

Dear student,

Welcome to Term 3 - the one with the exams and assignments in it! I know exams aren't everyone's favourite thing but you've spent so much time preparing for them it's worth spending a few minutes understanding what is expected during your exam and where it is. Please check your university emails for more information about your exams, locations and preparation.

If you are feeling stressed then why not listen to one of our <u>Mindfulness podcasts</u> on the Wellbeing website. Cramming for exams might feel like your only option but there is lots of research that suggests you will retain the information better if you get some



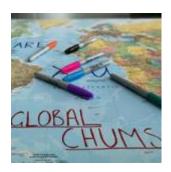
fresh air and exercise. You don't need to run a marathon to do this. If you are in Exeter why not try our campus <u>self guided sculpture walk</u> or enjoy one of our many beautiful green spaces. Or maybe even pop along to an Intercultural Cafe and chill out for an hour. However you chose to prepare for your exams and assignments we wish you all the best and good luck. Please remember that even if you have finished your exams others might still be taking theirs so be respectful of others with any end of year celebrations!

If you are leaving us before the end of term, we wish you safe travels (if you are travelling!) and we hope you have found your time at Exeter a rewarding one, both personally and academically. We would love you to keep in touch via our Alumni networks. As an alumni you can receive discounts, career support, join networks and groups to help you professionally around the world and attend Alumni events.

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

Become an international Student Mentoring

We are looking for **100 student mentors (volunteers)** to help new international and EU students settle into life in Exeter and in the UK in our Global Chums mentoring programme. This is an ideal opportunity for second year students returning in September 2024 (although all year groups are welcome to apply). This is a really rewarding way of sharing your knowledge and experiences (both good and bad) with a group of new students and to build your CV. Your time will be recognised towards the Exeter Award, and you'll get the chance to meet some new people from across the globe.



Training is 1-2 hours to be completed online over the summer and you will be committing to1-2 hours per week to speak to you mentees during weeks 1-6 of term.

For more information on the scheme click here.

Apply online to be a volunteer mentor now (applications close 30 June).

We are also looking for a **Global Chums Co-ordinator (paid post)**. We need someone with experience in event management, communications and an interest in helping new students settle into life in Exeter. Could you be our person?

Deadline for applications 13 May 2024.

Beware of fraud

The University of Exeter has become aware of a new fraud where scammers are actively impersonating senior Finance staff. Finance staff would never contact you directly asking to transfer funds from your bank account. If this happens, hung up immediately and report it to **Action Fraud**.

It can be hard to realise this in the moment, when you are overcome by stress, so if that happens, remember to 'Take 5 and ask 2':



- Take 5 minutes to consider a situation. If someone is demanding immediate action to protect your funds/win a prize/pay a fine it probably isn't genuine.
- Talk to 2 people. They may have experienced a similar situation or have another perspective.

For more advice on fraud targeting international students and what to do click here.

Intercultural Cafe term 3: New times!

It's been so nice to see some of you at Intercultural Cafe during the Easter break on Fridays! It's a comforting reminder that there are still people around, even if the campus looks a bit emptier than usual. We now look forward to return to our 3 weekly cafes for term 3, starting the first week of May.

WELCOME TO INTERCULTURAL



Be aware that times of Wednesdays cafes change this term:

- Wednesday 10:30-11:30am in ISCA Eats, Streatham.
- Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm in Cross Keys, St Luke's.
- Friday 10:30-11:30am in ISCA Eats, Streatham.

We'll be there 30 minutes before the session to book you in. Please bring your unicard with you.

Check our website to know the theme of each session.

Become a Community Engagement Officer

Supporting our local communities and staying safe has never been a greater priority. Do you want to be part of an innovative team, supporting students and working in the local community? Are you interested in a flexible, part time job that provides experience in working with community organisations?



We are currently seeking to recruit Community Engagement Officers to work with our Community Liaison Team throughout 2024/25.

Find out more about how to become a Community Engagement Officer on <u>Handshake</u> or <u>email</u> <u>us</u>. Deadline for applications: 6 May 2024.

Preparing to move out of your accommodation?

Watch our top tip clips on the <u>Community page</u> for a stress-free departure. From ensuring you get your deposit back, to knowing where to donate unwanted items, these helpful tips can be visited any time while you prepare to leave your accommodation. You can contact the Community Engagement team for advice and how to use the University's free '<u>Students on the Move</u>' service.



