Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies

Postgraduate taught

STUDENT HANDBOOK
2019-20
Welcome

I would like to offer a warm welcome to all new students this autumn and welcome back all who are returning for another year. I hope that you will enjoy your time with the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies (PPS) and find your studies rewarding and engaging. All the modules and courses we run encourage both learning and personal growth, so you can look forward not only to being intellectually and emotionally stimulated, but also challenged to think about problems in new ways. As people search for individual meaning and ways to find personal, social and political relatedness in a conflicted and uncertain world, the work of our Department is relevant as never before.

The Department provides the setting for a very wide range of courses and modules, from foundation degree to doctoral programmes, and across a multitude of often intersecting subjects including psychoanalysis, analytical psychology, psychosocial studies, refugee care, therapeutic care, childhood studies, counselling and management and organisational dynamics. Our research explores theoretical and clinical knowledge, as well as applying these in many different social and cultural settings. You will be tapping into this breadth of interest and expertise and starting to make your own particular contribution to a vibrant and expanding field.

We know you will be busy with your chosen studies, but we hope you will also make broader use of what the Department and the University have to offer. As well as conferences and workshops, the Department holds an Open Seminar Series monthly in term time – these are free talks with invited speakers on a wide range of topics and full details can be found on the Department's web page. We also encourage you to follow your interests and take full advantage of the rich offerings in other departments, and make full use of the University environment and facilities.

We strive to be an enabling academic environment for all our students and staff. All of us at PPS want to help enable you make your time here successful and enjoyable. There are many sources of advice and support available to you, should you require it. Besides the teaching staff on individual modules and your personal tutor, the members of the Professional Services Team are knowledgeable and helpful about all aspects of Department and University life. You can navigate to this information from the sections below.

You will also have many opportunities to let us know how you are experiencing your time here: individually, in tutorials; through end-of-module evaluations; through the Student Voice Group (SVGs) and student satisfaction surveys. It is important for us to have feedback and we take your input seriously and use it to improve our programmes. As Head of Department and Senior Tutor I will also be available by appointment if you have a specific concern. You can arrange this through Mrs Debbie Stewart in room 5A.203, or by phone (01206 873640) or email ppsdm@essex.ac.uk. Please also feel free to e-mail me direct at cnich@essex.ac.uk. I am always happy to meet with you.

The Handbook

This handbook should be your first resource whenever you have a question. It contains important information that the University and Departmental staff will assume you know, including essay submission procedures and rules of assessment.
There are three other very important documents you will need read and become familiar with. The first is the Confidentiality Policy which is available on Moodle but we will give you a paper copy too at your Welcome. The second is the Module Outline for any module you take. Take care over this and you will have the best chance of success in the module. The third is the PPS Essay Writing Guide (also available on Moodle). This guides you through all the elements of essay writing and referencing for this Department.

Whatever you are studying at the moment, also bear in mind the opportunities for further study. The handbook contains information on all the Department’s activities, and what you cannot find in it, you can follow up on our web pages, at: www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies and on Moodle.

I look forward to seeing you around the Department. Best wishes for your time with us.

Chris Nicholson
Head of Department
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Introduction

This Handbook is designed to provide you with an overview of all the essential information about the University and the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies. Your Student Handbooks provides details of your department, including staff and contact details, facilities and ways to communicate and receive updates, as well as information relating to your course of study at Essex, including Rules of Assessment and the related policies, prizes awarded by the department each year, student feedback and meetings, and University regulations regarding progress, appeals and extenuating circumstances.

At our three uniquely intimate campuses 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.

Essex is about more than just getting a degree: we have so much to offer our students! This Student Handbook contains information on your Essex Experience, including the Students’ Union, sports clubs and societies, Essex Sport, Careers Services, campus information, IT support and services and our extensive range of student support and services.

The Student Directory contains a wealth of other helpful sources of information which can be found at www.essex.ac.uk/student.
Practicalities and Getting Started

You’ve made it to Essex! We’ve outlined below the most important things you need to make sure you do as soon as possible to get your time at Essex started.

Complete your Registration

Whilst you have accepted your offer and made your way to Essex, you still need to officially register yourself. At the start of each academic year, all new and returning students are required to register at the University. Registration is not only a formal procedure of enrolling you into the University, but it also connects you up to a number of vital systems you will need access to, including your IT account. As part of this process, you will need to complete online pre-arrival, physically attend a registration event on campus, and also activate your IT account.

To begin your registration, use one of the links below:

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

Returning students: [www.essex.ac.uk/student/registration/returner-registration](http://www.essex.ac.uk/student/registration/returner-registration)

eNROL

You may have to select options to select as part of your course structure. If you do, you must choose the options that you wish to enrol on before the academic year begins. New students will access the system from the end of August. Returning students will access the system from the April preceding the next academic year. Departments will approve your selections within a few weeks of them being made, and timetables will take module enrolment into account when planning for the next academic year. Early module enrolment will ensure that you know which modules to attend and where the lectures and classes are ready for the start of term. You can view and choose your specific options through the eNROL system.

eNROL: [www1.essex.ac.uk/enrol/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fenrol%2F](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/enrol/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fenrol%2F)

Explore your Campus

There is a broad range of facilities across each of our campuses to support your living and learning experience at Essex. We provide study-based services, like the IT helpdesk and group study pods, but also various food and drink venues and leisure facilities. The Students’ Union also runs a wide range of facilities, bars and general stores. 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/life/student-facilities](http://www.essex.ac.uk/life/student-facilities)

Get connected

Your IT account

You will need to set up your IT account and create a password through the University website [www.essex.ac.uk/it/getaccount](http://www.essex.ac.uk/it/getaccount). You will need to register an external email address and passphrase to set up your account. Once you’re set up, you can access your email, log on to lab computers, connect to campus wi-fi, and much more.

You must change your password within four weeks of your account being created, and then once every four months after that. You should receive email notifications to change your password shortly before it is due to expire. The easiest way to change your password is online at: [www.essex.ac.uk/password](http://www.essex.ac.uk/password). If you have forgotten your password, you can also reset it through this link using your external email address and passphrase. If you have forgotten those also, you should...
either visit the IT Helpdesk or call 01206 872345. Make sure you keep your password safe and do not share it with others!

**Campus Wi-fi**
Wi-fi is available across all campuses. Simply find the ‘eduroam’ network on your device and use the same log in details as your IT account to connect up!

**Essex Apps**
The University has a variety of online systems and platforms designed to enhance your learning and help make processes, such as submitting coursework, easier. We have rounded up the top platforms, portals and apps that you need to know about!

**MyEssex**
MyEssex is your online account. You can use it to see your timetable, keep your personal details up-to-date, request replacement registration cards or supporting documents, such as council tax exemption certificates, 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.

**PocketEssex**
Pocket Essex is the University’s official app for students, giving you access to comprehensive information about living and learning at Essex. The app provides an interface of icons that act as a portal through to a variety of useful links, areas and resources. PocketEssex links to many areas that MyEssex does in a handy app form, but also takes you through to many other key contacts and resources, such as the Students’ Union, FindYourWay and the Library.

**Find Your Way**
We know that finding your way from one room to another can be challenging to start with. Our Colchester campus in particular can be difficult to navigate with a historically complex room numbering system that leaves even our final year students still baffled! FindYourWay is our interactive campus map that can either be accessed via PocketEssex, downloaded as its own app, or via web browser. It is designed to help you get from A to B on either the Colchester or Southend campuses with quick and easy directions. [http://findyourway.essex.ac.uk/](http://findyourway.essex.ac.uk/)

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

**Your personal belongings**
University insurance cover is very limited for the belongings of students using graduate study rooms. Therefore, you are strongly advised to take out personal insurance cover for your possessions. This is especially important for items of particular value, such as personal electronic devices (i.e. laptops, phones and tablets). The University does not cover costs for personal damage or loss of your possessions; only in instances where the University has been negligent would a claim be viable for compensation for personal belongings.

**Right to Study**
The University must ensure all students have the right to study at the University of Essex for the whole duration of their course(s). If you require immigration permission to study in the UK, this will be checked when you first register on your course and as necessary thereafter.

For Tier 4 sponsored students, you will have conditions attached to your leave restricting study and work; some nationals are required to register with the Police. You are expected to have the finances in place to pay your tuition fees and living costs throughout your course and do not have access to state housing or benefits.
The Tier 4 rules and guidance include restrictions relating to the length of time you can spend studying in the UK and academic progress; this may mean you are unable to take an academic option offered to you or that we can’t continue to sponsor you under Tier 4. The University has many duties as a Tier 4 sponsor and must ensure we remain compliant in order to retain our Tier 4 licence. Find out more on the University’s website: www1.essex.ac.uk/immigration/ and www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/regulations

If you would like to get additional support with your English language skills, you can find helpful information and a range of resources here: www1.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc/english/

**English classes for the dependants of international students and staff (ECDIS)**
The Department of Language and Linguistics offers dependants of international students and staff at the Colchester Campus the chance to improve their English language, through our ECDIS programme, at no extra cost. Classes are taught at three basic levels: Elementary (A1/A2), Intermediate (B1/B2) and Advanced (C1/C2) and will focus on listening, speaking, reading and writing.

www.essex.ac.uk/departments/language-and-linguistics

ecdis@essex.ac.uk
The Essex Experience

The University and the Students' Union have developed our Student Charter 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. The Student Charter reiterates that you are a member of the University of Essex community, not just while you are a student or recent graduate here, but for life. You can read the full Student Charter at: www.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/charter

You are welcomed to a truly diverse community where differences are celebrated and individuality is valued. Your contribution is welcomed and encouraged based on your own thoughts and experiences. As part of our community you will have the freedom to explore, experiment, and challenge your discipline and have your ideas shaped by peer and professional knowledge from all over the world.

