



Dear student,

Now that exams are nearly or fully over for some of you, it's the perfect time to start welcoming the good weather (not everyday, but more than before) with some nice picnics by the quay and day trips to the beach. 20 June will be midsummer - the longest day in the UK. So you might notice how the evenings are lighter (if not that much warmer!) and it's tempting to stay out with your friends chatting, but please remember that noise travels and be kind to your neighbours!

It's a this time of year that many students think about travelling. If you are able to travel please keep yourself and your belongings safe. We have online guidance for [replacing lost BRP and passports](#) if you need it (we hope you don't!). If you are thinking about hiring a car and driving please read our [quick guide to driving in the UK](#).



For those staying on campus over the summer, there are still staff around to assist you so don't hesitate to get in touch if you need anything. You can see a full list of service times and a summer schedule of events to participate in at the [Summer in Exeter page](#).

Sue O'Hara, Sophie Meadows, and Jimena Rubio
Student Support Office: Transition and Integration

[Be an international student mentor and enhance your CV](#)

We're looking for mentors to help new international and EU students settle into life in Exeter (and in the UK) in our Global Chums mentoring programme.

If you're returning to study with us in September 2024 and will be with us throughout term 1, becoming a Global Chums Mentor is a really rewarding way of sharing your knowledge and honest experiences with new students, while also helping build your CV. Your time will be



recognised towards the Exeter Award, and you'll get the chance to meet interesting new people from across the globe.

If appointed, you will be enrolled in a quick training programme and we'd expect you to commit to 1-2 hours per week to speak to your mentees during weeks 1-6 of term.

- [Find out more about the scheme.](#)
- [Apply online to be a volunteer mentor now](#) (applications close Sunday 30 June).

Intercultural Cafe

It's been lovely to see so many of you at Intercultural Cafe this month to have a nice time in between study sessions, assignments and exams. We hope to see you again and more of you in June!

There'll be 3 sessions a week, as usual, until the 14 June. Over the summer vacation, we'll run 1 session every Friday 10.30-11.30am in La Touche (starting Friday 21 June).

[Click here](#) to find out the themes of each session.



Join our 1 day cookery course

We're looking for students who are not confident in the kitchen to road test our fun new 'Cooking for Life' programme we hope to launch in September.

You'll get to learn some practical cookery skills, cook 2 cheap and nutritious recipes and take some food home!

You must be available for either Tuesday 9 July or Tuesday 16 July 11-4pm.

If you want to take part please email s.ohara@exeter.ac.uk by 7 June stating which session you are available for (or both) with a short statement about why you are perfect for this trial.



Globe Café

Globe Café is a fun, free event for international students which takes place every Monday night. We will continue to meet over the summer, even after the end of the university term. You can find us on Instagram or Facebook by searching @globecafeexeter or you can email helen.morrissey@friendsinternational.uk. We meet at Belmont Chapel, on Western Way, from 7.30pm until 9.15pm. All international students are welcome!



The Sustainability Team

Interested in sustainability? Find out what the University is doing below.

- Confused about recycling? Our website has a [great guide](#)
- Want to cycle or take a bus into the city? Visit our [travel](#) page
- Want to volunteer? Look out for opportunities on our Instagram page [@uoesustainability](#)
- Interested in adding to your CV? Check out [Green Consultants](#)
- Want to know more about the climate and environmental crises and ways to get involved? Here is our [Climate Companion Pack](#)



The [Sustainability Team](#) (Exeter) and the [Cornwall Sustainability](#) (Cornwall) websites are a great resource on what the University is up to.

Follow us on Instagram [@uoesustainability](#) or sign up to our [newsletter](#) for up to date news and opportunities.

Dartmoor walk

Join a walk across Dartmoor National Park on Friday 14 June, and appreciate its beautiful landscape and nature. On this trip we will do a circular 2.5 hour walk (approx 3.5 miles) from Okehampton railway station. We will walk by the East Okement river and then up to East Hill where we should have views over Dartmoor and northwards to North Devon. We will walk through woodland and across meadows.



[Sign up here](#) before the 13 June.

Are you graduating this year?

Congratulations if you are graduating this year. If you are attending any graduation ceremony, please make sure you read the our [Graduation web page](#). We hope you have a great day. I love graduation and always work at a few ceremonies to join in the fun! After many years, here are my top tips:

- Read the web page!
- The Great Hall can get warm. Gentlemen wear a proper shirt and tie, suit trousers as a minimum, ladies something smart.
- You will be on your feet all day. Ladies, make sure you can walk in those heels (particularly up and down the ramp and across the stage!), if they are new shoes make sure you wear them in.
- Everyone bring safety pins to secure your robes to your outfit (off the shoulder robes look sloppy in photographs) and bring hair grips.



