

Pre session polls

What level of study are you?

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

What would you consider is your main area of study?

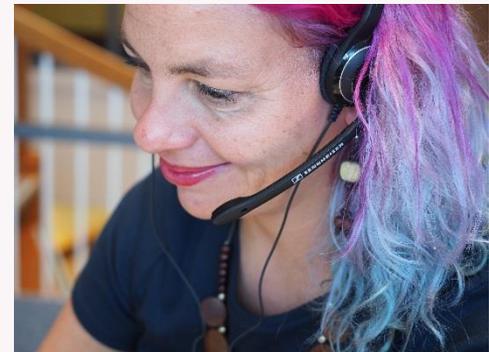
- Arts
- Languages (English & other)
- Social sciences
- Business and law
- Science
- Engineering or technology
- Maths
- Health sciences
- Education
- Sports
- OTHER

Have you been to any student hub live online events before?

- Yes last year (any 2018)
- Yes this year (any 2019)
- Yes other
- No (but have listened to one or more recording)
- No (didn't have time)
- No (wasn't aware of before now)

What are student hub live online sessions?

- All student hub live sessions are non modular and focus on skills relevant to study at university level
- Polls are anonymous to other participants but the chat box will have your logged in name associated with your comments
- All online sessions are recorded and available to view on catch up on a public facing website. *Small group discussions are not recorded.*
- Slides are available at the end of the session and from the main website



Become a SHL ambassador:

SHL ambassadors are advocates of SHL, sharing their experiences and telling others about events and opportunities to get involved. The role of ambassador is tailor-made for each person. You can do something small like send in a quote that we could use about how you have experienced events, a picture of you or your space (and study buddies/cake supply) attending a SHL event. You could tell other students about it on social media, and even come up to Milton Keynes and be involved in livestream events either on or off camera. This could involve sharing your advice for other students, doing the quiz, or taking part in a particular session. We are able to pay travel expenses if you travel to Milton Keynes. In return we would look to offer you something of use which may be attending an event on campus or facilitating connections, for example.

To register your interest, email studenthub@open.ac.uk and let us know how you would like to get involved

Initial polls

What is your main reason for coming along this evening?

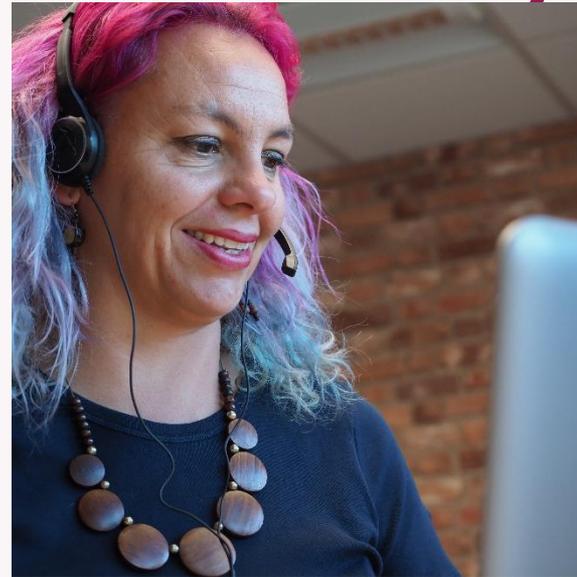
Are you currently...? (please choose the one that is closest)

- part way through a module that began earlier this year (2019) (e.g. February, May)
- on a summer break with next module due to start in October 2019

student hub live is the OU's live online interactive platform to support academic community



Karen Foley is a lecturer at the OU, head of student hub live and chairs Y032. She also tutors in social sciences, psychology and science.



Isabella Henman is an essay writing aficionado and skills trainer. She tutors in science and health sciences at Access to level 2.

Preparing for the end before you begin

This was our advert...

As the deadline for your end-of-module assessment draws closer, do you find yourself wishing you had started to plan earlier, or prioritise your work more effectively? In this workshop we discuss how to use guidance from the module team to prioritise key skills and areas of content so that you can prepare as effectively as possible. We also discuss how to research and revisit relevant content over the summer.

Workshop

- This is going to be a structured workshop covering how to plan your module study from the start, with the aim and end clearly in mind
- We'll give some tutor advice about strategies for ensuring you are on track and doing what is needed
- You'll also get the chance to discuss things with others in a small group

Session purpose

- **Is for:**
- Covering general planning and strategy advice
- Give some guidance about focusing on main themes
- Provide a space to share ideas and connect with other students
- **Is not for:**
- Telling you what you HAVE to do
- Providing any module specific advice

First thoughts

Which of the following do you use to get a clear idea of what a module involves? (choose any that apply for you)

- Module description when registering
- Are you ready for / preparation site resources
- Past module reviews on OU site
- Past module reviews / comments on social media
- Word of mouth
- I just register as it is part of degree pathway without worrying what it involves
- I don't have a clear idea what my upcoming module involves

Suggestions

Use module descriptions to get a good idea – these will say what you will study and what type of materials are involved

On this page

- ▼ Register
- ▼ What you will study
- ▼ Entry
- ▼ Qualifications
- ▼ If you have a disability
- ▼ Study materials
- ▼ Teaching and assessment
- ▼ Students also studied
- ▼ Future availability
- ▼ How to register
- ▼ Regulations
- ▼ Course facts

Suggestions

Course facts will say if there is an EMA or exam as well as how many TMAs

They also give the study level and number of credits

Course facts

About this course:

Course code	SD816
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Credits	60
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OU Level	Postgraduate
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SCQF level	11
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FHEQ level	7
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Course work includes:

3 Tutor-marked assignments (TMAs)

End-of-module assessment

No residential school

Your ideas?

