Skills Team Top Tips
Revision

Make a revision timetable
Work out when you can realistically give time to revision and plan what you hope to cover in each session. Use wall planners, online apps, spreadsheets etc – whatever you prefer. Don’t spend too long doing this – your time is better spent actually revising!

Set realistic goals
In each session on your revision timetable, make a realistic goal of what you should be able to achieve. Make daily goals part of your timetable. "By the end of today I will have (at least) revised …..". The size of the task you give yourself should depend on the time you have available that day, but make it achievable so that you get a sense of satisfaction and feel you are progressing.

Make your revision active
Don’t just read through your notes or copy them out over and over again. The best revision makes you understand rather than simply remember the material. Active revision techniques include:

- Summarising information.
- Organising information into different categories or a hierarchy.
- Create mind maps/concept maps/spider diagrams to show how information relates to each other and where the links are.
- Finding points for and against an argument.
- Researching real-life examples to back up your theory.

Get some past papers for your modules (available from hydra.hull.ac.uk if you log in) and get to know what sort of questions you are likely to be asked.

Develop some memory techniques
Although revision at university should be about more than just memorising information, there will always be some things that you need remember. There are some known techniques which can help:

- Develop mnemonics for things in a sequence (like King Philip Came Over From Great Spain to remember Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species in biology).
- Imagine a familiar journey or walk through a familiar place (like your home) and assign different things you need to remember to each landmark, room etc. This is a technique used by many of the world’s top memory experts.
- Learn different topics in different places, imagining the place can help recall during exams.

Practise drafting exam answers
Get some past papers for your modules (available from hydra.hull.ac.uk if you log in) and get to know what sort of questions you are likely to be asked. Plan some answers (you don’t have to write them all out in full). If your module is a new one, ask your tutor which previous modules are most similar and if the exam format will be different.