India Career Ready Workshops

The Career Zone will be having two workshops to help Indian students find career opportunities in the UK and apply for them. Check the following links for more information, and don't miss the chance to apply if you are interested:

ICR - Finding Graduate Opportunities in the UK

Tuesday 30th April 3 – 4 pm, Streatham Court LT D and online

ICR - UK CVs and Cover Letters

Thursday 16th May 3-4 pm, Streatham Court LT C and online

Intercultural Communication workshops - term 3

There are some great opportunities to develop and enhance your intercultural communication competence in term 3. Sign up on Handshake following the links below.

Understanding cultural differences.
13 May, 14.35-16.25, INTO 1.02

Developing cultural competences
20 May, 14.35-16.25, INTO 1.02

Working effectively in diverse teams
29 May, 14.35-16.25, INTO 2.01



Skilled Worker visas

A number of changes were introduced to the Skilled Worker route in April 2024, in particular the raising of the minimum salary level to £38,700. Salary levels for Skilled Worker are complex, however, and there are reductions to the minimum for some groups including recent graduates. International Student Support's immigration advisers are now running a monthly Skilled Worker Overview + Q&A session where you can find out more about the Skilled Worker rules, learn how to interpret them for yourself, and ask general questions. Register here.

Academic Leads for Student Support (Racial Equality and Inclusion)

The University of Exeter is committed to supporting students from all backgrounds to thrive.

We have a number of colleagues who are Academic Leads for Student Support (Racial Equality and Inclusion). They are also known as ALSS (REI). This role has been created to help foster a safe and supportive environment for all students in their departments.

We encourage students to contact their ALSS (REI) if they have any concerns or need support regarding experiences of discrimination or harassment. Each academic lead can offer a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental space. They can discuss concerns, signpost students to wellbeing support, provide advice on how to report an incident via Exeter Speaks Out, as well as helping them through this reporting process, if the student wishes too.

For more information on ALSS (REI), please visit our website.

What's on in Exeter? Exeter Pride!

Exeter Pride is back for another year to celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community on Saturday 11th May. The march will leave from Sidwell Street at 12pm and colour the city centre with cheer until reaching Northernhay Gardens, where stalls will open with food and drinks, local crafts and other local communities, along with open music and performances.



More shows and workshops will take place at **Exeter Phoenix** and the **Exeter Library**, so don't miss out!

Click here for more information.

Bank holidays

We are set to enjoy two bank holidays in May (6 and 27). Whilst almost everything in the city and university will remain open for business there might be some changes to service.

- SID open on bank holidays
- Campus cafes and shops
- Library open 24/7

If you are living in privately rented accommodation, please be aware that bin collection dates will be affected this month by the May bank holidays. Check the bin calendar on your iExeter app for date changes and take your bin in (or off the pavement) between collections. For tips on waste disposal visit the **Community page** or talk to the **Community Engagement Team**.

Can you vote in the UK?

Maybe. Depending on your nationality and where you live, some international students will be able to vote in local and general elections in the UK. For a quick and easy way to find out if you can vote, use the Migrant Democracy Project's toolkit and register to vote if you're eligible.



The nearest elections are the local ones on the 2nd of May, which Is too late now to register for, but you can register now for future elections.

And, if you have already registered, don't forget to vote next Thursday 2nd of May.

Study Zone are here to support you

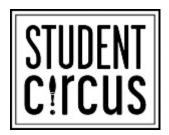
Study Zone remains open throughout Term 3. Join one of the <u>study</u> <u>skills drop-in sessions</u> on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday for

STUDY ZONE

advice on work management and assessments. Or, if you prefer, <u>book a 1-1 appointment</u>. Find all the study resources and more information about these services at <u>Study Zone Digital</u> and on our social media (@uoestudyzone).

Job platform for international students

The University of Exeter is partners with Student Circus, a job-readiness platform for international students with pre-filtered job opportunities that fit your needs and aspirations. If you want to look for work in the UK after graduation, Student Circus is the place to go. Go to https://exeter.studentcircus.com/login/, click on 'sign up' and enter your Exeter email address. Good luck!



Day trip: Lydford Gorge

If you've been thinking of exploring Dartmoor, Lydford Gorge should definitely be in your list of spots to visit.

You can get a train from Exeter St David's to Okehampton, followed by a bus from Okehampton train station to Lydford, all in up to 2 hours for £15 or under (go and return).



Once in Lydford, the <u>Castle Inn</u> is a cosy pub to stop for lunch. The gorge is only a few minutes away from there, and <u>at the National Trust</u>

reception they will inform you in detail of the existing trails. One short walk will lead you to the Whitelady waterfall, and a longer one to the amazing Devil's Cauldron, at the deepest part of the gorge. The Devil's Cauldron is definitely worth seeing, but beware of fear of heights and accessibility limitations (ask in reception if this is of concern to you).

Overall, this trip will pull you right into Dartmoor's temperate rainforest to show you fascinating scenes.