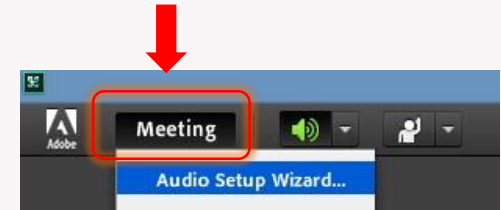


Audio set up

We recommend 'audio set up wizard'



If you want to be able to talk later:

Click on the microphone button to enable it. It should turn green.



Click again on the microphone icon to mute it (will have a line through it when muted).



*Mobile devices look different

Pre session polls

What level of study are you?

- Access
- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3
- Postgraduate

What faculty are you in?

- FASS (arts & social sciences)
- FBL (business & law)
- STEM (science, technology, engineering & maths)
- WELS (wellbeing, education & language studies)
- OTHER

What module are you studying?

Exams - 1

Revising for the exam that you are sitting

Important note

- We use polls a lot in SHL as a way of enabling you to interact and give your opinions, as well as to help us to know who we are reaching, what you like / don't like, what you are studying and how you are getting on.
- All polls are anonymous and no other student can see what you write. We can broadcast these anonymous results so you can see what your fellow students think, but no answers are attributable to names.

Session purpose

- **Is for:**
- Give some guidance about revising for exams
- Allow you to ask questions about approaching exams
- Provide a space to share ideas and connect with other students
- **Is not for:**
- Giving any exam answers
- Providing any module specific advice

Initial polls

Have you done an OU exam before?

- Yes (one)
- Yes (two)
- Yes (3+)
- No never!

When is your exam scheduled?

- 5th June
- 6th June
- 7th June
- 8th June
- 11th June
- Other date

Please give a few words about how you are feeling about your exam

Session plan

- Revising the module
- Time management
- Using the SEP
- Seen exams
- Predicting what will come up

Revising

Knowing what you need to know

RE-vise

- Vise before revising
- In other words this is going back over information that you have learnt. If you didn't learn it in the first place it makes it more difficult
- You may have a different purpose for reading over information this time though, e.g. not the same TMA / essay

Knowing what you need to know

- How do you get it from your module content into your head...
- Getting the right bits out (not everything!)
- How are you going to communicate what you know...

Poll

Can you remember what was the main argument of your last TMA essay?

- I can remember clearly
- I have a reasonable idea but a bit sketchy on some details
- I can't *quite* remember
- I have done a TMA?

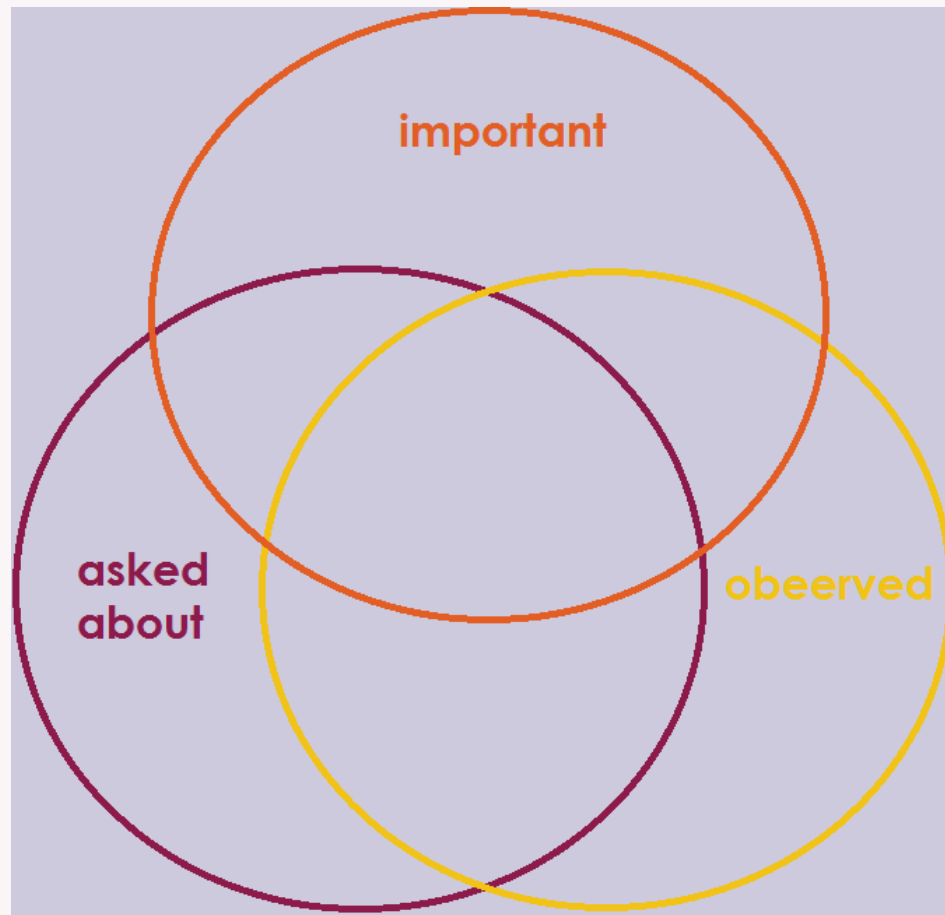
Remembering...