- What kinds of areas do you look for information about to help you know how to tackle your module? Please use the short answer poll available to suggest your ideas and we will discuss some

Know your...

...assessment

- How many TMAs?
- What are they worth?
- Is there obligatory group work?
- Do you have to do any presentations?
- Is there an exam or EMA?

Poll time

- What do you think is the main difference between a module with an EMA and one with an exam? Please use the short answer poll to give your ideas

Some key differences

- An EMA is usually done at home / not under exam conditions
- There is a deadline for an EMA but it can be submitted early as there is a range of several weeks in which to complete work
- An exam is a fixed time and date within published exam timetable windows (available at least 16 months ahead)
- Exams are usually unseen although may have elements of seen material

Know your...

...writing

- Any essays?
- What are they worth?
- Are there reports / research / analyses to do?
- Do you have specific formats / software for presentations / reports / other?

Know your...

...learning outcomes / objectives

- Does your module publish these and link TMAs and other activities to them? *They may not be called this but look out for*
 - Knowledge and understanding (KU)
 - Cognitive skills (CS)
 - Key skills (KS)
 - Practical and/or professional skills (PPS)

Preparing ...with an EMA

- Know when it will be available and make sure you know how much it is worth
- Have you got a threshold to achieve before you can attempt it?

EMA time management

- First things first – when is your EMA due?
- How much time will it take to do?
- Have you allowed contingency time for anything going wrong?
- Consider planning quite tightly using some of the resources available at <https://help.open.ac.uk/planning-and-prioritising>

Preparing ...with an exam

- Know when it is likely to be and make sure you have planned to be available on the day
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/exam-periods>
- Have you got a threshold to achieve before you can attempt it?
- What resources are provided to help you?

Exam time management

- Consider compiling your own glossary from the start
- Make early use of exam resources e.g. Specimen exam papers / past papers
- 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?

Hang on I haven't started!

- Our session title was planning for the end from the beginning so the most effective learners have a good idea about what they need to do from the start.
- If you have objectives and set boundaries / time points then you know if you have done them
- Knowing the end point also stops it creeping up on you

Revisiting content

- Many of you are part way through a module so can use these ideas to focus on what is important
- You can also revisit past modules using the ideas to work out what important elements could be carried forward to future study

Information polls

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Discussion activity

- Discuss as a group your best tips on how to be as effective as possible when studying. You may cover time management, planning, how you prepare for an exam / EMA or anything else useful
- Please bring back a few points that you can share with the rest of the group.

Useful points for breakouts

- We suggest you use the first couple of minutes to introduce yourselves and get used to the room. Choose a volunteer to keep the discussion on track and feed back to the main room
- Remember to activate your microphone to speak as per the instructions given.
- Breakout groups work best if people engage and contribute and discuss
- There will be 13 minutes for the breakouts overall – we'll send regular reminders to let you know how long you have got left

*Remember to check the number of the room you are in (shows at top of chat pod as “chat x **BREAKOUT y**”) in case of connection issues and for bringing back information.*



Breakout activity

- Discuss as a group your best tips on how to be as effective as possible when studying. You may cover time management, planning, how you prepare for an exam / EMA or anything else useful
- Please bring back a few points that you can share with the rest of the group.

This session is currently in breakouts (small groups).

If you are part of this group and have had connection issues please let us know your room number in the chat box

If you are only just arriving in this room then unfortunately you have missed the main session. Please log back out and watch the recording which will be available later this evening

So....

- What can people share from their sessions?

Take home message

- If you have a clear idea of how your module is structured & what it involves you will know what is expected and whether you have achieved those expectations.
- Being effective along the way helps in the long run and avoids any sudden surprises

Final polls

What do you feel is the main thing you will take away from this evening?

What are you going to do as a result of this evening's session?

Which of the following elements of tonight's session did you find useful?

- Tutor led explanation
- Opportunity to chat in text chat box
- Opportunity to suggest ideas in polls
- Breakout room (discussion with / learning from other students)
- Breakout activity (reflecting on the concepts in more detail)
- Any other aspect (please give details in chat)

Autumn online events begin in October and there will also be live studio events to help get you focused

Tonight's slides are available to download from the link provided. Click on the words essay planning then download file and it will download to wherever downloads go on your own computer.

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