Your time at Essex will be an experience beyond the classroom; there is so much available to all students so you can make the most of your time at Essex and have a truly unforgettable Essex Experience.

Equality, Inclusion and Diversity

The University recognises the value of diversity and is committed to equality of opportunity within the University. It therefore aims to create the conditions whereby students and staff are treated with dignity and respect, and solely on the basis of their merits, abilities and potential, regardless of race, ethnic or national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, socio-economic background, family circumstances, religious or political beliefs and affiliations, or any other irrelevant distinction.

The University is committed to a programme of action to ensure that this policy is fully effective. You can find out more information on the University’s policy, and get in touch with any comments or questions, here:

www.essex.ac.uk/information/equality-and-diversity/equality-and-diversity-policy-and-strategy

The Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies is applying for an Athena SWAN Bronze Departmental Award:

www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies/equality-and-inclusion

Embrace the Essex Values

We are different at Essex. We are brave, we are bold, and we embrace challenges and drive change. Our values are underpinned by this very culture. While we full heartedly encourage students to challenge the status quo and explore the unknown, we expect that students do so respectfully, intelligently and act as true ambassadors for the University.

The University's Code of Student Conduct can be found on the website:

www.essex.ac.uk/governance/regulations
Essex Spirit, social media and events

Keep up-to-date with important news, events and offers from across the University with our Essex Spirit newsletter, delivered directly to your Essex email address.

Follow us on social:

Facebook: /uniofessex
Twitter: @uni_of_essex
Instagram: @uni_of_essex
LinkedIn: @uni_of_essex

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

http://www.essex.ac.uk/events

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/welcome/international-students and www.essex.ac.uk/student/student-communities/international

Mature and part-time 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/students/groups/mature-students.aspx

Student Ambassadors
Be a Student Ambassador, make a difference to others and also make a difference on your CV! Student Ambassadors help to promote the University and higher education. You’ll be a valued part of the Student Recruitment and Outreach teams. Keep an eye out for Student Ambassador vacancies on CareerHub+ in January.

www.essex.ac.uk/careers/job_hunting/on_campus

Essex Sport
Be active at Essex! Learning doesn't just happen in the classroom. Keeping active during your studies can help relieve stress, increase productivity, provide a sense of community and improve your employability.

Essex Sport offers a great range of sport courses, social active sessions, over 300 fitness classes a month and a state-of-the-art gym, so there's something for everyone!
Visit the Essex Sport website or download the app to discover all the ways you can keep active during your time at Essex.

www.essex.ac.uk/sport

https://download.mobilepro.uk.com/a/1CJ8?p=4?pv=1

**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. The Students’ Union is run by students for students, and you have the ability to shape what we do. From suggesting what we serve in our venues, to changing aspects of your course, we are here to represent you and work with you to make amazing things happen. There are opportunities to join 45 different Sports Clubs, to get involved with our BUCS teams which offer a wide individual championships programme of activities taking place across the year and lots of competitions take place on Wednesdays and weekends, or if you don’t want to commit to a regular team check out our Just Play programme of activities.

www.essexstudent.com

**Get involved**

We have 120 existing Societies where you can meet people with similar interests, challenge yourself with something new or, if you can’t find what you’re looking for, start your own society!

Furthermore, we have our very own letting agency SU Homes designed to offer help and support for students to find off campus accommodation.

www.essex.ac.uk/life/colchester-campus/get-involved
# About the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies

## Meet the team

A full list of all academic and professional services staff for the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies can be found on our website at: [www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies/people](http://www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies/people).

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| **EMERITUS PROFESSORS**   |        |        |                |
| Professor Karl Figlio     |        |        | kfiglio        |
| Professor Bob Hinshelwood |        |        | rhinsh         |

| **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STAFF:** 5A.202 |        |        |                |
| Debbie Stewart - Department Manager | 3640   |        | ppsdm          |
| Alison Evans - Student Administrator | 4969   |        | ppsug/pspgr    |
| Emily Gordon - Student Administrator (Part-time) | 4172   |        | ppsug          |
| Sarah Smith - Student Administrator | 3745   |        | ppspag/pspgr   |
| Anne Snowling - Operations Assistant (Part-time) | 4554   |        | pps            |
| Nicola Palmer - Student Administrator UG Southend (Part-time) | 01702  |        | ppsugse        |
| Main office GB.3.66        | 328379 |        |                |
Your Module Supervisor

All teaching staff hold regular weekly academic support hours during term time. This is a time when you can go and see them about anything to do with your modules, from difficulties you might be having with your seminar readings, to discussions about feedback on your coursework. These academic support hours operate on a ‘drop-in’ basis - this means that you do not need to book an appointment; you can just turn up during the time advertised. Details of academic support hours are posted on office doors and on the main Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies noticeboard. If you cannot make the advertised time for any reason, you can e-mail your supervisor to make an appointment.

Please note that academic staff do not hold regular academic support hours during the vacations, and may, on occasions, be away from the University on research trips and visits. Therefore, if you need to get in touch with them during the vacation periods, you should e-mail them in the first instance.

You can find out who is the module supervisor for each Module here: www1.essex.ac.uk/modules/

Your Personal Tutor

All students have a Personal Tutor who will meet you soon after you arrive, and regularly throughout your course. Your Personal Tutor will be a member of the academic staff from within the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies and is there to help you feel connected to your department. Your Personal Tutor is someone who you can talk to if you have questions about your course or encounter any difficulties that may affect your studies, and can recommend and direct you to other support services on campus that might be able to further help and support you. You can find out who your Personal Tutor is through MyEssex, and the contact details of all staff can be found on our website: www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies/people/academic
# Your Department Contacts

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<tr>
<td>Head of Department</td>
<td>Dr Chris Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Head of Department</td>
<td>Dr Kevin Lu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Director of Education                                     | Prof Matt ffytche (Autumn term)  
|                                                           | Prof Roderick Main (Spring and Summer terms)  |
| Director of Graduate Studies (Research)                   | Professor Matt ffytche    |
| Director of Graduate Studies (Taught)                     | Dr Kevin Lu              |
| GTA Co-ordinator                                          | Dr Carolyn Laubender     |
| Director of Research                                      | Dr Raluca Soreanu        |
| Director of Development and Employability                 | Dr Norman Gabriel        |
| Placements Liaison Officer                               | Sue Kegerreis            |
| Academic Offences Officer                                 | Dr Jessica Clark          
|                                                           | Dr Norman Gabriel        
|                                                           | Dr Kevin Lu              |
| Academic Offence Committee Nominees                       | Dr Kevin Lu              
|                                                           | Dr Norman Gabriel        |
| Open Seminars Convenor                                    | Colchester: Prof Roderick Main, Dr Julie Walsh  
|                                                           | Southend: Dr Manuel Batsch |
| Social Media Officer                                      | Dr Carolyn Laubender     |
| Athena Swan Co-ordinator                                  | Dr Julie Walsh           |
| Departmental Disability Liaison Officer and Inclusivity Lead | Dr Zibiah Loakthar    |
| Green Impact                                              | Mark Saban               |
| Tavistock Link                                            | Sue Kegerreis            |

## MA Course Directors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA Jungian and Post-Jungian Studies</td>
<td>Dr Kevin Lu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Psychoanalytic Studies</td>
<td>Dr Leonardo Nascimento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Management and Organisational Dynamics</td>
<td>Chris Tanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Refugee Care</td>
<td>Prof Renos Papadopoulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA Psychodynamic Counselling</td>
<td>Sue Kegerreis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma Psychodynamic Approaches</td>
<td>Sue Kegerreis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff research interests

Dr Manuel Batsch
- Freud’s metapsychology
- The connections between the theory and the practice of psychoanalysis
- The writing of the psychoanalytic session
- Psychoanalysis and post-structuralism
- Psychodynamic approaches to depression

Dr Jessica Clark
- Sociology of childhood and youth
- Ethics in research with children
- Representation and Popular Culture
- Discourse Analysis
- Agency and Interdependency
- Intergenerational relations
- Critical disability studies and disabled children’s childhood studies
- Children’s Geographies

Professor Matt ffytche
- The history of psychoanalysis (particularly mid-twentieth century)
- The relation between psychoanalysis and modernist literature
- The psychoanalytic imaginary and its integration with social and psychosocial theory
- Nineteenth-century theories of the unconscious
- Psychoanalysis and critical theory

Dr Norman Gabriel
- Integrating relational psychoanalysis with relational sociology
- Norbert Elias and process sociology
- Comparing the national habitus of different childhoods
- Beyond developmental psychology and social constructionism?
- Crossing the narrow bridge: the socio-emotional development of young children
- Challenging the adult establishment – children’s humour

Dr David Henderson
- Apophasis and psychoanalysis
- Freud-Jung relationship
- Dialogue in psychoanalysis
- Psychoanalysis and religion
- Cultural homelessness & third culture kids
- History of psychoanalytic theory and clinical practice

Sue Kegerreis
- Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy
- Psychodynamic Counselling with Children and Adolescents
- Applications of Psychodynamic Thinking in non-clinical work
- Organisational Dynamics
- Eating Disorders
- Training issues with Counsellors and Psychotherapists