- Be at your seat in the Great Hall at least 30 minutes before the ceremony. We need to check you are in place and find out who is missing so that we don't call their names out. And once you are in your seat stay in your seat please.
- TURN YOUR MOBILE PHONE OFF!
- Leave all your belongings under your seat when you are asked to queue up for your award.
- Remember to smile when you get your cross the stage for the photos.
- CLAP FOR EVERYONE. Not everyone there will have friends and family to cheer for them. And everyone deserves a cheer for such an achievement!

Moving out of your accommodation?

[Watch our how-to video to help you plan ahead.](#)

Did you know that last year nearly 2,500 bags of donations were given to the British Heart Foundation because of Students on the Move (SOTM)?



SOTM can help you responsibly dispose of things you no longer want or need when you move out. You can organise:

- Free extra waste collections using a special SOTM envelope.
- Glass collection: Book in advance first come, first served.
- A collection for items to go to charity.
- Unwanted food to go to Streatham Campus Community Fridge.

Get more details on these Students on the Move services, and how to contact the Community Engagement Team, on [the Community page](#). Please note - waste and glass collections are only available for students living in private accommodation.

Looking for part-time work at the end of May?

The Community Liaison team is recruiting students who live in the Exeter area to deliver copies of our summer Community newsletter to local households this month. For more info search for **Community Newsletter deliverer** on [Handshake](#).

Be a considerate neighbour

Please continue to be mindful of your noise levels, as you may have neighbours with young families, early morning work commitments or exams.

If you're arranging a gathering, it is important to socialise safely and considerately. See the [noise section of the Community Guide \(pages 26-29\)](#) for advice. Noise in the street can carry and have a big impact on all our community. Please consider those who need to sleep, particularly during the week.

Masters students – please take the PTES survey

You should have seen an email in your inbox on Tuesday 30 April asking you to take part in the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES). The title started with your name and 'PTES survey and your chance to win £500'.



It's really important to us that we hear the views of our international student community and so if you've not done so already, please could you complete it by using the link in that email?

The PTES is completely anonymous and is run by [Advance HE](#), which works with higher education institutions around the world to improve higher education. We receive the feedback and read it carefully in order to make improvements. Students have completed it in the past in order to improve your experience.

It should take no longer than ten minutes to complete and there's a chance to enter a prize draw with a top prize of £500. There are also ten further prizes of £50 each to be won, plus we will donate £1 to charity for every survey that is completed, via RAG (Raise and Give). Thank you.

Thriving Not Striving

This two day event calls all UoE Black and African Heritage students and staff! The event aims to serve as a platform to discuss the various challenges faced by this community while adjusting to new systems, lifestyles, and separation from family, among others. By sharing these experiences, we hope to identify solutions together as people from similar backgrounds who face/have faced similar challenges.



[Register here](#) for some great conversations and free food the 30 and 31 of May at the SWIOT centre, Streatham Campus.

Graduate jobs – Managing employers and Visas

The Careers and International Student Support teams will be running a hybrid workshop on 5 June to look at the Graduate job market for international students. The session will give you insights into the differences between the Graduate and Skilled worker visas, what employers think of them and how to talk to employers about visas. [Register here](#)

Conversation Café

Do you want to practice your English in a relaxed environment by chatting with locals? Then come to one of the upcoming Conversation Cafés in INTO 1.02:

- Thursday 23 May 1-2:45pm
- Thursday 30 May 1-2:45pm
- Thursday 6 June 1-2:45pm
- Thursday 13 June 1-2:45pm



It is an excellent and stress-free opportunity to develop spoken English fluency. With free hot drinks and biscuits provided.

[Register here now](#), there are limited spaces available.

Day trip: Sidmouth

Only 50 minutes away by bus (£2-3), Sidmouth is a cosy town perfect to visit on a sunny day. Its pebble beach welcomes you to relax and go for a swim or [rent a paddle board or a kayak](#) while enjoying the beautiful view of the Jurassic Coast. You'll get an even better view from atop Jacob's Ladder.



Besides its natural beauty, Sidmouth has plenty of shops and cafes along and near the High Street, as well as numerous ice cream shops, where you can get yourself a sweet ice cream to enjoy in the beach or while strolling through the beautiful Connaught Gardens. But beware of the seagulls!

Looking for other day trip ideas?

Follow [this link](#) to find a list of day trip ideas suggested by students at Intercultural Cafe. Once in the website, click 'Day trip suggestions from Intercultural Cafe' to view all the options. From exploring Dartmoor's natural environment to enjoying the peacefulness or liveliness of nearby towns and villages, there's something for everyone!

