

**Your studies**

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**  
**ESSEX BUSINESS**  
**SCHOOL**

**Undergraduate student handbook (Colchester Campus)**

**2016–2017**



University of Essex

**ESSEX BUSINESS SCHOOL**  
**Undergraduate Departmental Handbook 2016-17**  
**Colchester Campus**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **WELCOME**



I am delighted that you have been able to join us at Essex Business School, either at our splendid new building at Colchester or at our state of the art teaching facilities in the Forum Building in Southend.

Although we have grown substantially in recent years, we remain a mid-sized business school, enabling a very much more personalised learning experience than is often the case for business and management degrees.

We have a very strong research reputation, and are increasingly promoting research with impact, studies that have proven relevance in the real world, of interest and value not only to firms, but also to those wishing to master the practice of management.

Looking forward to meeting with you.

Professor Geoffrey Wood  
Dean of Essex Business School

## **About your Student Handbook**

This handbook has been designed to give you essential information about Essex Business School and the University.

Other sources of information are available to help you at [www.essex.ac.uk/myessex](http://www.essex.ac.uk/myessex). Our friendly departmental staff are here to help and you can find their contact details in this handbook.

Remember that at Essex, we don't separate our students and academic staff, or our professional services staff from our alumni. Everyone is a member of our community for life. Our three uniquely intimate campuses encourage an inter-weaving of people, ideas and disciplines. We celebrate diversity and challenge inequality. Whatever your background, race or sexual orientation, you are part of a vibrant community that lives, learns and plays together.

# Contents

## 1. Important dates

- 1.1 Term dates, calendar and academic week numbers
- 1.2 Timetables
- 1.3 Study Leave
- 1.4 The myEssex Student Portal

## 2. About Essex Business School

- 2.1 Details of academic staff/GTAs including contact details and office hours
- 2.2 Details of administrative staff
- 2.3 University resources including the library and computer labs
- 2.4 EBS Student Services opening hours and office location
- 2.5 Details of departmental support such as personal tutor, peer mentoring, academic skills support and careers and employability support
- 2.6 Departmental policy on the use of smart phones, laptops, tablets, dictionaries, calculators
- 2.7 Details of how the department will communicate with students
- 2.8 Departmental prizes

## 3. Learning and Teaching

- 3.1 Learning and teaching methods
- 3.2 What Essex Business School expects from its students and what students can expect from Essex Business School
- 3.3 Information about Moodle and FASER
- 3.4 Course structures and learning outcomes, programme specifications
- 3.5 Changing your degree and maximum period of study
- 3.6 Information about modules including: choices, core, optional, enrolling for modules, the location of the directory, reading lists, changing modules, changing your class.
- 3.7 Listen Again
- 3.8 Accreditation
- 3.9 Essex Abroad, terms abroad and opportunities
- 3.10 Placement information and the employability module
- 3.11 Summary of how the department offers an inclusive learning experience, ensures the quality of opportunities and responds to the diverse needs of students
  - 3.11.1 Information for disabled student
  - 3.11.2 Information for International students
  - 3.11.3 Information for mature and part-time students
- 3.12 Student representation, Student Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC), Student Assessment of Modules and Teaching (SAMT), student surveys
- 3.13 Library services
- 3.14 Attendance monitoring (Count-me-in) and absence from sessions

## 4. Assessment

- 4.1 Rules of assessment
- 4.2 Extenuating circumstances, withdrawing and intermitting
- 4.3 Re-marking of coursework
- 4.4 Moderation, second marking policies, external examiners
- 4.5 Appeals, complaints and fitness to practice
- 4.6 Academic offenses policy cross reference with 7
- 4.7 Ethics

## 5. Coursework

- 5.1 Assignment and essay length
- 5.2 Coursework submission details and deadlines
- 5.3 Details of samples of coursework
- 5.4 Return of coursework policy
- 5.5 Late coursework policy
- 5.6 Essay writing support
- 5.7 Anonymous marking policy

- 5.8 EBS Marking Scheme
- 5.9 Reassessment in coursework
- 5.10 Referencing in coursework

## **6. Exams**

- 6.1 Examination regulations
- 6.2 Access to exam scripts
- 6.3 Departmental policy on the use of dictionaries/calculators
- 6.4 General information about summer exams and exam results
- 6.5 Anonymous marking policy in examinations
- 6.6 Reassessment in examinations
- 6.7 Referencing in examinations

## **7. Referencing and good academic practice**

- 7.1 Statement on why good academic practice is part of scholarship and why it is important at Essex
- 7.2 Information about where to seek guidance on referencing
- 7.3 The University Academic Offence Procedure

## **8. Practicalities: Getting Started and IT Matters**

- 8.1 Registration, enrolling and transcripts
- 8.2 Find Your Way and room numbering system
- 8.3 IT support, wifi, email account, free MS office, computer labs, m:drive
- 8.4 Tier 4 students
- 8.5 On campus facilities
- 8.6 Graduation

## **9. Skills, Employability and Experience**

- 9.1 Employability and Careers Centre
- 9.2 Learning Languages at Essex
- 9.3 Talent Development Centre
- 9.4 Career Hub
- 9.5 Frontrunners
- 9.6 Student Ambassadors
- 9.7 Volunteering
- 9.8 Big Essex Award
- 9.9 Essex Interns

## **10. You Matter: Health, Welfare, Support and Safety**

- 10.1 Student services hub, including contacts for disability, SpLD support
- 10.2 Wellbeing, counselling and confidential issues
- 10.3 Harassment advisory network dignity and respect
- 10.4 Faith groups
- 10.5 Nightline
- 10.6 Health and safety on campus
- 10.7 Residence Life
- 10.8 Health Centre
- 10.9 Student Union Advice Centre
- 10.10 University Privacy Statement

## **11. The Essex Experience**

- 11.1 The Essex Student Charter
- 11.2 Freedom of speech policy and the Code of Conduct – Terms and conditions apply booklet
- 11.3 Essex Spirit, social media and What's on?
- 11.4 Students' Union
- 11.5 Alumni
- 11.6 What comes next.
- 11.7 Hear

## **12. Useful Additional Information**

# 1. IMPORTANT DATES

## 1.1 Term Dates and Academic Week Numbers

### 2016-2017

Autumn term	10 October 2016 – 16 December 2016
Spring term	16 January 2017 – 24 March 2017
Summer term	24 April 2017 – 30 June 2017

### 2017-2018

Autumn term	5 October 2017 – 15 December 2017
Spring term	15 January 2018 – 23 March 2018
Summer term	23 April 2018 – 29 June 2018

Details of the academic week numbers for 2016 / 2017 can be found at <http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/timetables.aspx>

## 1.2 Timetables

You will be able to access your personal timetable via myEssex.

The department timetable can be viewed at <http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/timetables.aspx>

## 1.3 STUDY LEAVE

If you wish to contact a member of academic staff, please check Moodle information pages for details of their office hours to find out their availability, in case they are on study leave.

## 1.4 The myEssex Student Portal

myEssex is your online account. Use it to see your timetable, keep your personal details up-to-date, see how you're doing on your course, let us know if you'll miss a lecture or class, contact the Student Services Hub and much more. <https://www.essex.ac.uk/myessex/>

## 2. ABOUT ESSEX BUSINESS SCHOOL

### 2.1 Details of Academic Staff / GTAs Including Contact Detail and Office Hours

Essex Business School is located on two different campuses and is organised into four broad subject areas:

#### **Colchester Campus**

Accounting, Finance, and Management, Marketing and Organisation

#### **Southend Campus**

Management Science and Entrepreneurship

Our staff are based on both campuses. When contacting staff be sure to check where they are located.

**Academic Staff and Graduate Teaching Assistants/GTAs: please check UG Moodle Information pages for details of their office hours to find out their availability.**

See 12. Useful Additional Information – using office hours

Each member of Academic staff has an individual profile webpage that contains contact information and their research interests. The profile pages can be viewed by following this link:

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/ebs/staff/academic/> .

#### **Who to go to if you need help**

If you have any queries relating to Essex Business School or your programme of study, please contact the EBS Student Services team on [ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk)

#### **Need to talk to your tutor?**

All members of the teaching team have **Office Hours**. Office hours are used to give personal feedback on your work and to discuss general progress. Some lecturers prefer students to make appointments, others have drop-in office hours. You can find this information on the EBS UG Information Moodle page.

#### **Staff research interests**

The University of Essex is among the top 10 UK universities (out of a total of 136 UK universities) for research and the top rated UK University for social sciences. 95% of staff in the Essex Business School conduct research which is recognised by the academic community as being of 'high international quality'.

Much of the research is focused on issues of practical and policy relevance with an emphasis on critical analysis. Within the School, research is organized around four groups. The research of the Accounting group focuses on professional accounting and auditing practice and regulation, as well as on the social dynamics of pronouncements of accounting through political, governmental and legal organizations. Other research within this group concerns accounting history and accounting practice in developing economies.

The Finance group is concerned with the research aimed at understanding financial processes and the development of practical but theoretically informed perspectives on financial problems. Staff within this group are pursuing research interests in four broad areas: the theory of asset pricing; financial econometrics and empirical finance; behavioural finance and banking.

The Management, Marketing and Organisation group applies leading edge critical scholarship to the understanding of organizational processes, and the development of practical but theoretically informed perspectives on organizational problems. Management Studies is approached as an important form of critical social inquiry rather than simply a vocational field.

The Management Science and Entrepreneurship Group supports research into marketing, entrepreneurship and innovation and global strategy and provides a focus on various aspects of new

venture creation, innovative growth and the impact of entrepreneurship on regional economic development.

You can find out more about our research interests and detailed staff profiles by following this link.

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/ebs/staff/academic/default.aspx>

## Your School contacts

### Programme Directors

Programme Directors have overall responsibility for a degree programme and as such have an overview of the programme's modules. They are responsible for monitoring student progress and addressing any problems both staff or students may have. They offer supervision, advice and support to the students.

UG Programme Director for Accounting – Dr Pik Liew – [Pik's profile](#)

UG Programme Director for Finance – Dr Liya Shen [Liya's profile](#) Dr Chiara Banti Autumn only–

UG Programme Director for Management – Dr Simon Carmel – [Simon's profile](#)

UG Programme Director for Management Science and Entrepreneurship –

Dr Jun Li [Jun's Profile](#) and Dr Kholoud Mohsen [Kholoud's Profile](#)

### Module Leaders

Module Leaders are responsible for the individual modules, which make up programmes. Module leaders are responsible for coordinating the teaching team who deliver the module. They design the modules, teach them and examine them. They monitor attendance and student progress and talk to students about any academic issues related to their particular module. The first year UG Module Leaders are:

BE100 – Module Leader – Dr Stuart Manson - [Stuart's Profile](#)

BE300 – Module Leader – Prof Claudia Girardone - [Claudia's Profile](#)

BE400 – Module Leader – Dr Simon Carmel - [Simon's Profile](#)

EC100 – Module Leader – Prof Sule Alan – [Sule's Profile](#) / Dr Yair Antler

**Details of Second and Final Year modules and Module Leaders are available on the module directory [www.essex.ac.uk/modules/default.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/modules/default.aspx)**

### Director of Education

Prof Andrew Wood is the EBS Director of Education and has oversight of all matters related to education within the School. [Andrew's Profile](#)

## 2.2 Details of Administrative Staff

### EBS Student Services Team

The EBS Student Services Team deals with all matters relating to your Undergraduate programme. They are located in the reception area in the EBS building.

## 2.3 University Resources Including The Library and Computer Labs

### Library services

Our Albert Sloman Library on Square 5 is here to help and support you throughout your studies. Our library has long opening hours and is open for 24 hours a day in the weeks leading up to exam time. We provide access to a wide range of learning resources, including books, journals, British and foreign-language newspapers, databases, microfilms and audio-visual materials. With a variety of silent and group study areas, as well as access to networked PCs on all floors, our library offers a pleasant and safe environment in which you can work. For more information, pick up a copy of the library guide at registration.

[www.essex.ac.uk/dsh/library](http://www.essex.ac.uk/dsh/library) E [libline@essex.ac.uk](mailto:libline@essex.ac.uk)

Our subject librarian is: Sandy Macmillan  [amacmi](mailto:amacmi)  3181

### Computer labs

Need to use a computer on campus? We have more than 600 Windows-based computers on our Colchester Campus for you to use for study or work related tasks. Located within 17 computer labs across campus, including in the Albert Sloman Library and the Silberrad Student Centre. Many stay open until late and some are open for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For computer lab locations, opening hours and real-time availability please visit: [www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/labs/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/labs/)

### Group study pods

Need to work collaboratively? Our IT-rich group study pods provide an ideal setting for encouraging creative team-working among groups of students. Group study pods are open access and are first-come first-served; they can't be pre-booked. There are several study pods on our Colchester Campus, including pods in the Silberrad Student Centre and the EBS building, to find one go to: [www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/pods/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/pods/).

## 2.4 EBS Student Services Opening Hours and Office Location

You can contact the EBS Student Services team by email: [ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk) or by visiting the Student Services desk in the Essex Business School next to Bonds Cafe – see opening times below:

### Our location

Colchester Campus  
Essex Business School  
University of Essex  
Wivenhoe Park  
Colchester CO4 3SQ

General enquiries: [ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk)

Pre-registration programme enquiries: [ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebshelp-col@essex.ac.uk)

Website: [www.essex.ac.uk/ebs](http://www.essex.ac.uk/ebs)

Term time Opening Hours	
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	8.30am – 5.30pm
Friday	8.30am – 5.00pm
Vacation Opening Hours	
Monday – Friday	9.00am – 4.00pm

Subject to matters beyond our control

## 2.5 Details of Departmental Support Such as Personal Tutor and Peer Mentoring

### Your Personal Tutor

All undergraduate students have a Personal Tutor who you'll meet soon after you arrive. You will then be scheduled to meet with your personal tutor throughout your studies via the BE916 module on your timetable. You can also see your personal tutor outside of this module time by making an individual appointment. Your Personal Tutor is there to help you feel connected to your school, and is someone you can talk to if you have questions about your course or any difficulties which affect your studies. Your Personal Tutor may also recommend other support services on campus that might be able to help. If you're unsure who your Personal Tutor is, please ask a member of the EBS Student Services Team or look at your MyEssex page.

