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Getting started with your studies



University of the
West of England

This is yourUWE.

A look at the top things you need to know before you start your course.

Each week until you join us, we'll send you information on a different topic to help you get ready to start your course.

This week, it's an overview of some of the **academic** things that are useful to know before you get here.

Starting your course

What should I expect in my first week?

Your first week will be fun but full on! You'll meet lots of new people and there will be stacks of information to take in.

Your timetable and your [joining instructions](#) will tell you what course-related things you have during the first week. These sessions will give you a chance to meet your programme leader, who will outline the structure of the course.

You'll also get a chance to meet other people on your course. Remember, your induction session(s) are compulsory.

Timetables

Timetables go live on myUWE on **Wednesday 9 September** at 12:00 noon. Your timetable will show you all the sessions you need to attend for the academic year.

Who's who?

What are programme and module leaders?

Your programme leader is the academic member of staff who is responsible for the structure and organisation of your course. They're the person to talk to if you have questions about your course.

Module leaders are responsible for the structure and organisation of individual modules. If you're having trouble with a specific module, they're the people to talk to.

What is the role of my Academic Personal Tutor?

As a first year student you will have access to an [Academic Personal Tutor](#) (APT).

They're on hand to support your academic and personal development during your time here.

What and who are Student Reps?

[Student Reps](#) are run by the Students' Union and help you if you're having trouble with your course. You can talk to them and they'll work with academic and support staff to improve things if they're not quite right.

You can find out who your Student Rep is via [myUWE](#) - go to Courses and then Student Reps. If there's a * next to their name, it means you share a module with them.

What online resources will I be using?

myUWE

You've already used [myUWE](#) a bit to complete registration. Once you're here studying myUWE is where you can easily access a range of online services, including Blackboard, UWE e-mail, InfoHub and Library Services.

On your dashboard myUWE will tell you if you have unread emails and when your next coursework is due. You'll also see a news feed called 'Student Information' which will tell you important messages, Blackboard announcements and whether you have outstanding Library fines or books.

Blackboard

Blackboard is what we call a virtual learning environment - it's where your module leaders will upload module handbooks, lecture notes and other useful resources. You'll probably always access it through myUWE.

What else?

Academic regulations

The [academic regulations and procedures](#) are in place to make sure all students are treated fairly during their academic journey.

Academic Services has worked with the Students' Union to develop the [Academic Survival Guide](#), which will help you make sense of all the words and phrases that you'll hear and read over your academic career.

Term dates

Take a look at the [term dates](#) for the year ahead and make sure you don't book any holidays during the assessment periods!

Who can help?

Information Points

There are [Information Points](#) on every campus. If you have any questions that we don't cover - just ask. You can visit them, ring them on 0117 32 85678, email infopoint@uwe.ac.uk or tweet [@UWEBristol](#).

Follow us



[Information Points can help answer your questions >>](#)

Talk to us

These emails come from the Student Communications Team. If you have any feedback on our current communication channels or how you think they could be improved, please [contact us](#).

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Dynamic content

Glenside students:

Term dates

Check your programme handbooks for key dates for the academic year, including when teaching starts and when assessment and vacation periods are, as your term dates differ from the [standard university term dates](#).

Glenside students and Education students:

Complete your Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Occupational Health checks

If you are required to provide a DBS Disclosure and/or Occupational Health assessment as part of your offer to study with us, please complete your DBS application form and/or online health questionnaire as soon as you can.

If you haven't received your DBS certificate yet, don't worry - some can take longer to process. Just provide us with your copy of the Enhanced DBS Disclosure when you have it to help us to finalise your admission.

If you have any queries about this, please contact Admissions on 0117 32 83333 or [e-mail them](#).