Linking your Aspire reading list to your module in Moodle

Students can find any online reading list in Aspire just by going to Reading lists on the Library home page and then searching for the module name or number (as long as you have remembered to use Link to Hierarchy in Aspire to link your list to its module number).

However, to make sure they can’t miss your list, you can also link it to your module’s Moodle page with a few clicks. It may already be linked: look on your module’s Moodle page for a Reading List block in either of the two side columns. If it isn’t there, here’s how to add it:

1. Log in to Moodle, go to the module where you want to add the reading list, and turn Editing on.
2. At the bottom of the left-hand column, find the ADD A BLOCK option, pull up the menu and select Reading Lists.
3. Click on Reading Lists and a new block should appear linking to your Aspire list. (If it doesn’t work, see over the page!)
4. By default, the block will be at the bottom of the column. To make sure students can’t miss it, click the Move button 🏃‍♀️ in the block and then click wherever you want it, eg at the top of the right-hand column. Make sure it is high enough up the page for students to see it!
5. Your reading list is now available to students via their Moodle course. The block is linking through to Aspire, so Moodle always shows them the current, updated version of the list with no need for you to make separate Moodle updates.
6. Alternatively, you can embed readings from an Aspire list into individual weekly sections of a Moodle course – see our separate guide on Embedding week-by-week Aspire readings in Moodle.

What if it didn’t work, or you want to link to a list or a course that doesn’t have a module number? See over the page...
Help, it didn’t work!

7. **Reading Lists didn’t appear as an option in the ADD A BLOCK menu**… check that you don’t already have a Reading List block in one of the side columns. If still stuck, contact your Academic Liaison Librarian: details at [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/).

8. **The block appeared, but it had no reading list in it!** If you get a block that says “No resource lists found”, that usually means your list is not linked to the correct module number in Aspire, so Moodle couldn’t work out which list to attach. To check and correct this in Aspire:

9. Go into Aspire (via Reading Lists on the Library home page, or directly via [https://brookes.rl.talis.com/](https://brookes.rl.talis.com/)), log in with your staff number and password, and find your list by name or module number.

10. Click through to the list and make sure it is linked to the correct module number(s). (Look at the top right for **Linked To**)

11. If it isn’t linked, or not to the right numbers, pull down the **Edit** button on your list and select **Link to Hierarchy**. Add or delete module numbers as required, then **Save**.

12. You should now be able to go back into Moodle and start again from Step 1.

**What if my list doesn’t have a module number?**

You can link non-modular reading lists to non-modular Moodle courses – for example, if you have an overarching course Moodle space with a general course reading list – but you have to do it manually:

13. Go into Aspire, locate your list, and copy its complete URL (Web address) – this will start [https://brookes.rl.talis.com/lists/](https://brookes.rl.talis.com/lists/) followed by a long string of letters and numbers.

14. Log in to Moodle, go to the course where you want to add the reading list, and turn Editing on.

15. Go to the **ADD A BLOCK** menu as before, but select **HTML**.

16. A new, blank HTML block will appear at the bottom of the column. Click on the cog icon within it, and select **CONFIGURE**.

17. An editing window appears. For the **Block title**, put **Reading list**: in **Content**, type in the name of your list. Then select the list name text, click the **Link** button, and in the **Link** box which pops up, paste in the list URL which you copied earlier. Tick **Open in new window**. Then **Create link** and **Save changes**.

18. You should now have a new block called Reading List, with a working link to your Aspire list. You can drag this up to the top of either side column, using the Move button, as before.

If still stuck, get in touch with your Academic Liaison Librarian – contact details at [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/library/subject-help/)