To help you make the most of the feedback you receive on your coursework, it's important that you make an appointment to see your Personal Tutor each term. You should take all your marked coursework and feedback sheets from the previous term to get guidance on how to improve your grades. You should keep a portfolio of all your feedback across the different modules you attend to help you identify any areas which consistently contribute to loss of marks. Advice and guidance from your Personal Tutor / the EBS Learning Team can help you improve your skills in these areas.



## Your Peer Mentor

All first year students are assigned a peer mentor. Peer mentors are experienced EBS students and are a point of contact to help you adapt to university life. Peer Mentors can help you with information about university life such as: using the library, student facilities and services, how to make the best of your 1<sup>st</sup> year, how to get involved in university social life and how to use FASER.

## EBS Learning Team

Bev Jackson and Samer Gharib provide support for all students at the school. You can use this support to have a general discussion on study skills to help you with your programme, to talk through any difficulties you are experiencing or for feedback on your coursework and advice on how to improve your grades. You can make an appointment for a one-to-one tutorial. The team also runs a series of practical skills development sessions to help students with their studies. You'll receive regular emails with details of the development sessions that are scheduled. You can contact the team on [esblearn@essex.ac.uk](mailto:esblearn@essex.ac.uk) or 01206 872314 or you can also find study skills resources on Moodle on the EBS Student Resources page. [Bev's Profile / Samer's Profile](#)

## Academic Services Manager and Officer

Joanna Partner is the administrator with responsibility for the academic services team within our School. [Joanna's Profile](#).

Jamie Tuxford is the Academic Services Officer within our school. [Jamie's profile](#)

## Placements Manager

Vicki Doughty, the Placements Manager at EBS is part of a wider faculty employability team which provides career, placements and internships, and graduate recruitment advice. Vicki works specifically with EBS students. You can see Vicki for help with placement and internship searches, application advice, preparation for interviews and assessment centres. You can contact Vicki on 01206 873855 or [vdoughty@essex.ac.uk](mailto:vdoughty@essex.ac.uk) You can also find materials and information on EBS-Work Placements Moodle page. [Vicki's Profile](#)

## SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR EBS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS – 1<sup>st</sup> YEAR

There is a range of support within EBS to help you successfully complete your degree and prepare for your future.

- **Welcome and Introduction to EBS**

An Introductory Welcome to EBS event takes place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October between 11 and 12.30pm in the EBS building.

This is followed by an important 2 day event to introduce you to the University, EBS and your degree programme. The EBS Welcome Week Events take place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

- **BE 901 Research and Study Skills for Professional Development**

A **compulsory** module which introduces you to the basics of research and study skills. There is also a weekly workshop that helps you to continue to develop your academic skills throughout the year.

- **Language Skills Development for International Students**

If you are an international student then you probably already have an English language certificate of proficiency such as IELTS or TOEFL. However, like most other British universities we require **all newly registered students whose first language is not English** to take a short English language test of our own. This provides us with a single, consistent measure of English language proficiency across the whole of our international student body. The test is short and informal.

**This is compulsory for ALL 1<sup>st</sup> year Undergraduate international students whose first language is not English.**

It's not a pass/fail test and the results do not affect entry to study. After taking the test, you are eligible to register for our free language support classes – SK305/SK325

## **Format**

The test has two components:

- i. a written paper where you must write a short essay in 45 minutes
- ii. an online test of English usage, for which you have 60 minutes

There is no need to prepare for the test, but if you would like to familiarise yourself with our computer-based test format then you can complete a practice at any time.

## **Results**

Your scores will be emailed to you within ten days, together with information on how to register for English language classes.

## **Test dates**

Colchester campus language skills testing sessions for EBS students will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October, with briefing sessions on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016.

## **Maths Skills Development SK080**

To help our students with the level of maths required for the finance module BE300.

EBS requires **ALL** newly registered 1<sup>st</sup> year students to take the University numeracy assessment. This provides us with a single, consistent measure of numeracy proficiency across our 1<sup>st</sup> year UG student body. The test is short and informal. It's not a pass/fail test and the results do not affect entry to study.

After taking the test, you are eligible to register for our free maths support classes which provide specific support for BE300 – Quantitative Methods and Finance.

## **Format**

The EBS numeracy assessment is an online test. The following calculators are permitted and will be required for some questions: Casio FX-83GT PLUS or the Casio FX-85GT PLUS. The test lasts 30 minutes and is in a Question mark Perception format, with a time limit in operation once the test begins.

## **Results**

Your scores will be emailed to you within ten days, together with information on the maths support classes.

## **Numeracy Assessment Dates**

Colchester campus testing sessions for EBS students will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

## **Academic Skills Development Workshops and Individual Support**

The EBS Learning Team, Bev Jackson and Samer Gharib, run weekly skills development workshops to help our students continue to develop their study skills. You can also make an appointment for a one-to-one tutorial. You can contact them on 01206 872314 or [ebsslearn@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebsslearn@essex.ac.uk).

You can also find study skills resources on Moodle on the EBS Student Resources page.

## **Examarama - Pre-exam Event**

An annual event providing advice and guidance to help you to prepare for your exams. This event takes place at the end of the spring term.

The EBS Student Resources Moodle page has a range of skills development materials to help you with your studies.

Support is also available through the centralised university support services. You can find more information in the *Useful Information* section of the handbook. The Talent Development Centre offers a range of support services to help students develop their academic skills. [Talent Development Centre Webpage](#)

## SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR EBS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS – 2<sup>nd</sup>/ 3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR

- **Welcome Back – How to get the best degree you can!**

An important event to introduce you to the next year of your degree programme and prepare you to do the best you can in the year ahead.

- **Academic Skills Development Workshops and Individual Support**

The EBS Learning Team, Bev Jackson and Samer Gharib, run weekly skills development workshops to help our students continue to develop their study skills. You can also make an appointment for a one-to-one tutorial. You can contact them on 01206 872314 or [ebblearn@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebblearn@essex.ac.uk). You can also find study skills resources on Moodle on the EBS Student Resources page.

- **BE910-5-SP: Successful Futures**

A compulsory module to raise your career awareness and help you understand what employers are looking for.

- **Examarama - Pre-exam Event**

An annual event providing advice and guidance to help you prepare for exams and graduation. This event takes place at the end of the spring term.

Support is also available through the University Talent Development Centre where you can attend study skills workshops, see an adviser for one-to-one academic advisor sessions.

For further information visit the TDC in the Silberrad Student Centre or email [tdc@essex.ac.uk](mailto:tdc@essex.ac.uk) or visit [Talent Development Centre](#)

## 2.6 Departmental Policy on the Use of Smart Phones, Laptops, Tablets, Dictionaries, Calculators

### Using mobile phones, smartphones, laptops and tablet PCs

EBS uses an Electronic Voting System (EVS) called ResponseWare, which turns your mobile device into a virtual clicker. ResponseWare allows you to respond in real time to interactive questions posed by your lecturer. The results of the vote are then shared anonymously with the entire group. You can download a ResponseWare App for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, or Android in the relevant online store. If you don't want to install the app on your device, you can also vote via the web at [www.rwpoll.com](http://www.rwpoll.com). A small number of handsets will be available during lectures for those students who do not have a suitable device. More information about ResponseWare can be found on the following website: [www.turningtechnologies.com/response-solutions/responseware](http://www.turningtechnologies.com/response-solutions/responseware).

As a courtesy to teaching staff and fellow students, you are expected to **NOT** receive or make phone calls or send text messages during lectures or seminars.

## 2.7 Details of How the Department Will Communicate With Students

### Correspondence and communication

We contact students in a variety of ways, including by email and post. It is a University requirement that you check your University e-mail at least once a day during term time. General information will be sent to your University email address not to your home or work email address. It is therefore very important that you check your University email account regularly. Please note that you can access your University email address from outside the University via your [myEssex](#) student portal. If necessary, you can have your University e-mail forwarded to an e-mail address of your choice. Refer to 9.3 in this handbook for more IT support information.

Email is a useful way to communicate with EBS staff, for both administration questions or questions about your modules and programme. This checklist will help you send more effective emails.

- Make sure you include your full name and registration number in all emails.
- Use an appropriate greeting such as Dear Andrew or Dear Dr Frandsen.
- Be polite and not too informal.
- Make sure you include the details of the module / programme you are referring to.
- Check your email to make sure it is clear, before you send it.

## Email guidance

As a student, you will be on a number of University email lists. Some are mandatory and reflect your current course, modules, department, year and so on. You cannot unsubscribe from these lists but they will primarily be used to send out important information relating to your studies. You will also automatically be subscribed to a small number of opt-out lists, again, based on your course. These will be used to send useful information and, while some of this may be about events, marketing or other opportunities, we try to avoid sending too much. To opt in or out of such lists, visit:

[www.essex.ac.uk/dsh/maillinglists](http://www.essex.ac.uk/dsh/maillinglists). We do not send out marketing information unless you have opted in to it.

University of Essex IT Services: [www.essex.ac.uk/it](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it)

## Social media



You can keep in touch with us informally through the EBS Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/EssexBusinessSchool](http://www.facebook.com/EssexBusinessSchool)



or follow us on Twitter @Essex\_EBS



and keep in touch with each other through the EBS UG Facebook group pages:

1<sup>st</sup> Year UG: [Essex Business School, 2016 enrolment](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Year UG: [Essex Business School, 2015 enrolment](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Year UG: [Essex Business School, 2014 enrolment](#)

## 2.8 Departmental Prizes

### EBS annual prizes

A number of annual prizes for excellent academic performances by students on our Degree Courses are donated by organizations with which the School has links, and by Essex Business School. Prizes are awarded at the graduation receptions after the Degree Ceremonies in July for final year students, and in autumn term for returning students.

## 3. LEARNING AND TEACHING

### 3.1 Learning and Teaching Methods

The University is committed to providing equal opportunities for all our students regardless of where or how you study. Our diverse student population is taken into account when developing the resources, services and facilities on and off campus, when we create our courses, write publications and course materials, and set our policies and regulations. Where appropriate, reasonable adjustments will be made for individual students to support them through their studies.

At Essex Business School our teaching methods include a combination of: lectures from our academic staff; guest speaker sessions; tutorials; class exercises, including discussion of case studies and journal articles; computer-based lab sessions. These formal, timetabled sessions provide the basis for your independent study – a key feature of university study. Independent study can take a variety of forms including background reading, preparation for classes, and preparation of and for your assessments. We provide a framework, for example in the form of questions and readings to be discussed at weekly or fortnightly tutorials, but it is your responsibility to structure your working week and manage your time. The skills that you develop from your independent study, including organisational and time management skills, are essential professional skills for your future careers.

One of the distinguishing features of our courses is that they all share a common first year (by campus) of taught modules. Therefore, before you enter your second year, you can opt for any of the accounting, finance, and management courses offered at Colchester, and any of the marketing and entrepreneurship courses offered at Southend, whether or not you were originally registered for that course. (You can only change to a course at your original campus).

#### Teaching timetable

Information about teaching timetables and your individual timetable can be found at [www.essex.ac.uk/students](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students).

### 3.2 What Essex Business School Expects From Its Students and What Students Can Expect From Essex Business School

#### Your progress

Our University is committed to excellence in education, and to supporting your progression and achievement as an Essex student. Regular monitoring of student attendance allows us to identify any students who may need guidance or support, to help them to succeed in their studies. Your engagement with your programme of study is primarily measured by attendance, and completion of, and performance in, assessments, as appropriate. We monitor attendance and will follow-up concerns about any student in accordance with the University's Progress Procedures at:

[www.essex.ac.uk/academic/docs/regs/progress.shtm#1](http://www.essex.ac.uk/academic/docs/regs/progress.shtm#1) As a student, if engagement in your studies, as measured by attendance and/or submission of assessed work, is unsatisfactory you'll be contacted and offered guidance and support. If your progress causes concerns you'll initially be contacted by your Personal Tutor, and then by the departmental progress officer. Where serious concerns persist, you may be referred to the Deputy Dean Education and your case formally considered by a Progress Committee.

### 3.3 Moodle and FASER

We use **Moodle** as our online learning environment, to enhance face-to-face teaching. It lets you get to course materials, and has built-in features to enhance learning such as discussion forums, chat facilities, quizzes, surveys, glossaries and wikis.

**FASER** is our **online coursework submission and feedback system**. Use it to submit your coursework electronically, produce a watermarked copy of your work and receive electronic feedback all in one place.

[faser.essex.ac.uk](http://faser.essex.ac.uk)  
[www.essex.ac.uk/it/elearning](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/elearning)

## 3.4 Course Structures and Learning Outcomes and Programme Specifications

### Course structures

#### Undergraduate degree courses UG Degree Courses

### Programme specifications

Programme Specifications provide key information, such as the structure and aims of your course, as well as the knowledge and skills you will develop. The relevant Programme Specification for your course and stage of study will be available to you when you log onto either myEssex or eNROL.

