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
- Yes this year
- 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
Initial polls

What is your main reason for coming along this evening?
What’s (not) working
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.
This was our advert…

Whether you’re just starting or part way through your module it’s an ideal time of year to reflect on what is going well with your study and what isn’t quite working for you. You may or may not be at where you want or need to be but in this workshop we’ll offer some suggestions for practical solutions.
Workshop

• This is going to be a structured workshop to help give the chance to reflect on various things that may be affecting success (positively and negatively)

• We’ll give some tutor advice and links to places where further information may be found

• You’ll also get the chance to discuss things with others in a small group
Not feedback...

Our session on 13/2 covered feedback so we aren’t going to look at that

Useful points that arose include:

- Take the time to read through the feedback provided on all TMAs and use this constructively
- Identify themes
- Decide what is important to you and then prioritise feedback related to that
Reflection one

- Can you name some things that affect how well you are able to succeed in your study?
- Please use the anonymous polling pod to give your suggestions
Our ideas

We broadly grouped these into 2 headings

1. Study skills related – fitting study into life and life into study as well as being effective in understanding and using the module materials for the module outcomes

2. Assessment related – planning and creating submissions and then reviewing the feedback on the marked work
Study skills - polls

Have you ever visited https://help.open.ac.uk/topic/study-skills?

- Yes (used a lot)
- Yes (used a few times)
- Yes (looked at once)
- No (tutor / module has directed to it but haven’t looked)
- No (wasn’t aware of it)
The study skills site

Study skills

Assignments
Assignments can be daunting, especially if you haven’t studied in a while. Develop your skills so you can complete this part of your studies successfully.

Revising and exams
We understand that exams can be stressful. Improving your revisions and exam skills can improve your confidence.

Core skills
The core study skills you’ll develop with us will become invaluable in your everyday life. Here’s how to improve those skills.

Computing skills for OU study
How to choose a computer and keep your data secure, computing online and web browser basics, OU Google Apps and making audio recordings.

Ongoing skills
Find out how to maximise your skills so you can be as successful as possible in your studies and beyond.

Study skills for online learning
Find some new study habits to help you study modules that are presented online.
Time management

https://help.open.ac.uk/time-management-skills

• By this stage in autumn start modules it may well be becoming ‘real’. Do you have the time to do justice to what you have committed to?

• Prioritising is important – what is most important. You may have to sacrifice something.

• Some students may also be finding they zip through more quickly now as they have mastered the basic skills and systems and are not on to the meaty content
Note taking - poll

• What is your best suggestion for effective note taking? Please use the anonymous short answer polling pod to give your answer and then we’ll discuss a few
Effective note taking

• Must be active
• Is not copying out a chunk of information
• May change as you progress through study
• Idea 1 - read through quickly, then read again with a purpose
• Idea 2 – read through to identify key terms
• Idea 3 – read through to match specifically to module learning outcomes
Assessment

Which of the following is true for you in your current module?

• Have completed 4+ TMAs
• Have completed 2-3 TMAs
• Have completed 1 TMA
• Have not had a TMA deadline as yet
• Have completed 2+ iCMAs
• Have completed 1 iCMA
• No iCMAs on current module(s)
Assessment

• What do you think is the main purpose of assessment? (please use the anonymous short answer poll to give your ideas)

• It is to show how well you understand your topic and whether you can effectively and accurately communicate that understanding
Assessment - Clues

• How do you identify what you need to do and how you need to do it? (please suggest in short answer poll)

• Depending on module these may be learning outcomes, module outcomes, themes.
Assessment

What has been true of your grades so far?

• I’ve been happy with the grades I have received (I did my best and understood what was needed)
• I’ve been happy with the grades I have received (they were a fair reflection of the amount of time & effort I put in)
• I’ve been happy with the grades I have received (I knew I didn’t understand / do something correctly but can see what I didn’t do as needed and it’s fair)
• I’ve been unhappy with the grades I have received (I didn’t understand what was needed)
• I’ve been unhappy with the grades I have received (I got some information incorrect)
• I’ve been unhappy with the grades I have received (I still don’t understand what I did wrong)
Grades

• Usually reflect effort but not always
• Be realistic about expectations, if you know you rushed something or didn’t understand then marks will often reflect this
• It’s usually best not to spend lots of time comparing with other students as everyone has different things affecting them
Planning assessments

- Make sure you spend enough time to do yourself justice
- Plan appropriately for all the aspects that are needed. Check for additional deadlines and meet them – don’t ignore tutor reminders!
Discussion activity

• Identify something that hasn’t worked for you so far in your module and share it with the group in one of the pods available
• Discuss as a group whether there are themes to what hasn’t worked as well as you would have liked and think about how these could be remedied
• 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 15 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**

- Identify something that hasn’t worked for you so far in your module and share it with the group in one of the pods available.
- Discuss as a group whether there are themes to what hasn’t worked as well and think about how these could be remedied.
- 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

• Reflection is a valuable aspect of study as it stops you wasting time doing something that isn’t working, and helps you work out what is most effective FOR YOU

• Successful studying is a combination of effective study skills and applying those to the specific content of your own module, with the understanding demonstrated through your assessment
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)
Future sessions in our student hub live skills based Adobe Connect series – See the website for more details

17/4/19 Developing a good academic argument
8/5/19 EMA workshop
22/5/19 Exam workshop

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
If you've received an email inviting you to respond to this year's NSS

- Please do!
- Your feedback is invaluable in helping the OU shape what we do and how we do it
- From the quality of our course materials, to tutor performance, to how well represented you feel by the OU Students Association;
- The NSS is your opportunity to have your say

Got questions? national-student-survey-coordinator@open.ac.uk

NSS landing page: https://community.open.ac.uk/your-voice