

FRESHERS

2023

Study Tips

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Event and Meet-Up Host

Explore StudentHome

- Can be found under the “StudentHome” tab. It is your personal page, where you can see and update your personal details and access your study record.
- Difference between the Personal Identifier (PI-number) and the Open University Computer Username (OUCU).
- Under “Tools”, see “Office 365” and under “Links”, see “How to sign up to Microsoft 365 Account”.
- Difference between “StudentHome” and “Study Home”.

Explore StudentHome

- If your module has books, you will see “Study materials despatch dates”. There, you will see when the books have been sent.
- Contact details for your tutor and your Student Support Team are available on StudentHome. There is also a “Contact the OU” button at the top right of the page.
- Online TMA/EMA service through StudentHome.
- Booking tutorials through StudentHome.

Explore Study Home

- Can be found under the “Study” tab.
- Look through all the different tabs next to “Study Home”.
- The study planner for your module can be accessed by clicking on “Go to module website”.
- You can personalise “Your dashboard” and add links useful to you.

Explore the Library

- Can be found under the “Library” tab.
- Start with “Get started”. This will give you an overview of the Library and the resources available.
- “Training and events” tab.
- Training sessions are available throughout the year. Recordings are also available.

Explore the Library

- Under the “Library Resources” tab, there is “Selected resources for your study” on the right.
- There, you can select your study and this will take you to all the resources and databases available specifically for your study.
- On the right-hand side, you will also see “Dictionaries, thesauri and encyclopaedias”.
- Under the “Help and Support” tab, there is “Referencing and plagiarism” on the right. There, you will find plenty of information on these topics.

Some helpful links

- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/getting-started-with-the-online-library>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/training-and-events/introduction-to-library-services>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/training-and-events/online-training-sessions>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/training-and-events/using-library-search-for-your-assignment>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/training-and-events/the-why-and-how-of-referencing>
- <https://www.open.ac.uk/library/referencing-and-plagiarism>

Explore the Help Centre

- <https://help.open.ac.uk/>
- Can be found under the “Help Centre” tab, but also via “StudentHome” under “Services”.
- There is plenty of information available here.
- Start with “Induction”:
<https://help.open.ac.uk/browse/induction>
- You don’t need to check all the topics at the start of your studies, as there are lots of resources available. You can refer back to the Help Centre throughout your studies.

Study techniques

- Study area
- Put deadlines in your calendar
- Study at your own pace
- Do not procrastinate
- Study in chunks (Pomodoro technique)
- Eat the frog first

Some helpful links

- <https://help.open.ac.uk/time-management-skills>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/planning-and-prioritising>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/distractions-and-procrastination>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/finding-a-place-to-study>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/plan-your-time>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/falling-behind>

Study tips

- Take notes
- When reading the module material, keep in mind the TMA questions
- Attend tutorials
- Ask your tutor for help
- Special circumstances
- Student Support Team

Some helpful links

- <https://help.open.ac.uk/browse/study-skills>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/notetaking-techniques>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/making-notes-online>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/making-the-most-of-tutorials>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/tutor-support>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/what-is-a-student-support-team>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/browse/assessments-and-exams>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/extension-to-assignment-deadline>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/special-circumstances-assignments>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/special-circumstances-exams-or-emas>
- <https://help.open.ac.uk/contact>

Interact with other students

- Make use of the forums
 - OU forums: <https://help.open.ac.uk/forums>
 - OUSA forums: <https://learn1.open.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=100061>
 - OUSA Community Forum:
<https://learn1.open.ac.uk/mod/forumng/view.php?id=7837>
 - OUSA Regional Forums:
<https://learn1.open.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=100061&cmid=7856>
- Social media policies
 - <https://help.open.ac.uk/using-instant-messaging-and-social-media>
- Join your Faculty's Society, if your Faculty has one
 - <https://www.oustudents.com/get-involved/clubs-and-societies/full-list-of-societies/>

Look after yourself – Support is available

- <https://help.open.ac.uk/browse/mental-health-wellbeing-and-welfare/mental-health-and-wellbeing>
- <https://www.oustudents.com/support-and-advice/>
 - TalkCampus
 - Shout 85258
 - OU Wellbeing app
 - Disabled Students Group (DSG)
 - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Students Group
 - OU Pride (LGBTQI+ Group)
 - Student Advice and Representation
 - OU Students Educational Trust (Ouset)
 - Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)

Get involved with the OU Students Association

- Every OU student is automatically a member of the OU Students Association
- Attend events
- Join a Club
- Volunteer with the Association
- Sign up for a newsletter
- Read articles in the online magazine The Hoot.
Why not write an article yourself?

Some helpful links

- OU Students Association
 - <https://www.oustudents.com/>
 - <https://www.oustudents.com/whats-on/events-listing/>
 - <https://www.oustudents.com/get-involved/volunteer/>
 - <https://www.oustudents.com/sign-up-for-news/>
- Student Hub Live:
<https://studenthublive.open.ac.uk/>
- Student Voice & Student Consultation:
<https://community.open.ac.uk/student-voice>
- <https://community.open.ac.uk/how-we-listen/consultation>

Don't panic
Enjoy your studies!
You can do it!



Thank you for attending this session!

Get in touch with Isabelle via

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or via the forums