### Learning outcomes

The module's learning outcomes are set out in the Module Directory. They are categorised into knowledge, intellectual, practical and key skills. You can measure your progress against the outcomes, for example when reviewing coursework feedback, and they can be used to guide you when undertaking independent study. Full module outlines are available in the module directory [Undergraduate Modules](#)

### Credits

Each year of a three year degree consists of modules totalling 120 credits. Each module is worth either 15 or 30 credits. Single term modules are worth 15 credits while full year modules are typically worth 30 credits. Modules can be compulsory or core, in which case they are defined by your course programme, or they are optional and can be chosen from a list provided on eNROL.

### Module enrolment

New first year students receive module enrolment information during the summer vacation before they register and are required to enrol on-line before arriving at the University. At registration students will receive a confirmation of module enrolment for checking. Full module outlines are available in the module directory [Undergraduate Modules](#)

### Changing degree course

Students are permitted to change their degree course at the end of their 1<sup>st</sup> Year within Essex Business School. Degree course changes can be made via your myEssex, myessexadmin.

### Module choices for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students

Choice of options will be subject to satisfying any prerequisite requirements and approval of the appropriate programme director. Further information can be found on the module directory and eNROL.

Undergraduate students are required to enrol for modules annually. Continuing students receive module enrolment information at the beginning of the summer term. Students who need advice about their choice of modules, e.g. if they wish to take an optional module that is not normally available, should discuss this matter with the relevant Programme Director. Advice about the procedures relating to module enrolment or changes of module is available from the EBS Student Services desk in Essex Business School.

### **You should note that your choice of optional modules may be subject to timetabling constraints.**

It is essential that students complete module enrolment online and keep Essex Business School informed of any changes in their module enrolment since this forms the basis of their examination entry.

We also ask that you check your module enrolment form carefully to ensure that you have chosen the right number of modules and that the modules you have chosen are appropriate to your degree course and year of study.

Students can confirm the modules in which they are enrolled through the 'myStudy' channel on 'myEssex' at [www.essex.ac.uk/myessex](http://www.essex.ac.uk/myessex)

A specific request will be made to check this information during the autumn term.

Students are advised to attend the Pre Exam event with Undergraduate Programme Directors that will be scheduled during the Spring/Summer Term and will give full details of modules available.

### **EBS policy on language options**

In the case of second year options, students are normally allowed to take a language option of at least elementary level. In the case of third year options, students are normally allowed to take a language option of at least intermediate level.

### **EBS policy on outside options**

Students are not allowed to take more than 30 credits worth of outside options. The options may be chosen from other departments and are subject to the approval of your Programme Director.

### **EBS policy on third year students taking second year options**

Third year students may not take level 5 (second year) options. However, you can discuss this with your programme director as exceptions are possible in extreme circumstances.

### **Changing modules**

Students are permitted to change optional modules **only** up to the end of week 3 in the autumn term, and the end of week 17 in the spring term for spring term only modules. Students are not permitted to change modules that are compulsory for the degree course for which they are registered.

**Your choice of optional modules may be subject to timetabling constraints.**

### **Reading lists**

Please refer to the module directory and the module Moodle site for details of reading lists. You can access the university Moodle site once you have registered and have a University of Essex email account. [University Moodle Link](#)

### **Assessment**

Most modules are assessed by a combination of coursework and exams, some modules are coursework only. Information on how the coursework and exams are weighted can be found in the module directory [Module Directory](#)

Please see Section 5 for details of the assessment policies and regulations that apply to your course.

## **3.5 Changing Your Degree and Maximum Period of Study**

If you want to **change your course**, you should talk to someone in your department first. Check the deadlines for course changes with the Student Services Hub.

Investigate your potential new course by looking at course information on the department's web pages, talking to students on the course and speaking to tutors. You should also look at our Rules of Assessment for the new course to check whether there are any course-specific requirements.

If you are considering changing course due to academic worries with your current course, you might find it useful to seek academic support before changing. Contact the Talent Development Centre for advice.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc)

If you want to make a formal request for a course change, you should do so via the online Course Change form. Go to [www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/changing-course](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/changing-course) for more information.

Undergraduate students have a **maximum period in which to complete their studies**. This is set at the point at which you register, and is normally the length of your programme plus two additional years. This is to allow some flexibility in cases where you find you must intermit, or you fail a stage of study and must repeat it, or you want to transfer to a new course and must retake a stage of study.

## **3.6 Information about Modules Including: Choices, Core, Optional, Enrolling For Modules, the Location of the Directory, Reading Lists, Changing Modules, Changing Your Class**

### **Requesting a class change**

Students are automatically assigned to classes based on availability by the Central Timetabling Office and in the attempt to produce a clash free timetable for every student.

### **Reasons for requesting a class change.**

In special circumstances students may request a change in their class allocations – for example, if you have childcare or caring commitments, work commitments, attendance on other courses of study or for medical reasons. Permission to change to an alternative class or lecture is agreed at departmental or school level and the right is reserved to refuse permission to change. The above list is not exhaustive, and we understand there may be other genuine reasons for changes. Your School may ask for evidence to support your change of class request. Please note class change requests are subject to availability within other classes.

### **Changing optional modules**

By the start of your course or a new academic year, you will already have made an initial choice of modules. If you are in any doubt as to whether you have made the right choice, try to talk it over with your Personal Tutor or UG Programme Director. It is usually possible to change modules up to the end of the second week of the Autumn Term. If you are not sure which modules to take you could attend lectures for several different modules before making your final choice. For more information go to information on changing modules at the start of the academic year:

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/modules.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/modules.aspx)

## **3.7 Listen Again**

Did you miss something? Our Listen Again digital recording service lets you listen again to lectures so you grasp every detail. It's available in teaching rooms or lecture theatres where you see the sign.

[listenagain.essex.ac.uk](http://listenagain.essex.ac.uk)

## **3.8 Accreditation**

Students who successfully complete some of EBS' degree courses may be awarded some exemptions from the professional accounting examinations of some of the accountancy bodies

### **Module booklets for accreditation purposes**

All module booklets will be available on Moodle. These should be saved for the duration of your degree and thereafter as we cannot guarantee copies of previous years' module booklets will be held on record. Module booklets WILL be required if you are considering professional qualifications after your degree.

### **Students considering studying for professional accounting examinations on graduation from Essex**

For further details about obtaining exemptions from the professional accounting examinations please refer to the following two websites:

a) The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

<http://www.icaew.com/index.cfm?route=146395>

b) The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants' professional examinations - students are advised to read the ACCA's exemption policy for Essex on:

<http://www.accaglobal.com/gb/en/student/acca-qual-student-journey/exemptions.html>

c) The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

<http://www.cimaglobal.com/Study-with-us/Exemptions/Exemption-search/>

Please read the above websites carefully.



**Important Note:**

The exemptions granted to the University of Essex may be changed without notice.

You will only receive formal notification about your own exemptions when you graduate from Essex and register as a student member of one of the professional accounting bodies.

Please read the above websites carefully.

### 3.9 Essex Abroad, Terms Abroad and Opportunities

**Studying Abroad****Essex Abroad (outgoing students)**

The Essex Abroad team supports students who wish to undertake a period of study or work abroad as part of their degree. Support is offered before, during and after the experience.

The Essex Abroad team assists students with the administration of the programme offering you useful advice and assist you to begin your journey. Advice can be offered on how the programme works, financial support and information on where you can go. If you are considering this option as part of your degree, why not contact the team ([saoadmin@essex.ac.uk](mailto:saoadmin@essex.ac.uk)) and make an appointment to see an adviser.

The team work closely with your study abroad officer, the EBS study abroad officer is Martin Harris. ([martinh@essex.ac.uk](mailto:martinh@essex.ac.uk))

**Essex Abroad (incoming students)**

The Essex Abroad adviser that worked with you during your application to study at Essex is always available to offer you support and assistance. Things work a little differently for exchange/study abroad students (compared to degree-seeking students) so do not hesitate to contact your adviser or one of the team ([saoadmin@essex.ac.uk](mailto:saoadmin@essex.ac.uk)) if you have any questions.

Essex Abroad can be found on Square 2 (next to the Careers Centre) and is open Monday to Friday.

### 3.10 Placement Information and the Employability Module

**Placements**

EBS encourages its students to gain as much professional work experience as possible before you graduate. Many of our students take up opportunities of a “placement year”, which is a period of work experience embedded into your degree between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final year. Students need to gain over 50% in their first year to take part in a placement year programme. Vicki Doughty, EBS Placement Manager runs a series of workshops for students interested in placements. If you would like to register for a workshop or talk to Vicki you can contact her on 3855 or [vdoughty@essex.ac.uk](mailto:vdoughty@essex.ac.uk).

**Employability modules**

Colchester UG Students: take a compulsory module BE910: Successful Futures during their second year. This module will help you raise your career awareness, support you with your job search and support you through the various stages applications for jobs and further study.

**Employability skills**

The University's Employability and Careers Centre (E&CC) is based in square 2 on the Colchester Campus. They are open from 10am – 4pm, Monday to Friday. E&CC offer a wide range of support, from helping you decide what you want to do, to help with applications and CVs. Look out for their events at [www.essex.ac.uk/careers](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers).

**Further information relating to services provided by the Employability and Careers Centre can be found in section 9.**

**Student References for Post Graduate Study:**

Final year students can apply for references to support postgraduate applications. Your references will be written by your Personal Tutor who has been allocated to you based on the subject area of your degree course. You will also be allocated a 2<sup>nd</sup> reference writer.

Students are limited to a request of **5 universities** in the first instance and these choices will be approved by your Personal Tutor (so you should make your choices carefully). Your Personal Tutor will be notified if your attendance at classes is poor and will also be told of any late or non-submissions of coursework. If you subsequently decide to apply for more universities after the initial 5 you should meet with your Personal Tutor again.

The procedure for obtaining references is as follows:

- 1) Complete the EBS Reference Request Form which is available on the Undergraduate Information page on Moodle. On the form you will need to complete a brief personal statement and description of any extra-curricular activities you are involved in which will be seen by your Personal Tutor and second reference writer.  
**(NB This statement will NOT be seen by the University you are applying to – it will only be seen by your Personal Tutor/2<sup>nd</sup> reference writer to provide information that can be included in your reference.)**
- 2) Make an appointment to see your Personal Tutor. Take the completed EBS Reference Form and any coursework marks/feedback sheets for your final year. Once your University choices have been discussed with and approved and signed by your Personal Tutor, they will write your reference and either send it to you by e-mail for forwarding on, or they will complete an on-line application direct to the universities you have chosen.
- 3) You will be sent your references by your Personal Tutor when they are ready. It is the aim of Essex Business School to complete the reference process within 4 weeks of the date that the form is received. If it is an on-line application the reference will go directly to the Universities you have applied to.
- 4) If you require a second reference, your Personal Tutor will arrange this with the allocated 2<sup>nd</sup> reference writer. You do not need to contact the second reference writer.
- 5) You must contact and arrange to meet your Personal Tutor before nominating them to write your references, as they need to approve your choice of universities.

### **Student References – Jobs**

If you require a reference for a job application your Personal Tutor will also be able to write this for you. Please ask your tutor's permission first and then give their contact details to the employer. You can use the student reference form on Moodle as a guide to provide your Personal Tutor with relevant details to help them to write the reference.

### **Copies of references**

A copy of any reference provided will be retained within our School for no longer than three years for taught students. If a reference is retained beyond this timeframe, our School will seek explicit consent from the student concerned.

## 3.11 Summary of How the Department Offers an Inclusive Learning Experience, Ensures the Quality of Opportunities and Responds to the Diverse Needs of Students

### 3.11.1 Information for Disabled Students

We encourage all new students with a disability, long term medical condition, specific learning difficulty or mental health difficulty to disclose and register with the disability service as soon as possible when you arrive at Essex. This helps us plan how best to support you in your studies.

You can find out about the academic and learning support we offer here:

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/students/disability/>

UK students may be eligible for a Disabled Students' Allowance grant. Go here for more information including application forms and key changes for 2016-17

<https://www.essex.ac.uk/students/disability/funding.aspx>

### 3.11.2 Information for International Students

We are proud to be a global community and we recognise that living and studying in the UK may be very different from your own country.

Essex has a wide range of support covering academic and health and wellbeing issues. Our friendly and professional staff will be able to guide, give advice and assist you during your time at Essex.

You can find helpful information here - [www.essex.ac.uk/students/new/international/default](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/new/international/default).

If you are studying on a **Tier 4 visa**, don't forget to read section **8.4 Tier 4 Information** of this handbook which has further information and links.

### 3.11.3 Mature and Part-Time Students

As a mature student you'll be in very good company – around 37% of our students are mature students.

We appreciate that studying as a mature student can present challenges. This is particularly true if this is your first experience of higher education and you have other commitments and responsibilities to meet such as work and family. We want you to be aware of the support available so that you can make the most of your time at Essex.

You can find more information here: [www.essex.ac.uk/life/students/mature](http://www.essex.ac.uk/life/students/mature)

## 3.12 Student Representation, Student Staff Liaison Committee, Student Assessment of Modules and Teaching and Student Surveys

Student feedback is a vital part of the University's approach to quality assurance and enhancement. It is important that you are given the opportunity and that you take time to feedback to the University.

You can do this in a number of ways:

1. You can contact (or be elected as) a **student representative** who represent the voice of fellow students in departmental Student Staff Liaison Committees (SSLCs) and other University level committees.
2. You can find more information on the Students' Union website [www.essexstudent.com/representation/course reps/](http://www.essexstudent.com/representation/course reps/) and the University's policy here: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/student\\_representation/student\\_rep.asp](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/student_representation/student_rep.asp).
3. You can find out information about SSLCs here: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/student\\_representation/sslc.asp](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/student_representation/sslc.asp).

Every year, we will ask you to complete the **Student Assessment of Module and Teaching (SAMT)**. This survey will be summarised and discussed by SSLCs and will inform reports written by us for central University committees as part of our quality assurance processes.