Dr Carolyn Laubender
- Childhood in the 20th Century
- Feminist & Queer Theory
- Psychoanalysis and Critical Theory/Cultural Studies
• The Politics of Clinical
  Psychoanalysis, Literature, and Film

**Dr Zibiah Alfred Loakthar**
- People's experiences of seeking refuge from persecution
- Voicing identities: power and belonging
- Diasporic community development
- Psychosocial perspectives on Human Rights
- Therapeutic humanitarian interventions
- Charity sector work, social justice campaigns and ethical conundrums
- The changing nature of the refugee voluntary sector in London
- Oral History, museums and public archives
- Life stories of talking therapists
- Equality and Social Inclusion

**Dr Kevin Lu**
- C. G. Jung, analytical psychology, Jungian and Post-Jungian theory
- Psychoanalytic history, psychohistory, psychobiography and oral history
- Transgenerational transmission of trauma
- Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora
- Psychology of Religion
- Graphic Novels
- Racial hybridity

**Professor Roderick Main**
- Historical, philosophical, religious and cultural contexts of the work of C. G. Jung
- Depth psychology (especially Jungian psychology), religion and modernity
- Analytical psychology and society
- Synchronicity
- Myth

**Dr Bethany Morgan Brett**
- Life course and human development
- Death and dying
- Ageing
- Midlife
- Spirituality
- Care in later life
- Intergenerational relationships
- Evaluation design
- Data preservation and data archiving
- Secondary data analysis
- Qualitative Social Research Methods

**Dr Leonardo Nascimento**
- History of Psychoanalysis, Psychology and Psychological Practices
- Epistemology of Psychoanalysis, Psychology and Psychological Practices
- Psychoanalysis and Neuroscience
- Consciousness and Philosophy of Mind
- Psychoanalytic approaches to Manic-Depressive (Bipolar) Disorder

**Dr Chris Nicholson**
- The nature of hysteria and trauma
- Transition in looked after children and higher education
- Psychoanalytic observation and learning
- Therapeutic community theory and practice
- Enabling Environments
• Terror and Islamic terrorism
• Psychoanalytic applications to literature
• Robert Graves: modernism, poetry and *The White Goddess*

**Professor Renos Papadopoulos**
• Involuntary dislocation (forced migration), trauma and refugees
• Working with survivors of violence and disasters
• Psychosocial humanitarian interventions
• Psychosocial perspectives on Human Rights
• The interface between Analytical Psychology and systems, family therapy, and culture
• Epistemology of therapeutic endeavours
• Academic and professional interface with Eastern Orthodox Christianity

**Arianna Pulsoni**
• Child Development
• Infant mental health
• Intergenerational family difficulties
• Autism in relation to early trauma
• Organizational dynamics and group dynamics
• Wellbeing and counselling service in schools
• Psychoanalytic short interventions in schools
• Psychoanalysis
• The integration of Psychoanalysis with Philosophy
• The application of Psychoanalytic theories to Art and Land Art.

**Dr Poul Rohleder**
• Psychoanalysis and Sexuality
• Homophobia, Heteronormativity and Shame
• Psychosocial/Psychoanalytic Disability Studies
• Psychosocial Research on Marginalised Identities
• Psychosocial Aspects of HIV
• Qualitative Research in Psychoanalytic And Psychodynamic Psychotherapies
• Training Issues in Psychotherapy

**Mark Saban**
• The prehistory and early development of analytical psychology
• Psychosocial aspects of analytical psychology
• Philosophical dimensions to psychoanalysis (especially Schelling and Simondon)
• Myth

**Rodrigo Sanchez Escandon**
• Homelessness
• Substance misuse (drug and alcohol)
• Trauma
• Self-harm
• Adult psychotherapy
• Independent school of Psychoanalysis
• Sigmund Freud’s life and work

**Dr Raluca Soreanu**
• Psychoanalytic theory and metapsychology
• The history and epistemology of psychoanalysis
• The Budapest School of Psychoanalysis; the work of Sándor Ferenczi and Michael Balint
• Trauma theories and the study of collective trauma
• Fragmentation and psychic splitting
• Theories of recognition
• Psychosocial studies of collective creativity
- Time studies
- Contemporary social theories; post-humanist theories; feminist theories
- Sociology of emotions; sociology of creativity; sociology of knowledge
- Epistemologies and methodologies of the social sciences and of psychosocial studies

**Chris Tanner**
- Creating effective learning environments
- Psychoanalytic perspectives on organisational dynamics
- Executive coaching and consultancy practice in organisations
- Leadership development-psychoanalytic perspectives
- Compassionate care in health and social care

**Dr Julie Walsh**
- Psychoanalysis
- Gender & sexuality studies
- Social & cultural theory
- The meeting of psychosocial studies and literature

**Dr Deborah Wright**
- Freud, Klein, Bion, Winnicott and Object Relations
- Human relations with the non-human world
- Psychosocial and psychoanalytic perspective on humans’ relationships with their environment
- Children and residential care clients’ relationship with their (bed)rooms
- Patients’ relationship with the consulting room
- Spatialisation, environmental usage and political connotations

**Department location, resources and facilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our location</th>
<th>Direct tel: 01206 873745</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colchester Campus</td>
<td>General enquiries: <a href="mailto:ppspgt@essex.ac.uk">ppspgt@essex.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies</td>
<td>Pre-registration programme enquiries:<a href="mailto:pgadmit@essex.ac.uk">pgadmit@essex.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park</td>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/pps">www.essex.ac.uk/see/pps</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colchester CO4 3SQ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Opening hours**

Our Professional Services Office (5A.202) is open: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm. We are located just off Square 4, enter by the doors labelled 4NW, turn right and go up the steps to the 5A corridor. Proceed along the corridor and turn left, we are around the corner.

A wide range of facilities and resources are available for all students to access and use as part of their study at Essex. Each department and school also has a selection for the exclusive use of their students. Below is a summary of the facilities and resources that are likely to be most useful to you.

**Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies Common Room**
The Department Common Room (5A.325) is located at the end of the corridor from our main Department academic and professional services offices and is for the use of all students and is shared with the Department of Sociology.

**Postgraduate Study Room**
The Postgraduate Study room is available for all research students in our department and is located in 5A.121.
Postgraduate Lockers
There are a limited number of lockers available in the Department Common Room (5A. 325), these are available on a first-come first-served basis. Please empty the locker and return the key when you are finished.

Printing, photocopying and scanning
All students can print, copy and scan for free at Essex! There are over 100+ multi-function devices that can be used at various locations across our three Campuses, including in the following areas:

- All IT labs
- Silberrad Student Centre
- Albert Sloman Library
- Orangery
- Limehouse
- Roding House and Unit 4 (Loughton)
- Gateway Building (Southend)
- The Forum (Southend)

Simply log in to the devices using your Essex login and password, or tap with your student card. These devices can also scan to email and feature mobile printing. Whilst printing is free for all students, please think of your carbon footprint and only print if necessary.

Premium services (chargeable) for printing and finishing, including binding your documents for presentational purposes are available at The Copy Centre (Square 4).

Please note that there are strict laws about infringement of copyright; more information can be found on the library website which explains what and how much you are permitted to copy. Usage is monitored and subject to a fair use policy.

https://library.essex.ac.uk/copyright

Noticeboards
Every department and school has their own noticeboards providing information on staff, courses and classes, updates, careers, events and opportunities. Ours are located in the 5A corridor near to the professional services office 5A.202.

Publications
We have a small Departmental library in room 5A.119. All the books have been donated. Books and journals are for reference, and should be used in the library during office hours and when it is available. Information and a searchable database can be found on Moodle.

Departmental prizes
The Department currently awards the following prizes:

The Freud Prize
This prize is awarded to the student with the best overall performance in MA Psychoanalytic Studies and MA Management & Organisation Dynamics courses. Students must achieve an overall distinction and it is awarded to the highest distinction mark.

The David Holt Prize
This prize, generously donated by Mrs Edith Holt, the widow of distinguished Jungian analyst David Holt, is awarded to the student with the best overall performance in the MA Jungian and Post-Jungian Studies and must achieve a distinction with the best overall profile of marks.
**Paul Ford Memorial Prize**
This prize is awarded to the best dissertation mark in the MA Psychoanalytic Studies (PA981).

**The Artellus Prize**
This prize, generously donated by Artellus Ltd, is awarded annually to the student who completes the MA Refugee Care with a distinction and the best overall profile of marks.

**Communication**
It is important to keep up to date with information relating to your department and course. This section also summarises how the department will communicate updates with you and provides some guidance on communicating with University staff.

The University’s policy is to use e-mail for routine communication between staff and students. Your Essex e-mail address will have been added to the relevant e-mail groups specific to your department or school, course and modules to ensure that you receive the essential information, updates and general communication related to your study and issues that may affect you. It is therefore vital that you check your Essex email regularly. It is recommended that you check your Essex email each day to ensure you do not miss any important updates to classes and assessment.

If you are elected to be a Student Representative or volunteer in another form or means, it is even more important to regularly check your Essex email should other students and staff need to get in touch with you.

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, please visit:

https://www1.essex.ac.uk/it/services/forms/default.aspx

**How you should communicate**
While email can be a quick and easy means of communicating, you should still consider how you structure and write each email to ensure it is appropriate when contacting members of staff at the University. How you communicate is a reflection on your professional and academic self, and so we have provided some useful tips to consider when constructing an email for different purposes. These are also useful when contacting professionals and academics outside of the University and are widely recognised as a matter of courtesy in the United Kingdom.

