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.

**Preparation for Block Zero**

With Block Zero just around the corner, this is your last chance to get set up with your IT equipment at home.

If you're ready to go, why not read our guidance on how to make the most of online learning.

**What to expect from Block Zero**

Block Zero is designed to support your transition back into university education and help you develop the skills you need to be adaptable and flexible in this ever-changing world.

More information about what's on offer will be available to you on Blackboard, but in the meantime have a look at the Block Zero webpages to find out more.

How Block Zero works >
Get registered!

Registering online will enable you to hit the ground running when term starts. So if you haven't already registered, do it now!

Need a reminder on how to do it? Watch Chloe's video or read our step by step guide.

Resit results

Resit results are due out this Wednesday, 16 September. If you don't pass all of your resits, don't panic.

Our Student Support Advisers are currently selecting your suite of modules for the coming year, and you will see them on your Teaching Block 1 timetable in due course.

Certificates for final years

Due to coronavirus, your certificates will be posted out to your home address (not term time address).

If you need to update your home address, please do so before the results publication date.

You can do so on your myUWE account.

Familiarise yourself with key technology

During Block Zero, you will use a number of different programmes and software designed to make online learning engaging and easy!
Take some time to explore the Microsoft Office 365 suite and go through our new Microsoft Teams online workbook, to make sure you are ready to connect with course mates and staff.

**Returning to campus**

For most of you Block Zero will be completely online and you'll only start coming on to campus when your course teaching starts.

We've put a number of safety measures in place on campus to keep you safe, but in order to reduce the possible spread of coronavirus, we must all take personal responsibility for our actions.

To make sure you know what's expected of you, we've created some advice and guidance on returning to campus.

Teaching Block 1 timetables

Your teaching timetable is due to be released in myUWE in October ahead of Teaching Block 1. In light of the need for ongoing social distancing, we've made a number of adjustments to the University's teaching timetable. When your timetable goes live, please check that it's showing the modules you were expecting to take.

If you find that your timetable doesn't facilitate your reasonable adjustments or carer commitments, you will be able to request a change. Details of how to request a change will be available when your timetable is published.

**Don't get caught out by fraudsters**

Whilst your maintenance loan provides you with the necessary cash flow for everyday living, it also makes you a possible target for fraudsters.

Unfortunately scammers know that come September, thousands of students receive their loan and we see a big increase in phishing emails.

But there are ways to protect yourself. Watch Student Finance England's video on how to spot a scam for more information.
When will I get my student finance?

Student finance will start being paid out on **Monday 21 September** - but you might get it after this date. Just make sure you've completed your application for student finance and check that you're fully registered with UWE Bristol.

This will mean there shouldn't be much of a delay in you getting your money. So if it doesn't show up on Monday, don't worry!

Academic attendance and engagement systems

We want to make sure your time with us is happy, healthy and successful. And research indicates that the more you are involved in your educational experience, the better you do.

That's why we're introducing MyAttendance, a system which allows you to record your attendance at face-to-face teaching sessions.

Find out more >

WELCOME EVENTS

Your university experience is getting off to a slightly different start this year, but at The Students’ Union, we’re here to help you adapt to the new normal. During September and October, we'll have a range of virtual and physical Welcome events to help you get back into the swing of university life and connect with other students.

Our Virtual Freshers' Fair is on **Friday 9 October** and while we may not be coming to you in our normal style, that doesn't mean that you won't get the chance to get involved. We'll still have our sports clubs, we'll still have our societies, and, yes, we will still have freebies.
As a student you’ll receive emails from the Student Communications Team. We promise not to overwhelm you and we’ll only send you things that are relevant. You’ll get a regular newsletter and some targeted communications. If you unsubscribe you’ll miss important emails. Contact us if you have any questions.

Dynamic content

Please note:

Degree Apprenticeship students are not taking part in Block Zero and therefore did not receive any Block Zero content.

A big welcome back from your faculty!

We're delighted to welcome you to the start of the new academic year.

We've planned a full programme of activity for you in Block Zero to help support you in preparing to study with us this year.
You should all be immensely proud of yourselves and we hope the next year is filled with great experiences, new friends and lots of fun along the way.

A big welcome back from your faculty!

We really want to support you to do well this year against a backdrop of some uncertainty. Please connect with communications from the University and from your course about preparing to participate in all the learning opportunities ahead of you.

We have some exciting offers this year such as the Transnational Humanities series you can dip into to learn more about Bristol and its arts, cultures and history.

We care deeply about your experience and ask that you let your Programme Leader, tutors and course reps know if you have any concerns about how your course is being organised.

We wish you all the best.

A big welcome back from your faculty!

The staff in Bristol Business School and Bristol Law School are delighted to welcome you to the start of the new academic year.

You should all be immensely proud of yourselves, particularly with the additional pressures that we've all faced this year. We hope the next year is filled with great experiences, new friends and lots of fun along the way.

We've planned a full programme of activity for you in Block Zero to help support you in preparing to study with us this year. This is supported by our Welcome Guide to help you understand your learning environment, what you can expect of us and what we expect of you. You will be able to access a copy of this guide on BlackBoard.

A big welcome back from your faculty!

You should all be immensely proud of yourselves, particularly with the additional pressures that we've all faced this year. We hope the next year is filled with great experiences, new friends and lots of fun along the way.
Spotlight on research: These pages fall like ash

Tom Abba, Associate Professor in Art & Design, launched the second edition of 'These Pages Fall Like Ash' this summer. This groundbreaking work merges a physical book and an interdependent digital layer of story, and operates anywhere in the world.

At the time of writing, over 200 copies have been distributed in Europe, the Americas, Australia and Asia.

Centre of gravity exhibition

Centre of Gravity is a new and innovative project bringing together the contemporary visual arts communities of Bristol and Bath.

Containing work from academic and technical staff, as well as recent graduates from the School of Art and Design, the exhibition will run from Friday 2 October - Sunday 1 November in Soapworks, at the former Gardiner Haskins store near Bristol Temple Meads Station.

NHS common rooms

In partnership with NHS Practitioner Health, NHS England have developed virtual staff common rooms for final year students and colleagues across the NHS and ambulance sector.

The common rooms are safe and supportive spaces to stay mentally well, by reflecting on your experiences and sharing frustrations and issues caused by the pandemic.

Hosted by an experienced and approved practitioner, the confidential sessions will last one hour, come with no costs associated and will have a maximum of ten participants.
Can I change my modules?

Depending on the way the teaching is delivered, and the numbers of students who can be accommodated safely in each teaching space, changing modules may be possible on some programmes, for example, where there is less on-campus teaching in specialist spaces.

Safety is our first priority, so we will prioritise requests for changes relating to reasonable adjustments or carer commitments, and then facilitate other requests only where it is safe to do so. Details of how to request a change will be available when your timetable is published.