Use the Student Journal in teaching

**Essex Student Research Online (Estro)**
- A multi-disciplinary journal
- Run by and for Essex students
- Publishes high-quality student work

**Encourage academic engagement**
- Develops independent thinking skills
- An impressive achievement to put on a CV
- Students write to convey an idea as well as to achieve a grade

**Use as a teaching resource**
- Use articles to facilitate discussion
- Ask students to review articles and respond with their own arguments
- Encourage students to imagine their essays in the context of publication
How to... use the Student Journal in teaching

**Essex Student Research Online (Estro)**
Estro is a multi-disciplinary journal run by students at the University. The journal showcases academic writing and welcomes submissions from undergraduate and postgraduate students of all disciplines in any year of study. Peer-reviewers give feedback on selected work as part of a review process, offering authors a valuable introduction to academic publishing. Articles included in Estro reflect the learning taking place across all campuses. Encourage involvement to support the culture of research and publishing at all levels of the University.

**Encourage academic engagement**
Use Estro in your lectures and classes as an example of high-quality academic writing to which students can aspire. When writing their own essays, students often find it useful to see examples of work by others. The practice of producing a piece of written work, receiving feedback and redrafting it, allows students to build their confidence as independent researchers and develop their authorial voice. By supporting the journal, you can raise standards and motivate your students to take pride in their work, encouraging them to recognise themselves in the academic process.

**Use as a teaching resource**
Use the journal to facilitate discussion by selecting articles relevant to your subject area and asking students to review them in groups; perhaps one of your former students has had work published in Estro. Students could discuss the content, arguments raised, and construction of the article. PDFs of articles are available on the website and individual articles on request (e-mail ‘journal’). Analysing work written by peers is a great way for students to hone their skills of close-reading and analysis. The articles included in the journal are accessible to the whole student body and can be a great introduction to good academic writing.

Contact Learning and Development for more information about Estro (e-mail ‘ldev’) or contact the editors directly (e-mail ‘journal’).

Look out for more postcards in the series. E-mail Learning and Development (‘ldev’) or visit the website (‘/ldev/how_to_guides’).