**The level of formality**
- If you are writing to your lecturer for the first time, it is good practice to use a relatively formal manner and use their correct title, for example, ‘Dear Dr Bercow’ or ‘Dear Professor Hammond’.
- If your lecturer signs their reply using their first name, then it is generally acceptable to reply using just their first name in your response; if not, continue to address them with their full, formal name.

If you are unsure of your lecturer’s title, you can find their full details here: www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies/people/academic. If no title is noted, then you should use the member of staff’s full name.

**Identify yourself**
- In the first few weeks of term, academic staff will be busy getting to know all of their students. Therefore, it is important that you begin by introducing and identifying yourself to them as they will not know every student right away. For example, ‘I am taking module AB123 and was at your lecture on Research Methods on Tuesday morning…’
- You should always use your Essex email as your full name will appear to the member of staff you are emailing, but still remember to sign off your email with your name, including your preferred name if this is different to your official legal name on your record and account.
Consider your question

- You should always check that who you are contacting is the most appropriate person to answer your query. The useful department contact list provided earlier in this section should help you determine who will be able to help you on a range of different queries.
- Before emailing the member of staff, you should make sure that you have checked the resources provided, including the University website, Student Directory, Departmental Moodle pages and this Student Handbook in case the answer to your question can be found in one of these.

If your question is particularly long or complex, it may be quicker and more useful to see someone in person. Your department office is open daily and all staff hold academic support hours when you can just drop in. If you cannot make the advertised support hours, or wish to notify the member of staff before you drop in, you can always email them beforehand to arrange an alternative time or make them aware you will be coming along.

Our website

Each department and school has its own section of the University website. This is an important source of information and news about all aspects of your studies. You can find the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies website here: www.essex.ac.uk/departments/psychosocial-and-psychoanalytic-studies

MyEssex

Your MyEssex student portal will alert you to updates about modules and other aspects of your course and studies. It is important that you check your MyEssex regularly, as well as email, to ensure you have the most up to date information.

By telephone

You will only be contacted via phone in emergencies, or when it is otherwise necessary to receive an immediate response, but you should ensure that you provide the University with a contact number with your personal details.

By text message

In instances where a last minute change has been made, and the department or school need to communicate this with short notice, you may receive a text message to communicate the change, such as a lecture or class cancellation. You should ensure that you provide the University with a contact number with your personal details.

By letter

Letters may be attached to your Essex email or posted to your term-time address, so please make sure the University has got your current contact details. Your address and contact details can be updated via the MyEssex portal.

Social Media

https://www.facebook.com/ctaressex/?ref=py_c
https://essexmyth.wordpress.com/
https://twitter.com/PPS_Essex
Learning and Teaching

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.

The academic year

The academic year uses a week numbering system that covers the 52 weeks of a calendar year, but corresponds to typical term dates. So, the start of the academic year is week 1, which is Welcome week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Week numbers</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>2-11</td>
<td>3 October 2019 – 13 December 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>16-25</td>
<td>13 January 2020 – 20 March 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>20 April 2020 – 26 June 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can view the University’s week numbers with the equivalent dates in the week by week calendar. The University’s key dates include an overview of the start and end of each term and exam periods. Some courses within departments have slightly different term dates. However, you will find that all campus activities and events make reference to the standard academic year terms and schedule noted above.

The official University teaching day runs from 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday and you are expected to be available during these times in term time to attend teaching events.

Module enrolment

You may have had to select some optional modules as part of your course structure. If this is the case, you should have done this prior to the start of term. More information on how to do this can be found in the ‘Getting Started’ section of this handbook and a full list of modules available in the department can be found here: [www1.essex.ac.uk/modules/](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/modules/)

Teaching timetable

Once you have chosen all of your modules (if applicable) and received confirmation, they will appear on your personal timetable. Each student has a personal timetable, and this shows you when and where your teaching is taking place, as well as who is teaching you. Check your personal online timetable regularly for up to date teaching information. You can access your timetable on most mobile devices, including smart phones and tablets.

[www1.essex.ac.uk/timetables/timetable.aspx](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/timetables/timetable.aspx)

You may find that the first week of your timetable is blank if you do not have any course commitments during Welcome Week (week 1). Due to unforeseen, unavoidable circumstances, there may be some room changes during the year. It is, therefore, vital that you regularly check your timetable and Essex email where any changes will be communicated immediately.

Information about teaching timetables, including requesting a class change, reporting a timetable issue and accessing your individual timetable can be found at: [www.essex.ac.uk/student/timetables/your-timetable](http://www.essex.ac.uk/student/timetables/your-timetable)
**Reading weeks**
Please see your timetable for information on when teaching takes place and refer to the module outlines on Moodle.

**Course structure**
Each course at the University has its own syllabus, full details of which can be found in the University’s Programme Specifications Catalogue at:

www1.essex.ac.uk/programmespecs/

Programme specifications provide key information, including the aims and learning outcomes of your course. Your own course structure, including your specific programme specification, can be found in the MyStudy section of your MyEssex homepage.

www1.essex.ac.uk/myessex/

**Learning Outcomes**
Each course has learning outcomes, as outlined in the Programme Specifications. Course learning outcomes are categorised into knowledge, intellectual, practical and key skills, and are also defined more specifically at a modular level highlighting the particular aims, learning outcomes and methods of assessment for each module. Having this information means that 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.

**Module information**
New modules are regularly explored, researched and developed in collaboration with the University’s Quality and Academic Development Team to expand our transformative educational offering at Essex. A full list of modules available in the department can be found here:

www1.essex.ac.uk/modules/

**Module Supervisors**
Module supervisors are responsible for the individual modules, which make up courses. They design the modules, teach them and examine them. They monitor student progress and talk to students about any academic issues related to their particular module.

**Module Materials**
Reading lists for each module can be found on Talis. All other information and module materials can be found on Moodle.

**Library Services**
At our Colchester Campus, the **Albert Sloman Library** on Square 5 is open 24/7 and has a variety of study spaces over six floors, including individual and group work areas. The Library offers a wide range of learning resources, online and in print, with a dedicated Helpdesk, live chat and the opportunity to book appointments with your Subject Librarian to help you through your studies and beyond.

library.essex.ac.uk

The library has a team of Subject Librarians who can help you to find appropriate resources for your assignments and show you how to search effectively. They can also provide advice on referencing and academic integrity, using reference management software, and evaluating sources. Find out who your subject Librarian is and get help with your subject area at library.essex.ac.uk/studyres
**Skills for Success**

We are committed to ensuring that every student is able to get the most out of their academic study and achieve their potential on their course. Whether you need support with researching, assignment writing, mathematics and statistics, digital skills, or English language for academic purposes, support is available to help you succeed during your time at University. Reach your potential and enhance your chances of success with classes, workshops, drop-in clinics and on-line resources. Find out more at: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc/](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/study-resources/tdc/)

**The use of proofreading services**

Many students seek ‘proofreading’ services at some point during their studies, but different editing practices at times go on in this name that may not be appropriate in an academic context, and could potentially qualify as an academic offence. In a context where work is to be assessed, the University is keen to ensure as far as possible that students understand what proofreading work should entail and the acceptable boundaries to which any proofreading or editing must adhere to.

The University maintain a list of local freelance proof-readers who offer services to students and staff at Essex. These proof-readers have read and agreed to abide by the University’s policy and guidance on proofreading. The University’s full policy and guidance can be found along with the list of local freelance proof-readers on the website: [www.essex.ac.uk/student/academic-skills/proofreading](http://www.essex.ac.uk/student/academic-skills/proofreading)

**Before considering the use of proofreading services, all students should first discuss their work with their personal tutors.**

**Learning a Language**

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)

**Attendance Monitoring (Count me in)**

**Recording attendance**

You’ll need to **record your attendance** at all teaching events using the electronic reader in the teaching room. Just ‘tap in’ for every timetabled teaching event you attend.

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 extra guidance and support.

**You should not tap in and then immediately leave the teaching event; you should not tap in for someone who is not attending the class.** These are recognised by the University as a formal academic offence and may result in disciplinary action being taken against you.

**Recording an absence**

If you are unable to attend a teaching event, you must report your absence in your [MyEssex](https://my.essex.ac.uk) portal.

Your department consider the reasons and may record it as an authorised absence. Accepted reasons for absence from teaching include extenuating circumstances (such as illness), participation in certain events (such as a significant extra-curricular University or SU Society event or Jury...
Service). Examples of reasons that will not be accepted include oversleeping, or missing the bus or train. Be prepared that you may need to provide evidence, including medical evidence, if relevant.

If you need to report an absence from an examination or class test, you must report your absence in your MyEssex portal and submit an extenuating circumstances form. You can find out how to do this in the Extenuating Circumstances section of this Handbook.

Please contact your Personal Tutor, department staff or the Student Services Hub for advice and support, particularly if you are going to be absent for several weeks.

**Lost or faulty cards**

If you lose your card or it is faulty, please go to the Student Services Hub to get a new card and have your attendance record updated (a fee may be applicable).

https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/advice-and-support/ssh-colchester
https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/advice-and-support/ssh-loughton
https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/advice-and-support/ssh-southend

**Fitness to practise**

Fitness to practise is only applicable to students on certain professional courses (such as nursing or social work) and is designed to ensure that a student is suitable for engagement in the relevant profession. Students are notified at the point of enrolment if their course of study is subject to the terms of this procedure. Students enrolled on courses where a practical professional placement is required have additional responsibilities placed upon them regarding not only their conduct but also their professional suitability as outlined in relevant regulatory and/or professional body codes of practice. Failure to meet these responsibilities can lead to the Breach of Professional Conduct with the Fitness to Practice, and the Termination of Training Procedure may be invoked. If this applies to you, you will have been told by your department. You can find the full Fitness to Practise procedure online at: www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg

**Making changes to your study**

*Changing your course*

If you are thinking about changing course, we recommend that you speak to someone in your school/department as soon as possible. They will be able to advise you if there are any specific requirements for the course you are looking to change to. If the course you are looking to change to is within a different school/department, then you should also speak to someone in that department. If you are thinking of undertaking a placement year or year abroad, you should check the requirements for these programmes and contact the Industry and Placements Team or Essex Abroad Team.