**Student satisfaction surveys** enable the University to gauge overall satisfaction amongst students. When the results have been reviewed and analysed, the University can then enhance your experience of learning at Essex. You will probably be aware of the National Student Survey (NSS) for final year students which feeds into university league tables. We also run our own Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS) which tells us on a local level how we're doing and where we can make improvements. It's for all undergraduate students not covered by the NSS. The surveys are run online and you will receive a link to the survey in your email.

### 3.13 Library Services

At our Colchester Campus, the **Albert Sloman Library** on Square 5 has long opening hours and 24 hours a day access in the weeks leading up to exam time. A new extension opened in 2015 with a wide range of learning resources, including books, journals, British and foreign-language newspapers, databases, microfilms and audio-visual materials. There are quiet group study areas and networked PCs on all floors. [libwww.essex.ac.uk](http://libwww.essex.ac.uk)

### 3.14 Attendance Monitoring (Count-Me-In) and Absence from Sessions

Your attendance at lectures and classes has a significant impact on how successful you are in your studies. At Essex, we monitor attendance so we can identify students who may need guidance and support.

You'll need to **record your attendance** at teaching events using your registration card and the electronic reader in the teaching room. Just 'tap in' for every timetabled teaching event you attend. Your tap will count from 15mins before the start time and up to 15mins after the start time on your timetable.

**You should not tap in for someone who is not attending the class; and also you should not tap in if you then immediately leave the teaching event.** This is breaking the Student Code of Conduct and you could be fined.

Attending is especially important if you are here on a Tier 4 visa.

If you **lose your card** or it is **faulty**, go to the Student Services Hub to get a new card (a small fee is applicable for lost cards).

If you need to **report an absence** from a teaching event you should do so by completing the **notified absence** on MyEssex. We will consider the reasons and may record it as an **authorised absence**. Be aware that you may need to **provide evidence**, including medical evidence if relevant. Please see [www.essex.ac.uk/see/attendance](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/attendance) for acceptable reasons to be absent.

You will be able to **check your attendance record**, and notified absences on **MyEssex**. **We are introducing this by department during the year.**

Please contact your Personal Tutor, EBS Student Services or the Student Services Hub for advice and support, particularly if you are going to be absent for several weeks. For more information on attendance, and for links to forms and guidelines visit: [www.essex.ac.uk/see/attendance](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/attendance)

## 4. ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 Rules of Assessment

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/general/assess-rules.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/general/assess-rules.aspx)

**The Rules of Assessment** are the rules, principles and frameworks which the University uses to calculate your course progression and final results. These decisions are made by the Board of Examiners, which meets at the end of the Summer Term. The Board of Examiners use the Rules of Assessment to decide:

- whether you can be awarded credit for the modules you have studied
- whether you have done enough to move on to the next stage of your course
- whether you have done enough to pass your course
- what classification you will receive
- what reassessment you could be offered
- whether you must withdraw from your course, with or without an exit award

#### Exit Awards

If you decide to withdraw from your course before you finish, or you fail too many credits to be awarded a Bachelor's degree, you may be awarded a qualification at a lower level, if appropriate.

### 4.2 Extenuating Circumstances, withdrawing and intermitting

**Extenuating circumstances** are circumstances beyond your control which cause you to perform less well in your coursework or examinations than you might have expected. In general, extenuating circumstances will be of a medical or personal nature that affect you for any significant period of time and/or during the examination period.

You need to submit your form by the deadline, see: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ext-circ.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ext-circ.aspx)

You will **not** get extra marks if you hand in an extenuating circumstances form. Boards of Examiners use other methods to take into account extenuating circumstances, such as permitting further reassessment opportunities for uncapped marks.

**Please read the guidance on extenuating circumstances very carefully before submitting your form and evidence. Please seek advice from the Students' Union Advice Centre, [www.essexstudent.com/services/advice\\_centre/](http://www.essexstudent.com/services/advice_centre/), or the Student Services Hub, [www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/default.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/default.aspx), if you need any guidance.**

**Intermitting** is a temporary withdrawal or leave of absence from your studies. Normally this is for reasons beyond your control such as health or personal problems. An intermission is approved for a defined period of time after which you would return to your studies. This is a formal process which needs formal approval.

If you are thinking about intermitting, there are some practical things you need to consider such as academic issues, for example the impact on your module choices and maximum period of study, accommodation, financial matters including the impact on your tuition fees and visas if you have a student or Tier 4 visa.

If you decide to intermit you will no longer be entitled to attend tuition but you will still have access to your Essex email account which we will use to communicate with you and some library access.

Please see [www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/intermission](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/intermission) for guidance on intermission.

**You should read the guidance on intermitting very carefully before submitting your form, at: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/intermission](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/intermission). You are strongly advised to discuss intermitting with your department.**

You may experience doubts about continuing on your course at some point during your studies.

**Withdrawing from your course** is the formal process for permanently leaving your programme of study and the University. There are plenty of people at Essex who can provide you with information, advice, guidance and support to help you to make a decision that's right for you. For instance, you might find that taking a temporary break from your studies (intermitting) will enable you to resolve the current situation that is causing you to think about leaving. Also, please note that if you are thinking about withdrawing from the University, there are some practical things you need to consider: accommodation, financial matters including your tuition fees, visas if you have a student or Tier 4 visa, and careers advice. Who to contact for advice, the practical matters that you need to consider, your options, and the withdrawal process are all detailed here: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/withdrawing.aspx>

### 4.3 Re-Marking of Coursework

You have the right to request a re-mark of your coursework under certain circumstances which your department will advise you on. See also 5.8 EBS Marking Policy. You will need to complete the EBS remark of coursework form that you can find on Moodle PG information page or you can collect from the EBS Student Services desk. There is a **deadline of 14 calendar days** from when the coursework marks are made available to students. Please be aware that marks can go down as well as up. The mark you receive in this instance will be the final mark.

### 4.4 Moderation, Second Marking Policies and External Examiners

The University policy on **moderation** is part of the Marking Policy. When work is moderated, it means that a second member of academic staff takes a random sample of the work for a particular assessment and reviews the marks given. A moderator would not change the individual marks for the work, but would liaise with the first marker if he or she believed that the marks were not at the correct level, with a view to the first marker reviewing and adjusting the marking.

**Second marking** is where a second marker marks the work but has access to the first marker's marks and/or comments. Where two members of staff are involved in marking a piece of work, the markers should make every effort to agree a mark, rather than merely averaging the two marks. Departments must keep a full record of both individual and agreed marks for all work which is second or double marked.

**External Examiners** are usually academics from other universities but may be from industry, business or the profession depending on the requirements of the course. They give an impartial view of the course and independent advice to ensure that courses at the University meet the academic standards expected across UK higher education. External Examiners write reports on the courses and modules they are responsible for which are made available to you via your department. You can find the name and institution of the External Examiner for your course and modules by looking on the Programme Specifications Catalogue and the Module Directory. You can find out more about how the University uses External Examiners at: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/external\\_examiners](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/external_examiners)

**Please note: you may not contact External Examiners directly under any circumstances.** If you have any concerns about the quality and standards of your course, please contact your student rep, Personal Tutor, Head of Department or the Students' Union.

### 4.5 Appeals and Complaints

#### Academic Appeals Procedure

[www.essex.ac.uk/see/appeals-ug](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/appeals-ug)

Following the release of your end of year results, you are eligible to submit a formal appeal against the **progress decision** of the Board of Examiners that have made the decision regarding your academic progress. Formal appeals can take up to 6 weeks to be considered, however, if you are not in the final year of your programme of study, you can "Consult the Dean" before submitting a formal appeal. The Dean can take action and change the original progress decision, and can also consider requests from students who want to repeat the year rather than take reassessment across the summer. Please visit the

Appeals webpage for information regarding the deadline by which you must “Consult the Dean” and/or submit your formal appeal by.

As with all appeals, you would be required to provide any relevant evidence that substantiate your claims. The main legitimate grounds for appeal are any extenuating circumstances that you could not make the Board of Examiners’ aware of in advance, or procedural irregularities in the conduct of the Board of Examiners (including alleged administrative error) of such a nature as to cause reasonable doubt as to whether the result might have been different had they not occurred. Other grounds will be considered on their merits but **you may not appeal against academic judgement**. This means that you can’t appeal against the marks you have been given by a Board of Examiners without evidence of extenuating circumstances or procedural irregularity.

The Appeals Procedure gives examples of grounds for appeal which are not considered legitimate. You should read these before submitting an appeal. You may also appeal against the outcome of academic offences committees and progress committees under certain circumstances.

**We strongly advise all students thinking about making an appeal to contact the Students’ Union Advice Centre. Please visit [www.essexstudent.com/advice](http://www.essexstudent.com/advice) for more information.**

#### **The Complaints Procedure:**

The University is a large community engaged in many activities, both academic and non-academic. If you feel dissatisfied with some aspect of your dealings with the University, it is important that the issue is dealt with constructively and as quickly as possible without risk of disadvantage or recrimination. You can find the complaints procedure and the forms here: [www.essex.ac.uk/see/complaints](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/complaints)

## **4.6 Academic Offences Policy**

[www.essex.ac.uk/see/academic-offence](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/academic-offence)

All students are expected to behave with honesty and integrity in relation to coursework, examinations and other assessed work. If you do not do so, you may be found to have committed an academic offence. The University takes academic offences very seriously.

Academic offences can include plagiarism, false authorship, collusion, falsifying data or evidence, unethical research behaviour and cheating in an examination (this list is not exhaustive). Academic offences can be committed as a result of negligence, meaning that you may be found guilty of an academic offence even if you didn’t intend to commit one.

It is your responsibility to make yourself aware of the Academic Offences Procedure, the regulations governing examinations, and how to correctly reference and cite the work of others. If you aren’t sure what referencing system you should use, you should ask your department and also refer to **8:**

**Referencing and good academic practice** in this handbook.

If an allegation of an academic offence is made against you, we strongly advise contacting the Students’ Union Advice Centre. Please visit [www.essexstudent.com/advice](http://www.essexstudent.com/advice) for more information.

## **4.7 Ethics**

All research involving human participants, whether undertaken by the University's staff or students, must undergo an ethics review and ethical approval must be obtained before it commences. You can find our Guidelines for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants here - [www.essex.ac.uk/reo/governance/human.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/reo/governance/human.aspx) - along with the Ethical Approval application form.

‘Human participants’ are defined as including living human beings, human beings who have recently died (cadavers, human remains and body parts), embryos and fetuses, human tissue and bodily fluids, and personal data and records (such as, but not restricted to medical, genetic, financial, personnel, criminal or administrative records and test results including scholastic achievements).’

## 5. COURSEWORK

A wide range of methods are used through coursework to assess your progress within the module.

### 5.1 Assignment and Essay Length

Guidance is provided by Module Leaders and questions relating to coursework are posted on Moodle.

### 5.2 Coursework Submission Details (Including Faser) and Deadlines

All coursework must be uploaded and submitted to the University's online coursework submission system FASER - available at: <http://FASER.essex.ac.uk/>.

*The deadline for online submission is 9:00am on the date stipulated.*

**You must make sure that you are familiar with this process in advance of the deadline. Guidance on how to upload your work is available through the submission system.**

\*\*On occasion students may be requested to submit a watermarked hard copy of their work to the EBS Student Services Desk. In this instance you will be informed of the process and time scales involved.

#### Assignments and deadlines

Dates by which you must submit your coursework will be published on FASER. You are strongly advised to regularly check FASER and the relevant module Moodle information page as hand in dates can be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances

### 5.3 Details of Samples of Coursework

Coursework can include: essays, individual and group presentations, in-class tests, portfolios, reports, group case studies, literature reviews etc.

### 5.4 Return of Coursework Policy

Marked assignments can be collected from the EBS Student Service Desk in the EBS Building or via FASER – this will depend on the module. Students will be emailed by a member of the Academic Services team when their marked coursework is available for them to collect. **Coursework must be collected by each individual student and only when the student presents their registration card.**

It is the aim of the Essex Business School to return coursework and test marks to students within four weeks (not including bank holidays and religious festivals, or periods when the University is closed) of the date of submission. Note: In case of any delays, academic staff will advise students via Moodle.

### 5.5 Late Coursework Policy

#### Undergraduate coursework deadline policy

We have a single policy at the University of Essex for the late submission of coursework in Undergraduate courses: All coursework submitted after the deadline will receive a mark of zero. No extensions will be granted. A student submitting coursework late will have the University's and department's arrangements for late submission drawn to their attention. The policy states that the mark of zero shall stand unless you submit satisfactory evidence of extenuating circumstances that indicate that you were unable to submit the work by the deadline. More information about late submission of coursework is available by following this link [Coursework Deadline Policy](#)

#### Late submission of coursework committee

Essex Business School has a Late Submission of Coursework Committee which will meet at least 3 times during the year. It will deal with claims of Late Submission for work which was not submitted by a deadline for reasons beyond your control. You make such a claim by submitting a Late Submission of



Coursework form. The Committee will decide whether your work should be marked and whether that mark will count towards your formal assessment (which means the mark will be reinstated). The School will advise you of the outcome. It is important to note that you use this form to request reinstatement of your marks on the basis of circumstances which directly prevented you from handing in your work by the deadline.

**Forms are automatically rejected if no evidence to support your claim is provided. If you have requested medical documentation to support your claim for late submission but it has not been received by the date of the Late Submission of Coursework Committee, your claim will be kept as pending for a further two weeks. If the evidence is still not received after two weeks, a mark of zero will be awarded.**

**You are advised to refer to the link below when considering your late submission claim. It provides useful guidance about how to submit a claim [Late Submission Guidelines](#)**

Students should submit one hard copy of the Late Submission of Coursework form to the EBS Student Services desk with documented evidence within a maximum 7 days of the original deadline. Any coursework being submitted late should also be uploaded to FASER within 7 days of the original submission date.