- Is difficult!
 - Needs a context
 - Needs a purpose
 - Has to be active
-
- So think about what is important and focus on that. Don't just remember facts for the sake of it, why are they important.

What are you being assessed on

- Your module
- Only your module and the small part of information about a subject that is in your module, everything else is not important.

Chocolate cake exam...



What are you being assessed on

- When you start revising you might not know what is the most important part and where you should focus your time. So use what is available and be strategic and effective.
- What clues are there to what is important?

Poll text

Have you looked at past exam papers for your module?

- Yes (have got and worked through)
- Yes (have got but not worked through yet)
- No (keep meaning to get)
- No (my module doesn't have past papers)
- No (my module is brand new this year)

What is most important?

- Other than the SEP and past papers there are other ways of knowing what is important.
- These include learning outcomes, chapter / section summaries and similar.

Look for themes

- What is your module about? Does it have some key themes that are introduced at the start, maybe in an audio recording or a key document from the module team chair?
- Use this to make sure you know what is important
- The exam is going to be testing your overall understanding of the whole module but you won't be expected to know every word

Use techniques

- Flash cards – definition and application of that fact / word / concept
 - No point in memorising a word or concept if you can't apply it
- Mindmaps – fitting everything together to a common theme
 - Not the same as scattergun or brain dump of every single thing you have ever heard about x

Use tutorials

- Many modules have revision tutorials or sessions on key themes
- Even if you can't make them live look at the recording and/or slides

Use feedback

- Are there aspects that you have struggled with and were given links / guides to look through? Did you?
- Do you know if you will be expected to draw diagrams / graphs / tables to illustrate a point? Can you? What has your tutor said in the past about this?

Writing it all

- There is a big difference between writing on a computer and by hand.
- Practically it takes some effort and can hurt!
- Realistically you won't have:
 - Your module materials
 - Your spell checker
 - The word processor grammar check
 - The ability to move things around and insert

Prioritise

- Exams have limited time so what is the most important thing that you will need to convey?
- How *can* you answer a question even if you don't know exactly?
- Can you apply the information you know? If you can only regurgitate it in one format then this won't help

Time management

Starting out in the best way

Time management

- Make a revision plan, e.g. Topic 1 on x day
- What works best when?
- When was the last time you wrote for 3 hours?

Make a revision plan / time grid

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
6 am							
7 am							
8 am							
9 am							
10 am							
11 am							
12 pm							
1 pm							
2 pm							
3 pm							
4 pm							
5 pm							
6 pm							
7 pm							
8 pm							
9 pm							
10 pm							
11 pm							
12 am							
1 am							
2 am							
3 am							
4 am							
5 am							

Time management

JUNE 2018

				1	2	3
					PRACTICE EXAM	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			EXAM DAY			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17

Consider sitting your SEP or another version of your exam under full exam conditions as a practice so you know what it is like.