There are deadlines in place for when you need to change course by, so please make sure you are aware of these deadlines before requesting to change. Further details on changing course and the relevant deadlines can be found at www.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/changing-course.aspx or by visiting your Student Services Hub.

You should 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 want to change your mode of study from full-time to part-time, you should discuss this with our departmental staff. If this is possible, you will need to make a formal request, to be approved by your Department and Dean, using the online Change of Mode of Study form which you can find online:
Changing your mode of study may affect your immigration status and you may need to contact the Home Office or make a new Tier 4 application. Please carefully read our guidance on visas and course changes:

www1.essex.ac.uk/immigration/studies/changes_course.aspx

Maximum period of study

Postgraduate students have a maximum period in which to complete their studies. This is set from the date you are first admitted to a taught postgraduate programme. It is based on the normal length of the course, plus one or more additional years. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, periods of intermission will count towards the original maximum period.

Further details on the maximum period for your course can be found in the Credit Framework for Taught Postgraduate courses.

www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/pgt/assess-rules.aspx

Thinking of leaving or taking a break from your studies?

You may experience doubts at some point during your studies. If you’re thinking about leaving Essex, we’re here to support you and give you the advice you need to help you make an informed choice.

Intermission is a temporary withdrawal or leave of absence from the University and provides you with the opportunity to take a break from your studies. Normally, this is for reasons beyond your control (e.g. health or personal problems) although other reasons are permitted. Intermission must be approved by the University first, so if you are thinking about intermitting, we strongly advise you to contact your department and your Student Services Hub to talk to one of our advisers.

You should also read our guidance on intermitting very carefully at www.essex.ac.uk/see/intermit. If your intermission is agreed to, we will also give you the advice and support you need to help you carry on with your studies.

Withdrawing is the formal process for permanently leaving your programme of study and the University. If you are thinking of withdrawing, you should seek advice from your Department or the Student Services Hub at the earliest opportunity. It is very important that you discuss your circumstances with the University and follow the formal procedure for withdrawing. If the university is not formally notified, then you may risk continuing to incur further tuition or accommodation fees. More advice and information is available at www.essex.ac.uk/see/withdraw.

The use of personal devices in teaching

You can use laptops and tablet PCs during teaching classes for purposes related to the class you are attending. You should refrain from using your mobile phone during all teaching events, except in cases where a lecturer uses a programme which requires these devices to be switched on for participation.
Assessment and Good Practice

All schools and departments at the University should employ a variety of assessment methods designed to ensure that the learning outcomes of each module, and course, have been successfully met by the student.

The Regulations relating to Academic Affairs which govern assessment at the University can be found online:

www.essex.ac.uk/governance/regulations

Rules of Assessment
The Rules of Assessment are used to calculate your results. There is a main set of rules for 3 year and 4 year courses, but some departments also have additional variations which can be found in the Variation to the Rules of Assessment.

www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/ug/default.aspx

In the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies we do have a variation to the Rules of Assessment which can be found here:

www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/documents/roa/18-19/ma-psychodynamic-counselling-3-year-18.pdf

Each module you will take will have a credit value which you are awarded if you successfully complete the module. You need to obtain a certain amount of credits to be awarded your degree, and the Rules of Assessment and the Framework for taught postgraduate courses give you more information about this.

The following is only a summary of the key points. You should read the rules and make sure you understand them. If you need advice, ask your personal tutor, departmental administrator, or SU Advice.

Core, compulsory and optional modules
To understand the requirements to pass your course, you need to know the status of the modules that you are taking. You can find details of the status of your modules in Section C of your programme specification via My Essex.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core</th>
<th>You must take this module</th>
<th>Must pass this module. No failure can be permitted.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>You must take this module</td>
<td>There might be limited opportunities to continue on the course/be eligible for the degree if you fail it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>You can choose which module to study</td>
<td>There might be limited opportunities to continue on the course/be eligible for the degree if you fail it.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most modules in each year must be passed, with only a small number of credits, if any, being allowed to be failed in the degree.
**Ethics in research**

All research involving human participants, whether undertaken by the University's staff or students, **must** undergo an ethics review by an appropriate body and ethical approval **must** be obtained before it commences. You can find our Guidelines for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants [here](https://erams.essex.ac.uk/do/essex-login/login) - along with a link to the online Ethical Approval application form in ERAMS.

‘Human participants’ are defined as including living human beings, human beings who have recently died (cadavers, human remains and body parts), embryos and foetuses, 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). **Research involving the NHS may require, and research involving human tissue or adults lacking capacity to consent will require, Health Research Authority approval.**

**Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies Confidentiality Policy**

The Confidentiality Policy can be found on the Moodle course entitled, ‘Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies – Information for Current Students’.

Submissions of coursework that breach the policy, explicitly or implicitly, in the view of the internal assessor/moderator will be penalised. A breach of confidentiality is an offence that will be referred to the Director of Education for investigation and may lead to a fail.

**Academic Integrity and Academic Offences**

The University expects students to complete all assessment with honesty and integrity and to follow our conventions for academic writing (including appropriate referencing of sources) and ethical considerations. If you don’t meet these expectations, then you may be charged with having committed an academic offence, a matter the University takes very seriously.

It is your responsibility to make yourself aware of the regulations governing examinations and how to correctly prepare your coursework. An academic offence can take place even if you didn’t mean to commit one, and examples include plagiarism, falsifying data or evidence, and communicating with another candidate in an examination.

If you aren’t sure what the conventions are, particularly in relation to referencing, you should ask your department and contact Skills for Success via the Student Services Hub.

More information about academic offences and getting support can be found at: [www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/academic-offences.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/academic-offences.aspx)

**Methods of Assessment**

Whether a module is core, compulsory or optional, all methods of assessment are compulsory. If you do not complete coursework or attend examinations, and do not have extenuating circumstances to support your non-submission or absence, then you are at risk of being withdrawn from the University.

**Coursework**

All assignments should have the following information at the front of the essay. **Please do not add your name on your work.**

- Title of essay
- Registration number
- Module number
- Word length
Please note:

- When you log on to the link you should see a list of all your modules. If a particular module is not listed, please contact the Student Administrator.
- For each of the modules listed, you will be able to store your work-in-progress while you are preparing your assignments. You can add or delete files just as often as you wish.
- All work (essay, reference list, appendices) related to any one assignment must be submitted in one file.
- You must supply a computer generated word count on your essays and Dissertation as the word count generated by FASER will include reference lists.
- Essays and dissertations must be double spaced and the font in at least 12pt type size.
- You must only submit Word files. Microsoft Works (.wps) files must not be submitted. If you create a document with Works, you must convert (file, followed by save as) the file to Rich Text format (.rtf) before submitting to the system.
- Only the file submitted immediately before the deadline will be treated as the formal electronic submission.
- **Do not put your name on your work.** Your work is identified as yours by your registration number which is captured electronically. Your work is marked by staff who will not know your registration number. They will not know if any piece of work belongs to a specific student. If you do not trust electronic capture of your work, you are welcome to put your registration number on your essay. Essays are identified by the Student Administrators after marking.
- FASER provides you with an ideal place to keep partially completed work. It can act as a backup to your own files and prevents work being lost if your computer crashes.
- Submission dates for each module are published in this handbook but also check the submission deadlines on FASER.
- This will give the exact date and time for submission of work.
- Read the online instructions very carefully. If you experience any problems, please contact the Student Administrators.
- You will automatically receive an email receipt to your University of Essex email address once your essay has been successfully submitted. However, if you do not receive a receipt immediately this might mean you have not submitted correctly. Please try again ensuring that you have submitted to the correct assignment code. We have had students who have submitted to the test page by mistake.
- Finally, check that you have submitted the correct essay.

**Academic writing support**

**Essay writing**

To make your essay a good one you **must** answer the question, whether given to you or posed by you, have a theme and present an argument on the theme convincingly to the reader.

