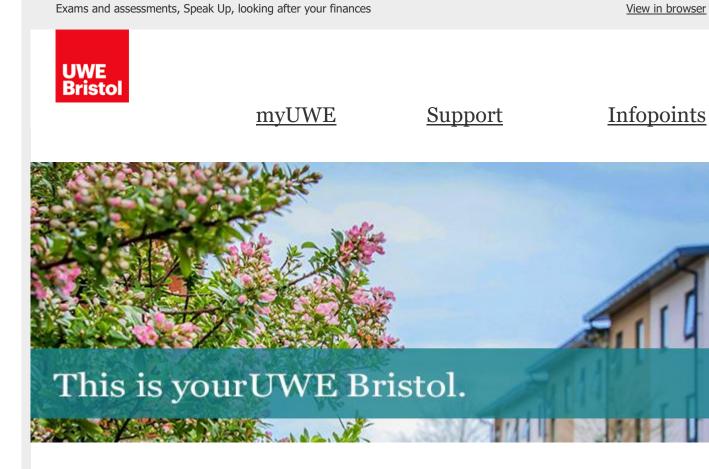
**Please note:** This is a copy of the newsletter sent to students. The formatting is a little different to the email version, due to the content being converted into a PDF. Dynamic content (content specific to Faculty/campus/level etc.) features at the end of this document but for students it's integrated into the body of the newsletter.



### We're still here to support you

We hope you are looking after yourself and keeping well in isolation.

In this edition, we'll give you guidance and information on exams and assessments, top tips on how to look after your finances during lockdown and advice on how to stay vigilant against fraudsters in these difficult times.

Remember to keep an eye on our <u>FAQs for students</u> - these are updated regularly and provide the latest coronavirus guidance.

# Exams and assessments

#### Submitting assessments

Please remember that you should allow plenty of time to submit assessments on Blackboard. You may find that it takes longer to upload than you think, so make sure you give yourself plenty of time. There is no 24 hour window for assessments for the remainder of the academic year.

#### Weighted average calendar

We've created a <u>calculator</u> that can be used to calculate your pre-coronavirus weighted average for your assessments. Any outcome that you calculate is based solely on your selection of marks.

#### **Five Working Day Extension requests**

We are processing a large number of Five Working Day Extension requests so please be patient. Here are a few key tips:

- You must submit your form before your submission deadline (by 14:00 on the day of your original deadline).
- You cannot use this process to request more time for exams, including online exams.
- Only make a request if you really need one. If approved and you have already submitted work, the original work will not be marked. You must submit again to the new extended deadline.
- You do not need to provide evidence. However, you must still have a valid reason and explain your situation on the form.
- If you require a resit relating to an assessment mark which had not yet been confirmed prior to Wednesday 18 March and you are not already capped, your resit mark will not be capped.

## Wellbeing support

We understand that this situation may be worrying - it's normal to feel anxious or scared. If you would like to speak to someone or you need advice or guidance, we have a range of support options available on our website.

Wellbeing support options

# The NHS Nightingale Hospital has officially opened

The Bristol Nightingale Hospital has been officially opened by HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex.

Work began three weeks ago to convert the Exhibition and Conference Centre into a 300-bed temporary hospital to provide hundreds of extra beds if local services need them. This facility has the potential to save lives and plays an important role in limiting the impact of Covid-19 in the South West.

Find out more

## The 60 second support series

Our 24/7 crisis textline have teamed up with <u>Heads Together</u> to create a new, innovative radio content series called 60 Second Support.

Everyday, a new episode will be released focusing on a different topic, offering millions of listeners practical tips and advice to help them better support their mental health during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Listen online

# Speak Up - domestic abuse

Our home is ever more important to us during lockdown. For most it will be a place of sanctuary, but there are some living in very difficult and perhaps unsafe situations.

Domestic abuse support services are working through lockdown and help is available. For guidance on how to access support during these difficult times, <u>read our advice online</u>.

# The University Health Centre is still open on campus

The University Health Centre is open for urgent medical problems - don't wait until after lockdown to contact the team if your issue is potentially serious.

Special measures are in place to protect patients, and contact will initially be made by phone.

Contact the Health Centre

### Beware of fraudsters

#### Look after your student loan

Fraudsters often target students around student finance loan instalments in September, January and April by sending out fake emails or texts. The Student Loans Company will never contact you to request banking or personal details by email or text. Be vigilant, and <u>send any suspicious emails to the SLC</u>. For more information, take a look at the <u>Government advice online</u>.

#### Be vigilant during the pandemic

Scammers are using the Covid-19 pandemic to scam the public – don't become a victim. Be mindful before sharing your personal information and if you're not sure if something is legitimate, check with a friend or family member first. Check <u>Gov.uk</u> for further advice and guidance.

# Help and guidance from the Student Money Service

The Student Money Service has provided guidance covering all funding related queries, including information about your student loan, the UWE Bursary, placements and finance, and tuition fees.

Take a look at our guidance on fees and funding page for more information.



### Best cover song competition

We've missed hearing our students and staff play during lockdown, so the Centre for Music put together a best cover song competition, celebrating music making at home!

You can watch highlights from brilliant performances online.

### Scars: how our wounds make us who we are

'Scars', a new short film produced for The Guardian in association with the University's Centre for Appearance Research, has been released.