Poll

- Why might it be useful to sit a practice exam under exam conditions at home?

Practising an exam

- It gets you used to writing for that amount of time
- It helps you gauge how quickly you approach different parts
- You know what kind of sustenance you need in that time
- You'll know what it is like to be without phone / other electronic media for the time!

Using the SEP

Specimen exam paper

Poll text

Have you looked at the specimen exam paper for your module?

- Yes (have got and worked through)
- Yes (have got but not worked through yet)
- No (keep meaning to get)
- No (my module doesn't have a specimen exam paper)
- No (I don't think I need to)

Using the SEP

- The SEP will set out the structure of your module's exam and show you how many questions there will be, whether any are optional and what mark allocation there is
- It may also show you a worked through example of how to approach 1 or more questions
- It may also give example answers to some of the questions that are in it.

Test yourself

- There is no point reading the SEP as a book or piece of source material. It is there to help you engage with the material and know how to approach an exam in your module.
- It is recommended that you 'sit' the SEP as a means of testing yourself and then compare your answers against those given.

Seen exams

A different type of exam

Poll

Are any parts of your exam seen (you get them ahead of time)?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Seen exams

- A seen exam, as the name suggests, has at least some element that you are given ahead of time. This may be a case study to read, one or a series of essay titles to prepare for

Sounds fab!

- Doesn't that just mean everyone gets 100%?
- Well no....
- You still need to write the information in the exam under exam conditions, you still need to understand enough to be able to do this.

What is important?

- You may have crafted a wonderful series of essays at home on your computer with your module content with you BUT how much of this can you recall in the exam?
- Which bits are most important?
- There is a big difference between a 1000 word essay constructed over a series of hours with material to hand and a 500-1000 (~700) word essay written by hand in an exam hall.

Seen or unseen

- It's the same idea – you have to write by hand in the exam and convey clear coherent information.
- Every sentence takes time to write so must have a purpose
- A wasted waffle is time taken away from relevant and useful information.

The man in the pub...

- Could you take your prepared essay (or planned answer) and distil the most important parts to a man in the pub / or your mum / neighbour / dog / cat?
- Remember everything has to have a purpose otherwise it shouldn't be there.

Predicting what will come up

Using what you know

Polling text

Do you know how your final grade is calculated on your module?

- Yes
- Maybe...
- No

Is your exam worth all the summative grade for your module?

- Yes (100%)
- No (half / half)
- No (75/25)

What might come up?

- Well we've already covered some of the key clues which were.....?
- Past papers and SEP

What types of question are there?

- If there are short answer questions worth a few marks then these will probably involve specific facts or definitions
- There may be also a need to apply those facts in the context of your module
- If there is an essay you will need to include more relevant information showing understanding overall
- Remember key elements like structuring, correcting, grammar and spelling as well as appropriate academic writing

What's next?

- Once you have revised how do you actually tackle the exam?
- Come back next week to find out more
- We'll showcase some types of question and how to approach
- We'll give tips on maximising effect and minimising panic
- We'll obviously talk about chocolate 😊

Thank you for coming!

Session 2 exams – preparing for the day and practicalities
Next Wednesday May 23rd 8pm

Live studio sessions Friday May 25th
Understanding Brexit 9.30-12.30
All things exams 1-3 pm
See you there!

Past student hub live online sessions [here](#)

Visit us at <http://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/>

Send us feedback at studenthub@open.ac.uk

View past (live) recordings on www.youtube.com/thestudenthublive

Final polls

Because I came to this session I am feeling

- More confident about approaching my exam
- About the same about approaching my exam
- Less confident about approaching my exam

Please complete the feedback poll

- Because I came tonight before the next session I will....