The reader should know at the outset what case you are making, and why – why it is important, why they should bother reading it. The grade will reflect the degree to which your submission fulfils the rubric of the essay and carries through with your argument. You could submit a paper with many accurate pieces of information and not achieve a pass, because your paper fails to meet the requirements stated above. To gain a good mark you should propose and pursue a topic, show a grasp of relevant literature and methodological issues, and consistently follow through with your argument.
To give you an idea of how marks are awarded and to help you steer away from elements which would gain a low grade, you can find below a description of the features of essays across the range of standards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Elements</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fail (0 – 39)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Condonable fail (40 – 49)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Pass (50 – 59)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Merit (60 – 69)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Distinction (70 – 79)</strong></th>
<th><strong>High distinction (80 – 100)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Understanding, critical engagement, and originality</strong></td>
<td>Little or no understanding. Very poor grasp of the topic.</td>
<td>Limited and patchy understanding. Poor grasp of the topic.</td>
<td>Some understanding, but rather narrow.</td>
<td>Substantial understanding. Limited appreciation of nuances/wider perspective</td>
<td>Very good understanding. Some critical insight/originality shown.</td>
<td>Excellent. Critical insight and originality clearly evident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading, research and referencing</strong></td>
<td>Little or no evidence of reading/research. Citation/referencing absent or full of errors.</td>
<td>Narrow and superficial reading/research. Numerous errors in citation/referencing.</td>
<td>Adequate reading/research. Some errors in citation/referencing.</td>
<td>Good overall coverage of literature/research material. Generally accurate citation/referencing.</td>
<td>Broad and deep coverage of literature/research material. Only minor errors in citation/referencing.</td>
<td>Totally assured coverage of literature/research material. Accurately cited and referenced.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Dissertations**

- The expectations of the Masters Dissertation will be outlined in the dissertation module outlines available on Moodle.
- The dissertation must be 12,000 words (10,000 for MA Psychodynamic Counselling students), with a 10% margin.
- Dissertation specific training is provided in module PA915-7-FY.
- Students on all Masters courses apart from MA Psychodynamic Counselling are expected to produce a research proposal of about 2,000 words by the end of the Spring Term of the year in
which you will be completing. Guidance on how to develop and present your research proposal will be given in PA915-7-FY.

- Supervisory arrangements are made individually by the student and supervisor. The supervisor will provide at least four hours of supervision, apart from reading drafts of written work.
- Supervisors will read only sections of your dissertation, and will not read final drafts.
- Your dissertation must be submitted by the deadline unless you have experienced extenuating circumstances and have formally applied for and been granted an extension.
- Your supervisor can be available to help you over the summer vacation but make sure you agree the summer arrangements before the end of term, as staff have their own vacation and other commitments.
- Ethical approval resources: [www.essex.ac.uk/reo/governance/human.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/reo/governance/human.aspx)

**Samples of dissertations**
The Administrative office holds copies of dissertations, which students can have access to.

**Samples of coursework**
Please contact your module supervisor for information.

**Referencing in coursework**
Respecting authorship through good academic practice is one of the key values of higher education in the UK.

The University takes academic offences very seriously. You should read the sections of this handbook which refer to referencing, coursework and examinations very carefully.

Referencing is a key academic/scientific skill. It is how you will acknowledge all sources used within a piece of work. You must reference all works used directly (quotes) and indirectly (paraphrasing and summarising).

Referencing allows you to give credit to authors'/researchers' concepts and ideas/ideas and results, demonstrate your breadth of reading and knowledge on a subject, direct readers to your sources, and avoid plagiarism.

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

Your departmental referencing style is APA. To find out about your departmental referencing style and for help with referencing, visit the library website: [library.essex.ac.uk/referencing](http://library.essex.ac.uk/referencing), or take the Academic Integrity Moodle course: [https://moodle.essex.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=5844](https://moodle.essex.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=5844)

Please remember that the Academic Offences Procedure applies to all students: [www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/academic-offences.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/academic-offences.aspx)

**Submission of coursework**
The online coursework submission system (FASER) can be accessed through myEssex or at this web address: [http://faser.essex.ac.uk/](http://faser.essex.ac.uk/) where you will find full instructions. The system allows you to upload a digital copy of your assignment to the web.

You are encouraged to log on to FASER at the start of the year so that you understand how it works before you reach your first deadline. There is a trial module and deadline for you to use as a practice
submission. There is a helpful guidance on how to use FASER here: [www1.essex.ac.uk/e-learning/tools/faser/Student/HelpCentre#uploading](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/e-learning/tools/faser/Student/HelpCentre#uploading)

You can upload as many draft versions of your work as you like onto the server and are encouraged to use this as a safe and secure area to store your coursework. This can help to avoid the problem of your computer crashing at the last minute and your important files being lost. In cases where multiple versions are uploaded you will **need to mark any which you do NOT want to be included in the final submission a ‘draft’**, otherwise just the most recently uploaded file will be taken as the final version. The maximum file upload size is **50MB**.

**Problems with FASER**

If you have technical difficulties: Please contact the Learning Technology Team – ltt@essex.ac.uk – as soon as possible to find out if this is a University issue or whether it may be a problem with your computer. This will count towards your claim when submitting a late coursework form should you need to. You can also contact IT Services helpdesk on [it.helpdesk@essex.ac.uk](mailto:it.helpdesk@essex.ac.uk)

If you are confused or unsure how to upload, or are having any non-technical difficulties you should contact your Student Administrator.

**Late submission of coursework**

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.

Where a student is unable to undertake the assessment by the deadline, and it is deemed impossible to consider a late submission request due to the nature of the assessment (e.g. absence from in-class tests, practical assignments and presentations), an extenuating circumstances form should be submitted which will be considered by the Board of Examiners.

The University’s full Late Submission policy and further information can be found on the website: [www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/late-submission.aspx](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/late-submission.aspx)

**Return of coursework**

Essay feedback and marks will be returned via FASER. The University has a policy to provide feedback on assessed work within twenty working days from the date of submission.

**Moderation and marking**

The University’s Marking Policy can be found online and includes our policy and procedure on the moderation of work.

[www1.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/examination_and_assessment/marking_policy/default.asp](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/examination_and_assessment/marking_policy/default.asp)

**Anonymous marking**

Anonymous marking is when your work is marked anonymously, i.e. your name is not attached to the piece of work for marking.

Where it is practical to do so, all coursework which contributes to your final module mark should be marked anonymously. Where this is not possible, departments will inform you in advance of the assessment task.
All formal **examinations** at the University of Essex are marked anonymously. You will be provided with a candidate number on your exam entry form. This will be in large print in the centre of the page. This is the number you should write on your examination scripts. It is important that you do this so we can, once the paper has been marked, allocate the marks to your record correctly.

**Moderation**
Moderation is a process separate from that of marking and provides assurance that the assessment criteria have been applied appropriately. 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. In instances where the moderator feels marks may not be entirely appropriate, the moderator would not change individual marks for the work, but would liaise with the first marker to agree whether marks should be reviewed across the particular piece of assessment or module. Should a review of marks be agreed, this may lead to marks being adjusted accordingly.

**Second 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 keep a full record of both individual and agreed marks for all work which is second marked.

**Double marking**
Double marking is when two markers mark an essay without seeing each other’s marks and comments and then confer after they have completed their marking to agree a final mark.

**Re-marking of coursework**
You may, under certain circumstances, have the right to request a re-mark of your coursework. Should you feel that your work needs to be reviewed and potentially re-marked, you should first contact your department to advise you accordingly and assess whether you meet the criteria to be able to submit a request for re-marking.

The re-marking of work is included within the University’s Marking Policy can be found here: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/examination_and_assessment/marking_policy](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/examination_and_assessment/marking_policy).

In order to make a request, you will need to complete a form. By submitting your work for re-marking, your marks are not guaranteed to increase, but the mark awarded after re-marking will override your original mark. Therefore, please be aware that in all incidences where coursework is re-marked, it is possible that your marks could go down, as well as up.

**External Examiners**
External Examiners are typically academics from other universities, but may also be from industry, business or the relevant 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. Unless the External Examiner has been specifically sent work to arbitrate on a dispute between internal markers, the External Examiner’s role in assessment will be as a moderator. 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 here: [www.essex.ac.uk/quality/external_examiners/default.asp](http://www.essex.ac.uk/quality/external_examiners/default.asp)
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 Representative, your Head of Department, or the Students’ Union.

**Appeals**

Appeals on academic grounds can be made following the meeting of the Board of Examiners and the publication of your results. There are limited grounds available to appeal on and strict deadlines to adhere to. As such, we strongly advise all students thinking about making an appeal to contact the SU Advice Centre.

More information about appeals, including the deadlines and forms to complete, can be found online at: [www.essex.ac.uk/see/appeals](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/appeals)

**Extenuating Circumstances**

Extenuating circumstances are circumstances beyond your control which cause you to perform to less of a standard in your coursework or examinations than you might have expected, or in some instances, may prevent you from submitting coursework or attending an exam entirely. In general, valid extenuating circumstances will be of medical or personal natures that affect you for any significant period of time and/or during assessment.

Your department will review your claim at an Extenuating Circumstances Committee and determine whether it will be accepted or rejected. The Board of Examiners will determine an appropriate course of action and the corresponding methods, if appropriate, such as permitting further reassessment opportunities for uncapped marks. Please note that extra marks cannot be given in light of extenuating circumstances.

If you do need to make an extenuating circumstances claim, you should first read the guidance very carefully and seek advice from SU Advice ([www.essex.su/advice](http://www.essex.su/advice)) or the Student Services Hub ([www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/default.aspx](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/default.aspx)). Please be prepared that you may need to include supporting evidence with your claim. Extenuating circumstance claims must be submitted via MyEssex by the appropriate deadline noted.

[www1.essex.ac.uk/myessex/ExtenuatingCircumstancesHome.aspx](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/myessex/ExtenuatingCircumstancesHome.aspx)

Further information and the full Extenuating Circumstances Policy can be found on the website: [www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ext-circ.aspx](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ext-circ.aspx)

**Feedback**

Feedback is provided to students via a coversheet on their marked essay on FASER.

**The Board of Examiners**

The Board of Examiners meet at the end of the Summer Term and use the Rules of Assessment to determine whether:

- you can be awarded credit for the modules you have studied
- you have met the requirements to progress to the next stage of your course (if you are on a course which lasts more than one year)
- you have met the requirements to pass your course
- you are eligible to receive a merit or distinction
If it is determined that you have not passed sufficient credits to progress to the next stage of study, or, for final year students, to graduate, the Board of Examiners will also determine:

- what reassessment you could be offered and when you can take it

**Failure to pass**
The following is only a summary of the key points. You should read the rules and make sure you understand them. If you need advice, ask your personal tutor, departmental administrator, or SU Advice.