Further Information and separate guidelines are available for undergraduates regarding claiming extenuating circumstances. These are available via the Registry webpages. [Extenuating Circumstances Guidelines](#)

## 5.6 Essay Writing Support

### Guidelines on How to Write Assignments

In order to help you to develop your skills in writing assignments we have summarised below some of the key points underlying effective academic writing. The points mentioned below will help you to answer your assignment and exam questions appropriately and also to refine your communication skills to advance your career after graduating.

#### 1. Read the question carefully

Make sure you understand exactly what the question is asking you to do. Pay attention to requirements like 'assess', 'describe' and 'compare'. Clarify all the key terms and concepts used, and note the scope of the question. It is a good idea to underline the key words to constantly remind you what the assignment is about. As you develop your answer, keep returning to the underlined words and ask yourself, "Have I answered the question"? "Does my answer relate to the question"? If not, then review what you are doing.

#### 2. Take time in constructing your answer

Your central aim in answering any question is to bring together what you see as the key points and issues in a clear and coherent way. So it is worth spending time identifying these and then linking them together as effectively as possible. Try noting down your ideas and then ordering them in what you see as the most logical way. You need an overall plan before starting the essay. Without a plan your essay will end up being a jumbled collection of random sentences and will not get good marks.

#### 3. Indicate the theories which you think are relevant

Throughout each module you study you will be introduced to the views of a variety of authors who are experts in their fields. Frequently, they will have competing views. One reason for this is that they see the world differently. It will be helpful to indicate in your work how you see things before moving on to any detailed analysis, arguments and evidence. Of course you know how you see things and what ideas you find attractive, but the examiners and markers do not know this. You need to tell them so that they can see things from your perspective(s). The theories which you choose to mention should be drawn from the ideas introduced on the module and elsewhere.

#### 4. Wherever possible support your ideas with well- chosen examples

- Be selective and only choose illustrative examples that are relevant to your points. Limit the amount of scene setting and background to case studies, unless such background is asked for specifically in the question. As a general rule, try not to let your examples 'take over' the whole essay.

- Try to support your points with more than one example. We do not expect you to cover every relevant example, but it is important not to focus on single examples which could lead to sweeping generalisations. It is better to use a range of examples (two or three, say) to provide more solid support for your argument.
- Try to use examples from a range of sources and module components. Make full use of the module material, additional reading and relevant stories in the news (if you have not previously started a file of current news, now is a good time to do so). We hope you will also draw on your own experience and on other sources, although this is not essential.

## **5. Give some thought to matters of general presentation**

- Check that you have communicated your ideas effectively. This means thinking about sentence construction and grammar. Make sure that your sentences are simple and easy to follow. This means using paragraphs to mark changes in focus and not simply as arbitrary divisions. It also means linking together your paragraphs so that the reader can follow your line of argument. Remember that anything which makes the reader stop or go back over part of the assignment risks breaking up its 'flow'.
- All good answers should have a clear structure. At the very least, they must include an introduction, discussion and conclusion. The first and the last are both key elements of any answer and serve a range of functions. The introduction should be used to clarify and define the scope of the question, and to set out your plans. You should indicate how your answer is organised. The conclusion provides an opportunity to draw together and summarise your arguments in a way that directly addresses the question. It also gives you a chance to reach a clear conclusion of your own, if you have not done so already. Your answers should always be analytical - i.e. analysing the debates and issues in terms of concepts and theories and the contribution they make to our understanding of the world – not just descriptive. We are not asking you to say who said what and when, although you might produce short quotations from relevant authors to support your analytical point.
- A good essay also engages with counter-arguments. So give some thought to what critiques and criticisms may be made against your conclusions, evidence and theories. Briefly indicate the way you might respond to your critics.
- Have a look at the structure of the papers written by academics. Articles can be found in numerous journals in the library. Many will be on your reading lists. Take a look and note how they have been put together.
- Assignments should include a title page and a complete list of references. All quotations should include page numbers and be attributed to works in the list of references.

You should check that your written work meets this key criteria:

- Answering the question
- Producing a coherent, clear argument and analysis
- Clearly demonstrating knowledge, reading and evidence
- Clearly demonstrating a critical ability
- Writing coherently
- Providing clear frameworks, structures and signposts

## **Referencing**

Drawing on the wide range of reading you do around your subject area, and demonstrating how you have used this to develop your knowledge and form your own views, is a key aspect of your coursework. It's essential that you reference your source materials so it's clear where the information has come from, and to avoid any misunderstanding over whether you are presenting ideas as your own. Please refer to the section on academic offences in Section 4 of this handbook for information on referencing and where to seek advice. You can find more detailed information about referencing on page 51 of this handbook.

**Support is available to help you develop your essay writing skills from the EBS Learning Team you can contact them on: [ebblearn@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ebblearn@essex.ac.uk). We also have a useful Moodle page – EBS Student Resources.**

### **Groupwork and performance**

Information is provided by the relevant Module Leader.

### **In-class tests**

Please make sure that you arrive in plenty of time for the 'in class' tests.

Where assessment takes the form of an in-class test, any student missing the test will receive a mark of zero. If you are unable to attend a test (due to illness for example) you should submit a Late Submission of Coursework Form to the EBS Student Services Desk in Essex Business School.

### **Poor performance in tests**

There are no re-sit tests for the purpose of improving test marks. Students who do not perform well in a test can contact lecturers/class teachers for advice about how to improve their performance for subsequent assessments. The overall marks are obtained using the weighted marks awarded for the coursework items. If a student performs badly in one item of coursework assessment, it is still possible to obtain 40% overall for the coursework assessment, if the student has scored higher in another item of coursework assessment.

## **5.7 Anonymous Marking in Coursework Policy**

Effective feedback helps students to understand the mark given for a particular piece of work, and helps students to reflect on their own learning and to achieve better marks in future pieces of work. A variety of methods of providing feedback are used across the University, and departments chose the most appropriate for their courses and modules. The University does not have an institution-wide approach to anonymous marking in coursework. Departments decide whether to use anonymous marking in coursework or not.

This department does not operate a system of anonymous marking. We believe that marking provides an important point of contact with the student, through which individualised and personal forms of encouragement and involvement can be fostered. We believe that the quality of formative feedback is enhanced when the marker knows the student, and current work can be seen in the context of earlier assignments and classroom interactions. The comments we provide in coursework seek to encourage students in areas where they have done well and to highlight what they could do better. We take great care to mark fairly and effectively and we feel strongly that our ability to do this is improved through knowing our students.

**If you take optional modules outside your main department, you should make sure you are aware of the policy on whether coursework is marked anonymously or not, and how to submit coursework.**

## 5.8 EBS Marking Scheme

Essex Business School uses the following marking scheme for non-quantitative assessments. These grades will be used to mark coursework and student work within EBS. These grades will appear on your final transcript. These grades map onto a 20 point scale running from 95% to 0%.

GRADE	DEGREE CLASSIFICATION	CRITERIA
	<b>UG</b>	
<b>95%</b>	<b>First Class (1)</b>	<p>A First Class answer is an excellent, but not a perfect, answer and should reflect 'originality' of thought. Numerical answers will be expected to be complete and free of errors. A First Class answer should have the following features:</p> <p><b>Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly written, well organised and signposted.</li> <li>Very strong relevant structure; sections follow a logical order.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehensive coverage of issues in relation to question; wide reading.</li> <li>Outstanding and thorough understanding of a relevant range of literature.</li> </ul> <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creative and sophisticated theoretical analysis.</li> <li>An original and refreshing argument, something that surprises in the depth of analysis, knowledge and understanding.</li> <li>Displays unusual lines of argument that are well supported.</li> <li>Evidence of reflection and own analysis of the literature together with an ability to see how lessons learned could be applied to other contexts/examples.</li> <li>Critical evaluation of a wide range of material; may make reference to other relevant issues.</li> <li>Outstanding depth of discussion.</li> <li>Clearly original conclusion.</li> </ul>
<b>90%</b>		
<b>85%</b>		
<b>80%</b>		
<b>75%</b>		
<b>72%</b>		
<b>68%</b>	<b>Upper Second Class (2.1)</b>	<p>This is a very good answer, which demonstrates a good level of knowledge. However, does not necessarily show originality. Numerical answers will be complete and almost free of errors (excepting minor mistakes).</p> <p><b>Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly written, well organised and signposted.</li> <li>Well-structured; sections follow a logical order.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covers all the major issues and some minor ones.</li> <li>Successfully completes tasks and displays clear understanding of the main issues.</li> <li>Wide reading.</li> <li>Substantial coverage of relevant literature and comprehensive knowledge of topic; attempts to answer the question explicitly.</li> </ul> <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to describe and analyse issues in relation to the question.</li> <li>Thorough understanding and clear critical argument; directly addresses question.</li> <li>Critical discussion and presentation of an argument, or problem using material to illustrate points made. Showing evidence of an independent perspective, more than a literature summary.</li> <li>Critical commentary and clear conclusion. A certain degree of self-reflectiveness and attempt to contribute own thoughts.</li> </ul>
<b>65%</b>		
<b>62%</b>		

GRADE	DEGREE CLASSIFICATION	CRITERIA
	UG	
58%	Lower Second Class (2.2)	<p>A Lower Second answer commands a considerable amount of material but does not integrate it very well. Faithfully reproduces a large amount of what has been taught in class, but contributes little from independent reading or thinking.</p> <p><b>Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not very well expressed, just addresses question.</li> <li>• Poorly structured. Jumps from topic to topic without any clear structure or signposting. There is, some kind of order with references and introduction and conclusion.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completes most major tasks expected in question, but either too simplistic or lacking some co-ordination/structure.</li> <li>• Understanding of lecture material &amp; basic reading. Answers question adequately.</li> <li>• Reasonable coverage of relevant literature but the sources are not always fully referenced. Introduction of irrelevant material will lower grade to low 2:2.</li> </ul> <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Covers the basic reading, but summarises the literature rather than engages critically with it. Descriptive and lacking an analytic form.</li> <li>• Ability to grasp main issues, but not in any great depth.</li> <li>• Some understanding but lack of critical thought.</li> <li>• Descriptive rather than analytic focus.</li> </ul>
55%		
52%		
48%	Third Class (3)	<p>This is an acceptable but weak answer. Has some knowledge, but it tends to be superficial, incomplete, non-integrated or poorly understood. Numerical answers will be relatively complete but with some errors.</p> <p><b>Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poorly written and expressed.</li> <li>• Badly structured and lacks co-ordination. No introduction; Limited range of reading.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fails to address question or misses an important aspect of the question. Shows confusion but some basic knowledge and relevant discussion.</li> <li>• Poorly researched. Shows knowledge of the major issues, but mostly not strictly relevant to the question.</li> <li>• Poor or no reference to the literature; describes general theme of the question giving opinions without any organisation or substantiation.</li> <li>• Shows intelligence but little knowledge of the module.</li> </ul> <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major gaps in analysis.</li> <li>• Demonstrates no widespread knowledge or analytical grasp of issues.</li> <li>• Very superficial grasp of issues.</li> </ul> <p>Patchy knowledge of topic. Descriptive and sketchy in style of structure. Poor quantity as well as quality, but enough knowledge to achieve honours.</p>
45%		
42%		
36%	Fail	<p>A poor answer that neither meets key criteria nor provides an adequate level of work. Numerical answers will contain substantial errors or be incomplete. An attempt at an answer (for example, one that is clearly very rushed or barely coherent, or one that largely misses the point of the question) should normally not receive less than 20%. Marks below 20% would normally be appropriate for extremely brief and/or wildly inaccurate answers. Non-existent answers should receive a mark of zero.</p> <p><b>Structure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disorganised.</li> <li>• Poorly written. Random order of points.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coverage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fails to address question.</li> <li>• Reveals little or no evidence of familiarity with relevant literature.</li> </ul> <p><b>Analysis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Misunderstands question or does not make distinction between giving an answer to a question and including anything known on a topic.</li> <li>• Misunderstandings of concepts and major issues.</li> <li>• No argument.</li> <li>• Irrelevant or uninformed or "lazy" answers.</li> <li>• Assertive, unsubstantiated arguments.</li> <li>• Incoherent. Too short, given the time available. Incomplete.</li> <li>• Repetitive!</li> </ul>
30%		
24%		
12%		
0%		

## FAQ

### Which assignments will this apply to?

This system is applied to all non-ratio mark assignments. Any essay based questions, short answers, dissertations, presentations etc. that do not have a genuine ratio scale from 0-100.

It does not apply to multiple choice or quantitative assignments where there is a genuine ratio grade with marks out of a possible 100. In such cases the numerical mark remains as a percentage grade.

### What happens with second marking and remark requests?

As the University's regulations stipulate, second marking must involve a reconciliation of the two marks, not an arithmetic averaging of the marks. The same process applies where a student requests a remark.

## Marking in Essex Business School

### Return of marked coursework

All coursework feedback will be provided to students through FASER. You will be notified when feedback is available to be viewed.

It is the aim of the Essex Business School to return coursework and test marks to Students within four weeks (not including bank holidays and religious festivals, or periods when the University is closed) of the date of submission. Compulsory assessment handed in at the end of term should be returned at the start of the following term. Note: In case of any delays, academic staff will advise students by Moodle.

### Marking Policy and Moderation

The School takes great care to ensure marking is fair and consistent and has robust procedures in place to ensure this is the case. Exam papers are second marked and term-time assessments (coursework) are single marked, with marking standards overseen by the Education Committee and External Examiners. The primary purpose of the School's marking policy is to ensure fairness and consistency of marking both within assessment and across modules.