Directed and produced by Rebecca LLoyd Evans and Laura Dodsworth, it features the unique stories of five people, discussing how their scars changed how they see the world, and how the world sees them.

Watch the short film online

## Looking after your finances during lockdown

#### Check if you're eligible to have lost earnings replaced

The Government are offering 80% cover of income (up to £2,500 per month) until June 2020 if an employee is unable to work because of Covid-19. Many students are being told they are not eligible for the scheme when they actually are - check your eligibility and speak to your employer if you think you should be receiving support.

#### Don't ignore financial commitments

It is important to keep in contact with people or organisations you currently owe money to. You must let all parties know of reduced payments or non-payments in advance, and try to agree on an alternative plan in writing. Take a look at Money Advice Service for tips and advice.

Keep in touch with your landlord and utility providers to keep them up to date. Shelter has provided a helpful guide on how to negotiate rent reductions online.

#### Improve your financial education and resilience

As a UWE Bristol student, you have free access to Blackbullion - an easy to use online learning platform, designed to help you develop your money skills. Sign up using your university email address.

#### Learn money saving tips

If you're looking for tips on how to save money during these tough times, visit Money Saving Expert. MOT your finances and register for the regular newsletter for advice and guidance, and information about your consumer rights.





News What's on



EVAN BOTWOOD VP Societies and Communication



# CHECK OUT OUR VIRTUAL SESSIONS

We've been working on a timetable of activities you can do from the comfort of your own home. Sessions include a range of activities led by us, your Presidents Team, which will not only be fun but may also help you get involved in a new hobby!

We've got 'learn a dance move' with me, Q&A with Evan, alternative ways to make money with Jane, all things wellbeing with Ubong and Yoga with Josh.

And that's just the start of it, we'll also have sessions with some of our sports clubs and societies. Keep an eye out on our social media (TheSUatUWE), tune into the sessions and get ready for some fun!

#### Check out the timetable

# THE ADVICE TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU!

We know that the exam period can be a stressful time, especially this year with you having to adapt to studying from home and taking your exams online. Now more than ever, it's important that you reach out if you are in need of some support.

The Students' Union Advice Team is here to support you during this time. They're available via email between **10:00-16:00**, Monday-Friday, to help with a range of queries.

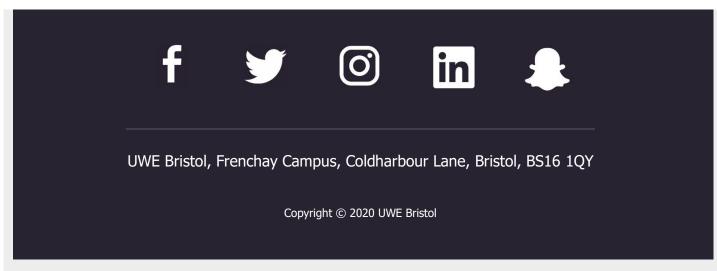
We will also be sharing some tips to help you relax during the exam period on our social media, so make sure you're following us!

Contact the advice team

Quick links myUWE Academic advice Study support Term dates

### Get in touch

infopoint@uwe.ac.uk +44 (0)117 32 85678 More contact options



As a student you'll receive emails from the Student Communications Team. We promise not to overwhelm you and we'll only <u>send</u> you things that are relevant. You'll get a regular newsletter and some targeted communications. If you unsubscribe you'll miss important emails. <u>Contact us</u> if you have any questions.

#### **Dynamic content**

Level 0, 1, 2

# Don't forget to apply for your student finance 2020/21

Apply for your funding for next academic year and don't forget to ask your parents to declare their financial information if you are under 25 and classed as a dependent.

If you are married or over 25 and live with a partner, then your partner will need to declare their financial information.

Apply online

Level 3

### Are you in your final year?

To make your transition from university as easy as possible, we've created a helpful final year checklist to make sure you've done everything you need to.

In particular, please check that your personal email address is correct as important emails from the University may go to this address once you have left.

Final year checklist

# Do you need support from the Global team?

The Global Student Support team is here to answer your questions!

Every **Thursday from 08:00-8:30**, the team will be on hand to answer any queries you may have. So, why not catch up with the team and the students online?

Join the conversation

# The Global Cafe is still here!

You can still meet and chat with old friends and new, every Thursday from 14:30.

Each week we'll be discussing a new topic, so why not get involved? Just remember to check that your microphone is working before logging on.

Join the conversation

#### Discounted tuition fee scam

International students are being approached in-person and through WeChat by fraudsters offering to 'pay on their behalf' for discounted tuition fees. They pay student fees to the University using stolen credit cards, and ask students to reimburse the money through WeChat Pay. The University does not receive the fees, so the student has to pay for their tuition twice – once to the fraudsters and once to the University.

Only pay tuition fees directly to the University and never through a third-party.

Healthcare

## Travel and dual accommodation expenses

Healthcare students eligible to claim for reimbursement of placement expenses from the NHSBSA can continue to submit their completed TDAE claim forms <u>via email</u>. Please do not post your completed claim form as all staff are currently working remotely from home.

Please note that we are only accepting TDAE claim forms sent in a single PDF document. Scanned copies of other supporting evidence such as receipts/invoices can be sent in as a separate attachment.

Submit your TDAE claim form