If you **fail your course** you are not able to repeat it. The Rules of Assessment for Postgraduate Taught Awards only allow reassessment for up to a maximum of 60 credits worth of modules for taught masters degrees. The Board of Examiners will inform you if you are eligible for reassessment once it has considered your marks.

If you **fail your dissertation** you may be permitted by the Board of Examiners to resubmit your work, provided you meet the criteria as set out in the Rules of Assessment for Postgraduate Taught Awards. Alternatively, if you have obtained enough credits in your taught modules, you may be eligible for another award such as a postgraduate diploma or certificate.

**Credit accumulation**
You can decide if you want to **accumulate credit** by taking individual modules with the aim of achieving a postgraduate award; this is called **Modular study**. There are opportunities to achieve postgraduate awards through **credit accumulation study** in an increasing number of departments, as an alternative to standard full or part-time study. You can find more information on the ‘Study by credit accumulation’ webpages: [www1.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/credit-accumulation.asp](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/quality/university_policies/credit-accumulation.asp)

Individual modules can yield 15, 20, 30 or 40 credits depending upon which department you are studying in. Each award has a defined structure, normally consisting of a combination of core, compulsory and optional modules, and requires a specific volume of credit to be achieved:

- Graduate/Postgraduate Certificates - 60 credits (all taught module credits)
- Graduate/Postgraduate Diplomas - 120 credits (all taught module credits)
- Masters Courses - 180 credits (normally 120 credits of taught module credits and a 60 credit dissertation or equivalent)

Credit is awarded for successful completion of individual modules. Students taking a credit-accumulation route of study register for the separate modules individually and accumulate the required volume of credit for the relevant award, including the dissertation if necessary. You will be given a different registration number for each module.

The Rules of Assessment are different when you study individual modules; make sure you check the relevant Rules of Assessment for the award you’re studying towards.

**You will have a maximum of six years to study** (this is usually five years with a sixth year for a dissertation). We measure the six years from the first module you register on towards the award.

You can find out more information here: [www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/pgt/modular](http://www.essex.ac.uk/students/exams-and-coursework/ppg/pgt/modular) and you should talk to your tutors about fees, and applying accumulated credit towards an award.
Examination results
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.aspx

Students must not attempt to engage the member of staff in discussions about whether the work has been marked correctly. The marks will have been approved by the external examiners and ratified by the examination board.

Reassessment
You may only undertake reassessment if the Board of Examiners says that you may do so.

If you have to take compulsory reassessment, whether coursework or examination, it is really important that you do this. If you do not, it is likely that you will be unable to progress with your studies at the University. The Board of Examiners will not consider permitting you to proceed carrying fails if you have not undertaken the required reassessment offered.

Please be aware that reassessment in examinations and coursework carries a fee.

Reassessed modules are normally capped at the pass mark of 40% unless you have extenuating circumstances which are accepted by the Exam Board. Please be aware that reassessment in examinations and coursework carries a fee.

In the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies, re-assessment at Postgraduate taught level is by coursework only (For PA modules). If a student fails a module, the Board of Examiners may offer an opportunity to re-sit the failed elements of the assessment. The resubmitted coursework will be aggregated against the marks of the coursework that have already been passed at the Examination Board to determine that a student has passed a module as normal.

Feedback
If you need to undertake any reassessment on a module, your department will provide you with written feedback on any elements being reassessed.

Exit Awards
If you decide to withdraw from your course before you finish, or you fail too many credits to be awarded an MA degree, you may be awarded a qualification at a lower level, if appropriate.
Computers, Learning Technologies and your Information

Computers

Using a campus computer

If you need to use a computer on campus our computer labs are the perfect place to study or work. We also have group study pods which are ideal for group projects. You can find a full list of computers available to use on our website: https://www1.essex.ac.uk/it/labs/usage/. Many labs stay open until late and some are open 24/7. Labs may be booked for teaching, and so it is best to check availability first.

As part of your IT account at Essex, all students have full access to:

- **Office 365**
  Office 365 is an online version of the Microsoft Office suite of programmes. You can access these by logging into your account from anywhere, which means you can use Microsoft programmes from at home too.

- **1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space**
  OneDrive lets you create, edit, and share documents online so you can access them from anywhere in the world and from any device.

- **1 GB of local storage**
  This is known as your M: drive. You can only access this when logged onto a lab computer on campus. Go to ‘This PC’ and select the M: drive network. If you want to access documents saved here from your personal laptop, you will need to either save them in your OneDrive or transfer the documents in another secure method, such as via USB.

Information on other software available to students and general IT matters is available here: www.essex.ac.uk/it/services/computers-and-software/default.aspx?tab=3

IT Help and Guidance

You can search the Student Directory for more IT information, including how-to guides, answers to frequently asked questions, and links to video screencasts.

www.essex.ac.uk/student

If you can’t find what you’re looking for, or if you need to talk to someone, then the IT Helpdesk team are here to assist you further. The contact details for your campus Helpdesk can be found online along with the opening times: www.essex.ac.uk/student/it-services/it-helpdesk

Learning Technologies and Systems

eNROL

The eNROL system is an online tool to review and select available modules specific to a particular course and year of study. All new and returning students should use the online system prior to the start of each academic year.

www1.essex.ac.uk/enrol(Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2Fenrol%2F
**Learner Engagement Activity Portal (LEAP)**

LEAP is our student centred, personalised engagement tool. LEAP displays your engagement with university resources (Moodle, FASER, Listen Again, the Library, the usage of university computers and attendance). [https://leap.essex.ac.uk/login](https://leap.essex.ac.uk/login)

An algorithm within LEAP combines your engagement with university resources and activities to produce an overall engagement indicator. There are 5 engagement indicators (high, good, partial, low and very low) which will help you map and better understand your engagement pattern over time.

By providing you with a more holistic view of your studying experience, LEAP offers you the opportunity to take control of your own learning and make more informed choices about your studies, enabling you to:

- Reflect on your academic activities and overall engagement to make informed decisions about your academic studies
- Discover who your Personal Tutor is
- Review the notes created in LEAP from meetings with Tutors or other university staff
- Check your attendance and ensure the information is correct

Tutors and other university staff may use the information in LEAP to:

- Suggest ways you could achieve better outcomes
- Check that all is well and offer information, advice and guidance
- Help you in areas of their studies that you are finding a challenge

**Moodle**

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.

[https://moodle.essex.ac.uk/](https://moodle.essex.ac.uk/)

**FASER**

FASER is our online coursework submission and feedback system. Use it to check coursework deadlines, upload coursework and receive electronic feedback all in one place.

[fasers.essex.ac.uk](fasers.essex.ac.uk)

**Talis Aspire**

Talis Aspire is our online reading list system. Use it to find out the details of each week’s reading and to access resources through the library.

[https://essex.rl.talis.com/index.html](https://essex.rl.talis.com/index.html)

**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](listenagain.essex.ac.uk)

**Your information**

**Changes to your information**

During your period of study at Essex, you may wish to be known by a preferred name or update your legal name. This can be done via our student record database (ESIS). It is important you keep your
information up to date. Information about updating your name on your student record is available at: https://www1.essex.ac.uk/students/course-admin/default.aspx

**Your personal information**

We collect and hold lots of information about you, your course, and your progress so that we know who you are, what you’re doing, and how you are getting on. This means we can support you and also improve our services to reflect the need of our students.

All information about you is kept securely, and access to your information is only given to staff who need it in order to do their job. Where possible, we will ask you for your permission to share. You have a right to ask for copies of information we hold about you.

www.essex.ac.uk/records_management/request

To find out more about what information we collect, what we do with it, who gets to see it, and your rights under the data Protection Act 2018, read our Privacy Notice for students.

www1.essex.ac.uk/records_management/policies/students.aspx
Student Voice
At the University of Essex, the views, ideas and feedback of our students are at the heart of what the University does. The time students take to offer feedback is hugely appreciated. This feedback, both positive and developmental, is used to help make short and longer term improvements, both to the experience of current students, but also for Essex students of the future. You can do this in a number of ways.

Student Representatives
You can contact (or volunteer to be) a student representative who represent the voice of fellow students in departmental Student Voice Groups (SVG) and other University level committees.

www.essexstudent.com/representation/coursereps/
www.essex.ac.uk/quality/student_representation/student_rep.asp

Student Voice Groups
Student Voice Groups (SVGs), formerly known as Student Staff Liaison Committees (SSLCs), are made up of elected student representatives and members of staff. SVGs typically meet once per term and provide an accessible arena for students to discuss with staff issues connected to teaching, learning and student support. They also provide an opportunity for the academic department/school/centre to consult with students and receive feedback on new proposals.

https://www1.essex.ac.uk/quality/student_representation/SVGs.asp

Student Surveys
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. The University participates in the Office for Students (OfS) PGT survey. You will be invited to participate via a link once it is open. It asks questions about your life at university and your experience studying at Essex.

Student Assessment of Module and Teaching
Every year, we will ask you to complete the Student Assessment of Module and Teaching (SAMT). This survey allows you to feedback on each of the modules you have studied. Receiving feedback at this level is critical for the University to understand what works well, and what could be improved, from the perspective of students. All feedback from SAMT will be summarised and discussed by SVGs and will inform reports written for central University committees as part of our quality assurance processes.