	Marking	Exceptions	Right to a re-mark
Individual coursework assignments including essays and in-class tests	Single marked	a) Moderation when marked by GTAs; staff in first year of UK HE; visiting lecturers; or a team of markers. b) Extreme mark distributions are reviewed by the respective Programme Director. This may lead to a moderation process or second marking c) For coursework weighted more than 40% all fails must be second-marked and a random sample (10%) must also be moderated.	Yes
Group work with permanent output (up to 25% of module)	Single marked		No
Presentations (up to 40% of module)	Single marked		Yes
Presentations (up to 40% of module)	Double marked		No
Dissertation	Second marked		No
Exams (Level 4)	Single marked	Fails must be second marked. A random sample of 10% to be moderated.	No
Exams (Levels 5, 6 & 7)	Second marked		No

## Procedures

**Single marking:** Single marking should be carried out by one of the lecturers who delivered the module. It is good practice for the marker to review the distribution of marks before returning scripts.

**Second marking:** This is where a second marker marks the work but has access to the first marker's marks and/or comments. Marks must be reconciled.

**Double marking:** This is where two markers mark the work independently. Marks must be reconciled.

### Marking presentations

All presentations (including presentations with permanent and non-permanent output) should be double marked by two members of staff. Only one of these members of staff may be a GTA or a new member of staff (in their first year of full-time HE). In the case of presentations, double marking involves two markers first marking the work independently, using an agreed mark sheet. In cases where extenuating circumstances prevent a student from making an assessed presentation or contributing to assessed group work, they should be advised to submit the appropriate supporting documentation to the relevant administrator. In such cases, alternative arrangements may be offered but this will be at the discretion of the Module Leader. In cases where there are no extenuating circumstances, but a student fails to attend a scheduled assessed presentation (without written permission to be absent from the Module Leader), or fails to make a contribution to assessed group work, s/he will be deemed not to have submitted that component of the assessment and will be awarded a zero mark..

**Moderation:** Moderation occurs when one person reviews the cohort of marks to ensure they are fair, accurate and consistent.

**Review of marks by Programme Directors:** Extreme distributions of marks shall be reviewed by the respective Programme Director who will decide whether there is a need for moderation.

### Student queries about marks

Written feedback is provided to students in the form of an individual feedback sheet (except exams and in-class tests), and generic feedback on Moodle. Students who have a query about a particular mark should consult both forms of feedback carefully in the first instance. If the student remains unclear, s/he should consult with the Module Leader for further feedback and clarification. Finally, students may in some cases be entitled to a re-mark (see table above).

Even though great care is taken in the marking process, we recognise that occasionally some students may feel their mark is below what they might have expected. Therefore in many instances we give students the right to request a coursework re-mark (see table for confirmation).

The procedure is as follows: Any request for a re-mark must be made within fourteen calendar days of the marked coursework being made available to all students concerned. Completed forms, together with the original coursework and feedback, must be submitted to EBS Student Services desk

In the first instance the student should notify the EBS Student Services team of their wish for a re-mark. In addition, it is advisable that the student seeks feedback from the Module Leader. If having consulted the Module Leader the student is still dissatisfied with the original mark, students should complete a request for re-mark form available from the EBS Student Services desk or EBS UG information page on Moodle.

When considering whether to request a re-mark, you should take into consideration that the mark awarded may be lower than the mark originally awarded, but the re-mark will be the final mark, irrespective of whether it is higher or lower than the original mark.

[www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university\\_policies/examination\\_and\\_assessment/marketing\\_policy/remark\\_&reconciliation\\_of\\_marks.asp](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/examination_and_assessment/marketing_policy/remark_&reconciliation_of_marks.asp)

Students should be aware that Extenuating Circumstances cannot be used in conjunction with the request for a re-mark.

## **5.9 Reassessment in Coursework**

You can find information relating to re-submitting coursework at: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/resits.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/resits.aspx)

Remember that reassessment in coursework (and examinations) carries a fee.

## **5.10 Referencing in Coursework**

Refer to Section 7



## 6. EXAMS

### 6.1 Examination Regulations

The General Regulations which govern examinations can be found via the website here [www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/affairs.aspx#exams](http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/affairs.aspx#exams).

Attendance at examinations is **compulsory**. For exams that are more than an hour long, you will not be allowed to enter the examination room if you arrive later than 55 minutes after the start of the exam. If your exam is only an hour long, you will only be admitted up to ten minutes after the start of the exam.

### 6.2 Access to Exam Scripts

If you want to see your exam script, you should normally make the request within four weeks after the exam to the department which is responsible for that module. The department should either: let you see the script in the presence of one of the staff responsible for teaching the module *or* give you a copy or summary of the examiners' comments on your performance. You can find further information about Assessment Policies for Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Awards at: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university\\_policies](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies)

### 6.3 Department Policy on the Use of Calculators and Dictionaries Calculators

If you are allowed to use a calculator in your examinations, the **only** models you are permitted to use are the **Casio FX-83GT PLUS** or the **Casio FX-85GT PLUS**.

#### Dictionaries

Dictionaries may only be used where the rubric of the examination paper permits that a dictionary of a specified type may be used by all the students taking the exam.

### 6.4 General Information about Summer Exams and Examination Results

You can find your personalised exam timetable online at: [www.essex.ac.uk/examtimes/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/examtimes/)

**You must bring your registration card and exam entry form with you to the exam.** You will not be allowed entry without them. Remember to check your exam entry form carefully and contact the Examinations Office if there are any errors.

You can download a guide to examinations, and watch a short video at [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/default](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/default)

You will receive an email to your Essex email account as soon as your results are published. You can find the publication schedule at: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/schedule](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/schedule)

### 6.5 Anonymous Marking Policy in Examinations

All formal examinations at the University of Essex are marked anonymously.

### 6.6 Reassessment in Examinations

You can find information relating to resitting exams at: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/resits](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/resits).

Remember that reassessment in examinations (and coursework) carries a fee.

**EBS reassessment strategy**

Reassessment of all modules is by exam only, including modules assessed by 100% coursework. The exception is some research modules which are reassessed by coursework.

Reassessment for each module is shown on the module directory and Moodle.

Where coursework mark is 40 or below, the resit exam is to be taken as aggregate.

Where coursework mark is higher than 40, coursework mark to stand and to be aggregated with resit exam mark.

Resit opportunities are offered to all students. These resits are compulsory for all years.

**6.7 Referencing in Examinations**

Your Programme Directors and Module Leaders will give you advice and guidance on referencing in your exams.

## 7. REFERENCING AND GOOD ACADEMIC PRACTICE

### 7.1 Statement on Why Good Academic Practice Is Part of Scholarship and Why It Is Important At Essex

Referencing is the system by which we acknowledge all sources used within a piece of work, either directly via quotes, or indirectly via paraphrasing and summarising. Referencing allows you to give credit to authors' concepts and ideas, demonstrate your breadth of reading and knowledge on a subject, direct readers to your sources, and avoid plagiarism. Respecting authorship through good academic practice is one of the key values of higher education in the UK.

You should always use the best available sources of evidence, such as peer reviewed journals and recognised books.

There are various systems of referencing, but the Harvard System of Referencing is the system that is widely used in many UK higher education institutions. This system uses an (Author's surname, Year) when citing in text, and full details of these references are then given at the end of the work in a reference list. The exact details that you have to include in your reference list depend on what type of document the source is – for example a book, a journal article, a report, a webpage. You can find details regarding exactly what to include in your reference list on the EBS Student Resources Moodle page. The purpose of the reference list is to make it easy for someone else to follow up and trace the materials which you have used. Without full references, your tutor may be led into thinking you are trying to take credit for someone else's work which is plagiarism.

Please seek advice from your Module Leader if you are unsure about the system of referencing required.

#### What is a reference list?

A reference list is a **single, alphabetical** list of ALL sources cited within your text, given at the back of EVERY assignment. The list is not numbered and you do NOT need separate lists for books, journals, web pages, pictures etc.

#### Example Reference List:

Brewster, C. (1994) *European HRM: Reflection of, or challenge to, the American concept?* London: Routledge.  
Boddy, D. (2011) *Management: An Introduction*. 5th ed. Harlow: Financial Times/ Prentice Hall.  
Colbert, B. A. (2004) The complex resource-based view: Implications for theory and practice in strategic human resource management. *Academy of Management Review*, vol. 29, pp. 341-358.  
Guest, D.E. (1987) Human resource management and industrial relations. *Journal of Management Studies*, vol. 24, no. 5, pp. 502-521.

#### What is a bibliography?

A bibliography is a list of sources that have influenced the author's work, but have not been cited within the text. A bibliography is rarely required.

#### Where do I find these details?

For books, details are usually found inside the front cover. Journal article details are often given under the abstract, or at the table of contents of the journal issue. For electronic journal articles, look at the top of the first page. For web pages, look at the top and bottom of the first page, the logos and, for the URL, in the address bar.

#### What is paraphrasing?

Paraphrasing is when you take some information from a source, and put it into your own words. You explain somebody's idea in your own words. Changing one or two words is not sufficient to correctly

paraphrase. You still need to reference where the information has come from, although you do not need to use quotation marks, or give a page number.

**Example:**

ORIGINAL LOWE AND COOK (2003) TEXT:

Going to University is a challenging hurdle for most students but for others it is an intimidating leap into the unknown. The abrupt shift from the controlled environments of school or college and family to an environment in which the students are expected to accept personal responsibility for both academic and social aspects of their lives will create anxiety and distress, undermining their normal coping mechanisms. Some students will eventually cope simply by avoiding the challenge.

PARAPHRASED:

Starting University can be a challenge for many students as they move away from familiar environments at home and school/college, and as they take on more responsibility for their own learning, and well-being. This can cause anxiety and distress, and even withdrawal from programmes (Lowe and Cook 2003).

It is up to you how you word the sentence to include the reference citation. You should always try to place the citation as close to the element taken from that source, either at the start, within, or at the end of the sentence. For the above text, you could also use:

Lowe and Cook (2003) state that starting University can be a...

OR

In a recent study on University transition by Lowe and Cook (2003), it was seen that starting University

**What is quoting?**

Higher education students should be able to paraphrase sources to demonstrate their own understanding of a subject. However, if you read a section of text, and feel that it is best said in the original words (for example a well-used phrase, or important speech), you should present it as a direct quote. You **MUST** always give the page number where the quote was taken from within your reference citation. Direct quotes should be written within speech marks (to facilitate recognition by plagiarism software), and the page number should be given. Short quotes can be given within a sentence; longer quotes should be indented within the text, although the use of long quotes should be avoided where possible.

**What do I do if I have 2+ references by the same author?**

List the references in chronological order, oldest first.

**What does *et al* mean?**

*et al* means 'and others', and should be used ONLY in text, when citing sources with 3 or more authors/editors. ALL authors should be given in the reference list, even if they are numerous, in the order they appear in the original source.

**Example in text:**

Fergey *et al* (2008) argue that study skills weekends prepare students effectively for the first year of University study.

**In Reference list:**

Fergey S, Heatley S, Morgan G & Hodgson D. (2008) 'The impact of pre-entry study skills training programmes on students' first year experience in health and social care programmes' *Nurse Education in Practice* 8 (1): 20-30.

**Do I need to say which edition I used?**

Yes, this is very important in a reference list as editions vary in content, and page numbering. You should always write edition in full, to prevent confusion.

**Example:**

Boddy, D. (2011) *Management: An Introduction*. 5th ed. Harlow: Financial Times/ Prentice Hall.

**Do I need to include page numbers?**

You should include page numbers in your in-text citation for books, when you can indicate precisely on a page or pages the information you are using. Therefore, direct quotes from books should always include the page number. Use p for a single page and pp for a range of pages. You can also use a colon.

**Example:**

Shah (2002, p.33) indicates that ...  
Jones (2000, pp.17-20) disputes this claim  
Wheeler (2002:32) argues that .....

**What is secondary citation?**

Secondary citation (or indirect referencing) is when the source you are reading refers to, and references another source. If this information is important and you wish to use it, it is best practice to access the original source and read the information for yourself to check context and accuracy. Information on the source should be accessible via the reference list of the source you are currently reading.

If this is not possible, you should not really refer to the source, although if important, you can use secondary citation. In text, you would cite the original author (year), cited in the author you have read (year). In the list, you would only need to put the source you have actually accessed.

**Example in text:**

Illich (1981) refers to "shadow work" : tasks in society that were once the responsibility of extended families and close communities (Illich 1981, cited in Sherman and Judkins 1995 p.121)

**Example in Reference list:**

As you did **NOT** read Illich, you **cannot** list it. List what you have read, which is:  
Sherman, B. and Judkins, P. (1995) *Licensed to Work*. London: Cassell.

**Do I need to reference pictures/diagrams used in text?**

You should always cite and list ALL sources within your work, including any pictures/diagrams/graphs etc. taken from elsewhere.

**Can I use, and reference a tutor's lecture/handouts?**

It is NOT acceptable to directly reference information given in lectures/handouts. You should obtain the relevant reference from that tutor, and seek the material independently, to enhance understanding and allow you to use the information in the correct context etc.

**If I have accessed a source via the internet (i.e. a journal), how do I reference it?**

This is becoming more common, as many articles and resources are becoming available online. It is best to reference according to the version you have accessed, so be truthful. Check the Quick Guide for details.

**How can I make sure I've been consistent between my in-text citation and reference list?**

Software is available which stores, and manages your references, and can generate lists for you. Endnote software is installed in all the centralised computer labs. The University has agreed a reduced rate for students to purchase EndNote X, of between £72 and £75 (incl VAT) depending on which option you choose. You can get the software and/or more information about the institutional account from the [software catalogue](#). You will need to follow the instructions in the software catalogue and then enter your Essex username and password to purchase the software. However, there is still room for error with this software. You can also do this manually.

