought-provoking questions you may never have thought of before. Take 40 minutes, listen to the talk, make notes and then update your Academic LORIC log.

## The subjects covered are:

- History
- Geography
- PPE (Politics, Philosophy and Economics)
- Medicine/Veterinary Science/Dentistry/Bio Medical Science
- Law
- Psychology
- Maths
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- Engineering
- English (English Language, English Literature)
- Sports
- Business, IT and Computer Science

We know that your subject may not be on here, but these resources will still be useful in helping you find books, journals, TED talks, podcasts, programmes, broadcasts, lectures, articles and MOOCs.

## How to Use the Resources

Universities tutors will be impressed that you have used this time wisely to prepare for the academic rigour of university.

They will, however, want to hear what your reading and research has led to, e.g. led to further reading, etc. What they don’t want is for you to reel off a list; they will want to listen to what you have gained as a result of the work you have done.

Whichever resource you are using, you must make the most of it by using the Thinking Hard IT sheets or Cornell notes to record what you have learned and what you are going to do further as a result.

You can then talk (online) to your teachers/parents/carers about your findings and what you will do with this as a result. We would highly recommend that you then complete an Academic LORIC log which consolidates your learning.

Resource	3 things I have learned	As a result, I will now...
E.g. MOOC	1. 2. 3.	

This will really help you to get a head start as you prepare for university. Go for it!