There are also many other satisfaction surveys taking place, to ensure students are happy with the services the University of Essex provides. From time to time you will be invited to participate via an email.

If you have some feedback but don’t know who to tell, email studentexperience@essex.ac.uk
You Matter
We know university life can throw up all kinds of concerns and questions - if you need some information, advice or support to succeed, stay healthy and happy, we've got it covered.

Student Services Hub
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. Ask us about health and well-being, accommodation, careers services, money matters and much more. Your questions matter and you’ll get answers from our team of experts.

Colchester: askthehub@essex.ac.uk / 01206 874000

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.
https://www.rowhedgesurgery.co.uk/
www.nhs.uk

Disability and emotional wellbeing
We would encourage all new students with a disability, long term medical condition, specific learning difficulty or mental health difficulty to disclose and register with the Student Services Hub so that we can plan how best to support you in your studies.

You can find out about the support we offer here:
www.essex.ac.uk/students/contact/help.aspx

UK students may be eligible for a Disabled Students’ Allowance grant. See our webpages for more information, including application forms and key changes:
www.essex.ac.uk/students/disability/funding.aspx

Your Student Services Hub provides advice, information and support on a range of health and wellbeing issues.

www.essex.ac.uk/students/health

Counselling services
Our University offers a range of services and resources to support students with a variety of counselling opportunities.

Validium
The University works in partnership with an organisation called Validium to offer short-term counselling to help you explore and work through problems and difficulties that are causing distress and interfering with your life at University.

You might be worried, depressed, confused or feeling bad about yourself. There might be a problem in your family, friendships or with your partner, or you might be experiencing difficulties with your work and exams. Counselling can provide a safe space for you to talk through and explore your feelings.
You can also contact the Validium 24-hour Student Wellbeing Support Line. You will be able to have an initial chat, in confidence, about the difficulties you’re experiencing and the support available to you.

Call 0800 970 5020 or +44 141 271 7168.

**Chat with Charlie**
Chat with Charlie offers online mental health support every evening between 6pm – 10pm. You can get support with exam stress, relationships, low mood, anxiety or anything else which may be troubling you, however big or small it may seem.

Log on just to chat or find out how to get additional support. For more information, contact wellbeing@essex.ac.uk.

https://mnessexmind.org/chat-with-charlie/

**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 camp beds, 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

If you feel you would benefit from support, including counselling, please contact your Student Services Hub. You can find more information, including the full range of counselling services available to you, on the website:

https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/mental-and-emotional-health/counselling

**Money management**
If you get into financial difficulty you should 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 can listen and talk you through the issues you are experiencing.

www.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/money/

**Students’ Union Advice**
Our SU Advice service also offers free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on many issues that might be affecting you. Our friendly, trained staff are on hand to support you throughout your time at Essex. You can speak to us about Academic processes and procedures, representation at University meetings, Tier 4 UK visa extensions, housing, complaints, welfare and consumer issues.

www.essex.su/advice

Colchester students - suadvice@essex.ac.uk, 01206 874034

**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.

https://www.essex.ac.uk/life/accommodation/living-on-campus/residence-life
Religion, faith and beliefs
We’re proud of our vibrant and diverse multicultural community and welcome everyone, of all faiths and none. The calm, friendly and supportive atmosphere in our Faith Centre 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

Harassment support
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 Harassment Report and Support Service of trained Harassment Support Workers are on hand to help.

https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/report/report-harassment
https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/equality-and-diversity
https://www.essex.ac.uk/welcome

We pride ourselves on being a welcoming and inclusive student community. We offer a wide range of support to individuals and groups of student members who may have specific requirements, interests or responsibilities – to help you fulfil your potential.

https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/student-communities
https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/access-and-disability

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.aspx

Please familiarise yourself with fire safety and emergency evacuation procedures for your accommodation, work or study location. If you have a permanent or temporary disability 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/student/emergencies/fire-emergency-action

www.essex.ac.uk/student/fire-safety/peep

Please take note of our advice on the safe use of electrical items and prohibited electrical items in residential and non-residential areas.

www.essex.ac.uk/student/health-and-safety/electrical-safety

You will find further health and safety information connected with your studies and life on our campuses in the Student Directory under health, safety and wellbeing.

www.essex.ac.uk/student

If you have any health and safety concerns or need to report an incident, please do get in touch:

www.essex.ac.uk/student/report
Making a Complaint

The University is a large community engaged in many activities of both an academic and non-academic nature. From time to time, you may feel dissatisfied with some aspect of your dealings with the University and, when that happens, it is important that the issue is dealt with constructively and as quickly as possible without risk of disadvantage or recrimination.

The University aims to resolve complaints quickly and informally in accordance with the Student concerns and complaints procedure which can be found on our website.

https://www1.essex.ac.uk/students/experience/complaints.aspx
Student Development

Careers Services
Get valuable, one-to-one advice from careers specialists throughout your time at Essex and beyond. You can access our services via the Student Services Hub or log in to CareerHub+ whether you have one hundred questions or just don’t know where to start! We offer one-to-one advice and guidance, job-hunting workshops, CV and job application reviews, and online services for creating CVs, interview preparation and job vacancies.

www.essex.ac.uk/careers You can also undertake many courses that include a Placement year – for more information, see your department handbook and email placements@essex.ac.uk.

CareerHub+
Find hundreds of part-time jobs, internships and graduate vacancies, book on to careers events and workshops, take career assessments, practice your interview skills, build your CV, and connect with employers on CareerHub+, the online Essex careers and jobs portal. Log in with your Essex username and password.

careerhub.essex.ac.uk/students/login

Big Essex Award
The University’s Big Essex Award gives you recognition for all your extra-curricular achievements. All of your Big Essex Award activities can be recorded through GradIntel. Get involved and get ahead of the game.

www.essex.ac.uk/careers/bige

Frontrunners
Challenge yourself. Frontrunners is Essex’s unique on-campus work placement scheme for students. You’ll get the chance to work on real projects in real workplaces and develop real skills for you to enhance your CV. You’ll get fully trained in your role and you’ll get paid for it.

www.essex.ac.uk/frontrunners

Volunteering
Join the vTeam and be the difference. There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer during your time at Essex. The vTeam, run by the Students Union, is a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, make friends, give something to the local community, and gain valuable skills.

www.essex.su/vteam

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. Sign up for Essex Interns to kick-start your career.

www.essex.ac.uk/careers/internships
You Are Essex

Year and Degree Marks
As your studies draw to a close, and once your exam board has met, it takes up to five working days for your results to be confirmed. You will be sent an email to inform you when the results are live on a password protected web page. You will be able to see your marks obtained and any decisions that you must make in order to progress to the next stage of study.

When in your final year of study, graduating students will receive a degree certificate at Graduation and graduating undergraduate students also be able to access their electronic Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) which gives details of all marks obtained during their studies.

Further information can be found at: www.essex.ac.uk/students/graduation/award-documents/default.aspx

GradIntel
Postgraduate students do not currently have access to the Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR); this is only available for undergraduate students. However, you can use GradIntel to record any extra-curricular activities you may be involved in through the Big Essex Awards but not full access to your academic achievements.


Graduation
The culmination of all your hard work, Graduation ceremonies take place at our Colchester Campus each July in the Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall. 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/default.aspx

Requesting References

Requesting references from members of staff
If you require a personal reference, always ask permission from a member of staff before giving their name as a referee. You should consider from whom it is most appropriate to request a reference and who will be best equipped to evidence your character and performance in the subject.

For example, final year project supervisors, year organisers, and core course supervisors are likely to be more suitable than lecturers that have taught you on a first-year option course. Every reasonable effort will be made to meet a request for reference for a student who has undertaken study within our Department. Requests received from students who have graduated from the University within the last three years will be prioritised. Requests received outside of this period may, of course, be met if a member of staff is equipped with the necessary information and is willing to provide a reference.

It is always helpful if you can provide the member of staff with details about the course or job you have applied for and, if relevant, a CV or other summary of your qualifications and experience. Please try to ask for references in good time – it is not always possible for a member of staff to write a reference immediately.
**Copies of references**
A copy of any reference provided will be retained within our department for no longer than three years for taught students.

**Alumni**
Essex is forever and although your time here will fly by, you'll be part of the Essex family for life. When you graduate, you'll get an alumni card and join a community of over 100,000 fellow graduates around the world. We'd love to keep in touch and invite you to our alumni events, networking and volunteering opportunities, as well as offer you special alumni benefits. Want to know more? Visit our website [https://www.essex.ac.uk/alumni](https://www.essex.ac.uk/alumni)

**What comes next?**
The world is your oyster! The options and opportunities open to you as a postgraduate can be overwhelming. You may know the exact path and next steps that you wish to take, or you might not, and this is okay. Our Careers Services can offer information, guidance and advice on your different options after graduation and you can return to Essex for these services at any time.

Spread your wings graduand; but you can always come back! As an alumnus of Essex, you can take advantage of generous discounts on further postgraduate qualifications or research degrees should you chose to return to study at Essex now, or at any time in the future.

[www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/masters/loyalty/](http://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/masters/loyalty/)

We are proud of our world-class research at Essex and your invitation to contribute is lifelong. If you do decide to stay on for further study with us, you'll develop extensive knowledge in your chosen area and learn from some of the top academics in the field. You can explore our incredibly range of courses online.

Whatever you chose to do, please stay in touch! Keep us up to date with your achievements and explore the variety of ways through which you can give back to Essex too.

[www.essex.ac.uk/postgraduate-research-degrees](http://www.essex.ac.uk/postgraduate-research-degrees)

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