### **How do I reference electronic resources?**

Many resources are now available electronically and the same principles of referencing should be applied. That principle is that anyone reading the work should be able to locate a first-hand copy of the data sources to which reference is being made. As webpages can be moved/ removed, it is best practice to include the date you accessed and retrieved the data is required as well as the usual information. Check the Quick Guide for details.

### **Bibliography**

Anglia Ruskin University (2013) *Harvard System Online* at:

<http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm> [Accessed on: 21 August 2013]

The Open University (2012) *OU Harvard Guide to citing references* Online at:

[library.open.ac.uk/documents/Harvard\\_citation\\_hlp.doc](http://library.open.ac.uk/documents/Harvard_citation_hlp.doc) [Accessed on 21 August 2013]

Pears, R. (2013) *Cite it Right*. 9<sup>th</sup> Ed. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

## **7.2 Information about Where to Seek Guidance on Referencing, Including Links to the Relevant Referencing Scheme and Details of Any Support Sessions If Relevant**

Respecting authorship through good academic practice is one of the keys to academic integrity, and a key value of higher education in the United Kingdom.

The Talent Development Centre provides online courses and guides to help you fully understand what is required from you. You can find out about the full range of workshops and resources that are available to you by visiting [www.essex.ac.uk/see/tdc](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/tdc). You can also complete the online Academic Integrity course at [moodle.essex.ac.uk/course](http://moodle.essex.ac.uk/course).

You should read the sections of this handbook which refer to referencing, coursework and examinations very carefully. Failure to understand the academic conventions may result in you being found to have committed an academic offence (see section **4.6 Academic Offences Procedure**).

Remember, if you have any questions about referencing you can ask the EBS Learning Team or staff in the Talent Development Centre.

## **7.3 The University Academic Offences Policy**

Please see section 4.6 and remember that the Academic Offence Procedure applies to all students [www.essex.ac.uk/see/academic-offence](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/academic-offence)

## 8. PRACTICALITIES: GETTING STARTED AND IT MATTERS

### 8.1 Registration, Enrolling and Transcripts

All new and returning students must **register** at the start of each academic year. The full process for new students includes activating your student record for the academic year, getting your email account, gaining access to IT and library services, and enrolment on modules and confirming your contact details. As your studies draw to a close, once your exam board has met, it takes up to five working days for your results to be confirmed. The Assessment Team will publish your results and update your record. For graduating students, Degree Certificates will be provided by the Graduation Team either for collection at Graduation, or they will be sent afterwards for students who do not attend the Graduation event. For more about registration, visit our student webpages.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/new/registration](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/new/registration)

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/graduation/award-documents](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/graduation/award-documents)

#### Ordering important documents

Please use the Student Documentation Ordering System to order academic transcripts, award confirmation letters, bank letters, Certificate of Registration, Council Tax certificates and Degree certificates. It's online at: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/studentdocs/>

### 8.2 Find Your Way and Room Numbering System

Find Your Way is our interactive campus map app. Download it to help you find any location on campus and get directions quickly and easily. There's also a handy web version <http://findyourway.essex.ac.uk>

If you're looking for a specific room, follow these rules.

**If the room number has three parts and the first is alphabetical** eg TC.1.20 then the room is in one of the outer buildings. The format is building.floor.room. The first part indicates the building - "TC" is the Teaching Centre and "LH" is the Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall. The second part tells you the floor and the third the room number. For example, LH.1.12 is Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall, floor 1, room 12.

**If the number has three parts and the first contains numbers and letters** eg 5N.7.16, then the room is in square 4 or 5. The format is entrance.floor.room. The first part tells you the square and corner (eg 4S is the south corner of square 4), which matches the labels on the entrances (eg door 4NW is next to The Store). The second part is the floor and the third part the room. For example, 5NW.6.12 is in the north-west (NW) corner of Square 5 (entrance "5NW"), floor 6, room 12.

**If the number has two elements and the second element has three digits** eg 4.722, the room is in the Maths/Social Studies/Rab Butler/Square 1 building area. The first number shows the floor and the last three digits show the room number.

**Also...** if the last three digits are 700-799 the room is off Square 1, and if the last three digits are 500-599 the room is in the Square 2 area (Computer Science). For example, 5.512 is room 512, floor 5.

[www.essex.ac.uk/about/colchester/documents/location\\_of\\_teaching\\_rooms.pdf](http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/colchester/documents/location_of_teaching_rooms.pdf)

### 8.3 IT Support, Wifi, Email Account, Free Ms Office, Computer Labs, M:Drive

Visit our website to set up your **IT account and password**. Once you're set up, you can access email, log on to lab computers, connect to eduroam wi-fi and much more. [www.essex.ac.uk/it/getaccount](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/getaccount)

You must change your password within four weeks of starting, and then once every four months after that. The easiest way to **change your password** is online at: [www.essex.ac.uk/password](http://www.essex.ac.uk/password).

As part of your Office 365 email account you get unlimited cloud storage space for all your documents with OneDrive. OneDrive lets you create, edit, and share documents online. You also get at least 300 MB of local storage, known as your M: drive. You can access this by going to 'My Documents' on any lab computer.

Visit the IT Services website for helpful information, including how-to guides, answers to frequently asked questions, and links to video screencasts. [www.essex.ac.uk/it](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it)

If you can't find what you're looking for, or if you need to talk to someone, then you can get help from the IT Helpdesk in the Silberrad Student Centre. Open Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 6.00pm, and Friday 8.30am to 5.45pm.

You can also download Microsoft Office 365, for free. You can install it for free on up to five computers, and up to five mobile devices. [www.essex.ac.uk/see/software](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/software)

If you need to use a **computer on campus** our computer labs are the perfect place to study or work. Many labs stay open until late and some are open 24/7. For computer lab locations, opening hours and real-time availability visit: [www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/labs](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/computers/labs).

## 8.4 Tier 4 Students

If you are a citizen of a country that is not part of the European Economic Area or Switzerland it is likely that you will require a **visa** to enter or remain in the UK to study. The type of visa you need to apply for will depend on your personal circumstances, proposed study and where you are applying from. Find out more on the University's website at: [www.essex.ac.uk/immigration/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/immigration/)

## 8.5 On-Campus Facilities

There is a broad range of **facilities** to support your living and learning experience at our Colchester Campus – including study-based services like the IT helpdesk and group study pods, but also various food and drink venues, two banks, a general store run by the Students' Union, a printing and copy centre, market stalls each Thursday, a Post Office, launderettes, and much, much more. Full details on all on-campus facilities feature on our student webpages and in the campus guide you received with your welcome information when you joined us as a student member.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students)

[www.essex.ac.uk/welcome](http://www.essex.ac.uk/welcome)

## 8.6 Graduation

Graduation takes place each July in the Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall, Colchester campus. All eligible students studying at our Colchester, Loughton and Southend Campuses will be invited to attend. For more information visit our graduation pages:

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/graduation](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/graduation)



## 9. SKILLS, EMPLOYABILITY AND EXPERIENCE

### 9.1 Employability and Careers Centre

Our careers specialists can give you valuable advice throughout your time at Essex and beyond. We offer one-to-one advice and guidance, job-hunting workshops, CV and job application reviews, and online access to graduate and part-time job vacancies.

[www.essex.ac.uk/careers](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers)

#### **EBS PLACEMENTS MANAGER**

Vicki Doughty, the Placements Manager at EBS is part of a wider faculty employability team which provides career, placements and internships, and graduate recruitment advice. Vicki works specifically with EBS students. You can see Vicki for help with placement and internship searches, application advice, preparation for interviews and assessment centres. You can contact Vicki on 01206 873855 or [vdoughty@essex.ac.uk](mailto:vdoughty@essex.ac.uk) You can also find materials and information on EBS-Work Placements Moodle page. [Vicki's Profile](#)

### 9.2 Learning Languages at Essex

Learn a language at Essex to increase your global and cultural awareness. Language learning can give you the confidence to work and travel internationally, expand your options for studying abroad, and get a competitive edge when you're looking for a job. There are a number of ways to do it, so look online to discover the best option for you.

[www.essex.ac.uk/study/why/languages](http://www.essex.ac.uk/study/why/languages)

### 9.3 Talent Development Centre

Unleash your potential and visit our Talent Development Centre. Providing support on academic literacy, numeracy, English language, employability and IT to help you be the best you can be.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc/)

### 9.4 Career Hub

Browse hundreds of top jobs and graduate vacancies, sign up to exclusive careers events, book CV reviews and one-to-one careers advice, and connect with employers on CareerHub, our online jobs portal. [www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/careerhub](http://www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/careerhub)

### 9.5 Frontrunners

Frontrunners is our unique placement scheme for students. We'll give you challenging employment opportunities on campus and help you develop the skills you need to compete for the best jobs. We'll even give you on-the-job training and pay you, too.

[www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/frontrunners](http://www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/frontrunners)

### 9.6 Student Ambassadors

Student Ambassadors are current students who help to promote the University and higher education. As a Student Ambassador you can get involved in a whole range of opportunities, in particular helping our Student Recruitment and Outreach teams. Student Ambassadors are normally recruited at the start of the Autumn Term. [www.essex.ac.uk/careers/job\\_hunting/on\\_campus](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers/job_hunting/on_campus)

## 9.7 Volunteering

There are plenty of opportunities to **volunteer** during your time at Essex. The Students' Union runs the vTeam, which is a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, make friends, give something to the local community, and gain valuable skills.

[www.essex.su/vteam](http://www.essex.su/vteam)

## 9.8 Big Essex Award

This is the University's **employability award** and will help you stand out from the crowd and get University recognition for all your extra-curricular experience. [www.essex.ac.uk/careers/bigex](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers/bigex)

## 9.9 Essex Interns

Essex interns create paid internships exclusively for you as an Essex student. They're flexible too; part time during term time or full time in vacations. You can even take part up to three years after you graduate, as part of our Essex graduates support package. [www.essex.ac.uk/careers/internships/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/careers/internships/)

## 10. YOU MATTER: HEALTH, WELFARE, SUPPORT AND SAFETY

### 10.1 Student Services Hub, Including Contacts for Disability/SpLD Support

See also 3.11.

If you need practical advice, a confidential conversation, or general information and guidance on University life, no matter what the issue is, please visit our new **Student Services Hub**

### 10.2 Wellbeing, Counselling and Confidential Issues

If you need practical advice, a confidential conversation, or general information and guidance on University life, no matter what the issue is, the Student Services Hub is the place to go. Want to know how and when to apply for accommodation? Having problems with your funding? Struggling with exam stress? Your questions matter and you'll get answers from our team of experts.

Colchester email: [askthehub@essex.ac.uk](mailto:askthehub@essex.ac.uk)  
Southend email: [askthehub-sc@essex.ac.uk](mailto:askthehub-sc@essex.ac.uk)

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/health-and-wellbeing](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/health-and-wellbeing)

If you get into financial difficulty get help and talk to someone as soon as possible. The sooner your problem is identified, the sooner it can be solved. Advisers in our Student Services Hub and our independent SU Advice Centre can listen and talk you through the issues.

<http://www.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/money/> <http://www.essexstudent.com/advice/money/>

### 10.3 Harassment Advisory Network, Dignity and Respect

We are Essex. We encourage a culture of dignity and respect. We're committed to upholding an environment that's free from any form of harassment or bullying. Though rare, these incidents can occur and if they do our network of trained harassment advisors are on hand to help.

[www.essex.ac.uk/equality](http://www.essex.ac.uk/equality)  
[www.essex.ac.uk/equality/harassment](http://www.essex.ac.uk/equality/harassment)  
[www.essex.ac.uk/students/new](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/new)

### 10.4 Faith Groups

We're proud of our vibrant and diverse multicultural community and we recognise and support the many different religions and beliefs on campus. The calm, friendly and supportive atmosphere in our Multi-Faith Chaplaincy is a welcoming place for staff, students and the wider community to meet, interact and engage with each other. [www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/mfc/default.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/mfc/default.aspx)

### 10.5 Nightline

Established at Essex in 1970, Nightline is a friendly help and support service run by students, for students. We work under strict confidentiality ensuring complete anonymity, and we're always willing to listen. From tea and toast to campbeds, whether you're waiting for a taxi, need a revision break, or just want to chat, pop in or call us.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/health-and-wellbeing/nightline.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/health-and-wellbeing/nightline.aspx)

### 10.6 Health and Safety on Campus

Our campuses are generally very safe environments. We want to ensure that things stay this way. In order to achieve this we work closely with local agencies including the police and borough councils. Take a look at our website for general advice and information.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/safety](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/safety)

Please read the emergency evacuation notice in your accommodation, work or study location for fire safety procedures. If you have a permanent or temporary disabilities that may mean you have difficulty in evacuating one or more areas, you can arrange for a Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP).  
[www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/safety](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/safety)  
[www.essexstudent.com/services/safety\\_bus](http://www.essexstudent.com/services/safety_bus) -  
[www.essex.ac.uk/students/campus/emergency](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/campus/emergency)  
[www.essex.ac.uk/ohsas/fireSafety/peep.htm](http://www.essex.ac.uk/ohsas/fireSafety/peep.htm)

## **10.7 Residence Life**

Our Residence Life team is here to help you settle in and support you during your time living on campus. Each residents' assistant (RA) is assigned an area and will aim to get to know you and organise a range of social activities. Plus they can help if you've got any concerns or complaints. Residence Life operates outside of office hours when other University support services are closed.

[www.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/support/reslife](http://www.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/support/reslife)

## **10.8 Health Centre**

If you're studying on a course for more than six months, you're required to register with a local doctor. Our Colchester Campus has its own health centre or you can use the NHS Choices postcode finder to find your nearest doctor.

[www.rowhedgesurgery.co.uk](http://www.rowhedgesurgery.co.uk)

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

## **10.9 Students' Union Advice Centre**

Our SU advice centre offers free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on any issue that might be affecting you. Our friendly, trained staff are on hand to support you throughout your time at Essex.

[www.essex.su/advice](http://www.essex.su/advice)

[suadvice@essex.ac.uk](mailto:suadvice@essex.ac.uk)

01206 874034

## **10.10 University Privacy Statement**

Under the Data Protection Act 1998, any individuals about whom the University may be holding personal data have the right to access the data that is being held about them. Full details about how this works, and how to request such information are available on the Records Management web pages, see: 'How to access your personal data'.

[www.essex.ac.uk/site/privacy\\_policy.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/site/privacy_policy.aspx)

[www.essex.ac.uk/records\\_management/request](http://www.essex.ac.uk/records_management/request)

## 11. THE ESSEX EXPERIENCE

### 11.1 The Essex Student Charter

Our **Student Charter** is developed by the University of Essex and our Students' Union as a part of our ongoing commitment to create an outstanding environment that offers the highest standards of teaching, research and support in an international and multi-cultural community.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/charter](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/charter)

### 11.2 Freedom of Speech Policy and the Code of Conduct – Terms and Conditions Apply Booklet

For regulations relating to the **Code of Student Conduct**; procedures for investigating breaches; appeals process please refer to the Terms and Conditions apply booklet all new students receive with welcome information, previously known as the Code of Student Conduct and The Rulebook. This information is on the University's website and is updated annually.

[www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/handbooks](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/handbooks)

[www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/code-conduct](http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations/code-conduct)

### 11.3 Essex Spirit, Social Media and What's On?

Keep up-to-date with important news, events and offers from across the University with our Essex Spirit blog. Go to our email lists to subscribe to the fortnightly e-bulletin.

[blogs.essex.ac.uk/essexspirit/](http://blogs.essex.ac.uk/essexspirit/)

[www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/news](http://www.essex.ac.uk/welcome/news)

We have more than 60 Facebook pages, including one for each department. We're also on Twitter.

[www.facebook.com/uniofessex/](http://www.facebook.com/uniofessex/)

[https://twitter.com/Uni\\_of\\_Essex](https://twitter.com/Uni_of_Essex)

Our 'What's on?' calendar brings together all the events happening across our three campuses, so you can make the most of your time at Essex.

[www.essex.ac.uk/events](http://www.essex.ac.uk/events)

### 11.4 Students' Union

We're famous for our **Students' Union** at Essex, and for good reason. Here you're not just a member of a normal Students' Union, you're part of a family. We're here to cheer you on as you walk into exams and to help you absolutely destroy the competition in interviews and land your dream job. We've given students the tools to set up over 100 societies for anything they want. And if you're into sport – we run more than 40 sports teams and unlike other Universities ours are free to join. You choose what drinks we serve in our bar and what products we stock in our shops, just write it on the wall and we'll do our absolute best to get it in stock for you ASAP. Say hello at [essex.su](http://essex.su)

### 11.5 Alumni

Your time will fly by. But Essex is forever, not just for a few years, and you'll be part of this place for life. When you graduate, you'll get an alumni card, which gets you access to all alumni events, like our popular Sports Weekend, and allows you to keep using the gym and the library, so stay in touch.

[alumni.essex.ac.uk/home](http://alumni.essex.ac.uk/home)

## 11.6 What Comes Next?

Choosing to be a **postgraduate student** at Essex is one of the few decisions in life that's black and white. Our research degrees include PhD, MPhil, MSc, MA and MD, and our culture of world-class research provides an outstanding and supportive environment in which to undertake your research study. If you decide to stay on for further study with us, you'll have a great opportunity to study a challenging course within a research-intensive and supportive environment. You'll develop knowledge in your chosen area and learn from some of the top academics in the field, while becoming a valued member of our postgraduate community. Explore our courses on our coursefinder, and find out more about the value of being a postgrad.

[www.essex.ac.uk/study/pg](http://www.essex.ac.uk/study/pg)

[www.essex.ac.uk/coursefinder](http://www.essex.ac.uk/coursefinder)

## 11.7 Hear

When you study at Essex, you get far more than just a degree. Along with showcasing your academic achievements, the Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) records any activities you've undertaken and logged through the Big Essex Award, and any awards and prizes you receive.

When you graduate, you'll have full electronic access to your HEAR for free, for life. You'll be able to share this with employers and other universities, providing them with a University-certified record of your achievements.

To start making the most of your HEAR; visit our website to activate your account.

[www.essex.ac.uk/see/hear/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/hear/)

## 12. USEFUL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Glossary of Common University Terminology in Everyday English

<b>Academic Year</b>	September/October until June.
<b>Article</b>	A piece of research that has been reviewed by other academics (peer reviewed) before they are published. They are often published in an academic journal. This means that experts in the field of study will review and approve the article before the journal will publish it.
<b>Class / Seminar</b>	Classes / seminars take place after the main lecture. You will be in a smaller group so that you can explore and extend further the themes and topics presented in the lecture through group discussion and interactive tasks.
<b>Compulsory Module</b>	must be taken, but some condonement of fails may be possible.
<b>Core Module</b>	must be taken and must be passed.
<b>Coursework</b>	work that you do as part of your module's assessment. Coursework can include: essays, individual and group presentations, in-class tests, portfolios, reports, group case studies, literature reviews etc.
<b>Draft</b>	A first or preliminary piece of writing that you revise and rewrite.
<b>Employability and Careers Centre</b>	A centralised university service that can help you with your employability develop your skills, improve your CV and gain valuable experience.
<b>Essay</b>	An extended piece of writing on a particular theme or subject.
<b>Exam Board</b>	A group of academics from EBS and external examiners that agree the final exam results for each module.
<b>Extenuating Circumstances</b>	During the course of your degree programme you might be faced with personal, medical or family problems that are outside your control and are negatively affecting your academic performance. Such problems are known as 'extenuating circumstances'.
<b>FASER</b>	On-line electronic coursework submission system.
<b>Frontrunners</b>	The University's placement scheme which gives students the opportunity to undertake challenging employment around campus and develop the higher-level skills they need to compete for the best jobs. The scheme is open to all University of Essex students, and offers paid, on-placement training.
<b>GTA</b>	A graduate teaching assistant who is part of a module's teaching team.
<b>Internship / Placement</b>	An internship or placement is a method of on-the-job training for professional careers. These positions may be paid or unpaid and are usually temporary.
<b>Journal</b>	An academic journal is a peer-reviewed publication in which research relating to a particular academic discipline is published. Academic journals serve as forums for the introduction and presentation for scrutiny of new research, and the critique of existing research.
<b>Labs</b>	Practical task-related classes for Finance and Accounting that take place in a computer lab.
<b>Languages for All</b>	Gives you the opportunity to study a language alongside their course at no extra cost for one year. Additional tuition in subsequent years is available for a fee.
<b>Late submissions</b>	Any work that is submitted for formal assessment after the published final assessment deadline.
<b>Lecture</b>	A lecture is usually delivered to a large group of students and is designed to: give an introduction or overview of a topic, summarise the key ideas, principles, or controversies, stimulate your own thinking and provide you with reading and ideas to follow up afterwards.
<b>Listen Again</b>	A lecture recording service which records the audio and video output of the teaching computer in nearly all centrally timetabled teaching rooms across Colchester and Southend campuses. It allows students to 'Listen Again' to their lectures at a later date. The service is available in nearly all centrally timetabled teaching rooms or lecture theatres where the recording equipment is installed.
<b>Module</b>	A unit of study – a degree programme consists of a number of

	modules. Some module has pre-requisites.
<b>Module credits</b>	Modules have a credit value of 30 or 15 credits.
<b>Moodle</b>	Moodle is a Virtual Learning Environment. Each module has a Moodle page where lecture materials, notes and relevant information is posted for students to access.
<b>myEssex</b>	Each student has their own myEssex which a personalised portal for all information linked to your degree programme and university experience.
<b>Office Hours</b>	Office Hours are specific times that lectures and member of a module teaching team are available to see students for one-to-one advice and guidance.
<b>Outside option</b>	A module which you can choose which is delivered by another university department.
<b>Peer Mentor</b>	Peer Mentors are 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students who have already experienced a year at university. Every new student has a Peer Mentor to help them adjust to University life.
<b>Personal Tutor</b>	Every student has a personal tutor to provide academic advice and guidance. You will have the same personal tutor throughout your degree programme.
<b>Plagiarism</b>	Plagiarism is taking and using somebody else's ideas, thoughts, writings or inventions as your own. It is a type of cheating.
<b>Reading list</b>	A list of texts that you should read for a module.
<b>Referencing</b>	To clearly show the ownership of information and the full details of where you found it.
<b>Seen question</b>	An exam question which you are given before the exam so that you can research your answer.
<b>Skeleton / Sketch answer</b>	An essay outline – written in notes or bullet points. It is not a draft.
<b>Student Feedback – SAMTS</b>	A feedback questionnaire that is carried out at the end of each term for each module. The questionnaire focuses on teaching and learning.
<b>Course Representative</b>	Each module and year group has a number of Student Representatives that work with EBS staff to continue to improve and develop EBS and the university. The Student Representatives are organised by the Student Union.
<b>Student Support</b>	A range of support services for students to help them adapt to university life.
<b>Student Surveys – NSS / SSS</b>	An annual student questionnaire that is carried out once per year. The questionnaire focuses on the whole university experience.
<b>Student Union</b>	The Students' Union is the organisation that represents the interests of students within the University of Essex.
<b>Student Union Societies</b>	Societies are similar to clubs and help you meet people with similar interests. The societies are run by students for students.
<b>Study Leave</b>	A period of leave that an academic is given in order to carry out academic research.
<b>Test</b>	A short exam that can form part of the coursework for a module. Tests are often carried out electronically / on-line.
<b>The Big Essex Award</b>	An award that you can achieve by taking part in extra curricular activity. The Big E is a good addition to your cv.
<b>The V Team</b>	Is organised by the Student Union and organises projects that students can take part in by volunteering. You can join the projects at any time and it's a good way to meet new people and get involved in something interesting and different.
<b>Watermark</b>	Watermarking your assignment converts your assignment from a word document to a PDF file and prints a code showing your registration number and the time and date of submission of the assignment. This means that no changes can be made to your assignment between submitting online and submitting a hard copy.
<b>Weighting</b>	Each module is assessed by a combination of coursework and an exam. The value of each part is the weighting – e.g. Coursework 40% exam 60%. The weighting can vary between modules.
<b>Workshop</b>	Classes that aim to improve and develop practical skills, usually in small groups.



**Further information and full details can be found in the relevant section of the handbook.**

## USING OFFICE HOURS

**Office Hours** can be used to:

- A. speak to a **Module Leader** or a member of the module teaching team **OR**
- B. speak to your **Personal Tutor** for general study advice, help with feedback and module choices, advice on progression or to discuss any difficulties you may be experiencing with your studies.

All members of a module teaching team and academic staff have office hours. Some lecturers prefer you to make an appointment by email, others schedule a designated time for drop-in sessions.

You should check with the lecturer or on the module Moodle page. This may be the only time a lecturer is available to help you with your studies, so it's important you come prepared. Meeting with your lecturer can help you with your studies.

Use this checklist to help you so that you make best use of the time.



- Be clear about what you want to discuss.
- Take a list of questions with you.
- Ask questions if you don't understand something. If you still don't understand, let the lecturer know.
- Take notes during the meeting so that you can review the discussion.
- Take the opportunity to ask questions about anything else you'd like clarification or help with.
- Don't wait until just before exams or coursework deadlines – make an appointment this week!
- Don't wait until the end of term to make an appointment.
- Be punctual.
- Remember that other students might be waiting for an appointment.
- Be polite.

## TOPICS YOU COULD DISCUSS

- Feedback on your coursework.
- General progress in a specific module.
- Clarification or help with a theme or topic from a lecture or seminar.
- Feedback across several pieces of coursework.
- Clarification to help you understand the coursework requirement.
- Advice on further research in a specific area.
- General advice on the subject.
- Information and advice on the subject area or field that could help you decide what to do after you graduate.
- Your progress in general.
- Module choices.
- Any difficulties you may be experiencing with your studies.
- Changing your programme.



**FAQs**



**You could speak to.....**



I'm thinking of changing my programme.	Programme Director Personal Tutor
I didn't understand much of the lecture this week.	Module Leader EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
I'm finding it difficult to write essays.	Personal Tutor EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
I'm finding the work really difficult.	Personal Tutor Programme Director EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
What is referencing?	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
How can I improve my essays/ coursework?	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer), Personal Tutor
What are the best module options for me?	Personal Tutor
I'm thinking of doing a Masters.	Personal Tutor Programme Director
I'm not sure about studying at university.	Programme Director Personal Tutor EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
How do you do research?	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer), Personal Tutor
I don't really understand what we have to do for the coursework.	Module Leader EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
What should I study for the exam?	Module Leader
I don't understand the feedback on my work.	Module Leader EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
I'm finding it difficult to organise my time	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer), Personal Tutor
How can I get a good grade?	Module Leader EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
I'm worried about my maths.	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)
I need a personal reference.	Moodle EBSUG page Personal Tutor
I'm having problems with my English	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer), Personal Tutor
I'm worried about plagiarism	EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer), Personal Tutor
I don't understand the grade I've been given	Module Leader EBS Learning Team (Bev/Samer)