



Working together to support students

Working together to support students has many advantages; not least we are able to offer timely, tailored advice. This newsletter highlights some of the ways in which Study Advice and Maths Support are working in collaboration with schools this year.

Planners and stickers: Free gifts for students and staff!

We have new supplies of some annual Study Advice favourites – our folding year planners and QR code stickers.

The year planners have been helping students manage their workloads since we piloted them in 2008.



Designed with university students in mind, they can be used as wall planners, folded to display a few months, or kept in a bag like a diary. Stocks are limited, so encourage your students to get their free planner from our offices in the Library (room 103) before they are gone!



We also have free gifts for academic staff – our popular QR code stickers. These offer a novel and easy way to refer students to Study Advice when attached to returned work or feedback sheets. Students can scan the QR code on the sticker using their smartphone to take them directly to our webpages. The stickers also display our web address so nobody misses out. We will shortly be distributing sheets of stickers via School DTLS .

Contact: michelle.reid@reading.ac.uk

Study advice tailored to your students

Embedding study advice into academic teaching can take many forms and has proved to be highly effective in increasing the academic development of a cohort of students. Every year we are able to build on earlier successes, working with colleagues within schools to design teaching to meet their students'

needs or discuss how best to embed study skills into the curriculum.

We delivered 48 workshops within departments last year, with new workshops including: strategies for GTP students with dyslexia; effective study and time management for Chinese Food Science students; academic writing and use of evidence for Children's Development and Learning. This year we are also running a series of postgraduate skills workshops for Henley Business School students and sessions for Maths and Pharmacy on 3rd year projects. Please contact us for more information on how we can work together to effectively embed study advice into your teaching.

Student queries? Just ASK.

We are pleased to introduce two new ASK Advisers this year and welcome back an existing ASK Adviser. Our new Advisers are Maria Lloyd in Classics and Vicki Clayton in Politics and International Relations, while Tamara Tompsett returns in Food and Nutritional Sciences.

The ASK Advice service is a successful collaboration between Study Advice and academic departments. Study Advisers train and mentor PhD students to answer quick queries from students on topics like how to get started on work, referencing, and planning workloads. Departments provide the funding and location, the ASK advisers gain varied teaching experience, and the students have an expert peer who can answer study questions they may not want to ask their lecturer.

Feedback so far this term has been very positive, with one student saying, 'The Ask Adviser was extremely helpful; I think all departments should have this service'.

To find out more contact:
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Maths Support

The Maths Support Centre is pleased to welcome Matthew Wellard as the new Maths tutor. His appointment is for 12 hours each week, mainly during term time. He is an experienced maths tutor, and is looking forward to helping Reading students with their studies.



Coming soon...

Look out for details of how Study Advice are 'flipping the classroom' in our next edition. For a sneak preview of our mini-tutorial screencasts, take a look at our online study guides on Structuring Your Report and Improve Your Memory.

Plus: 'What did I do wrong?': an all-too-familiar response when a student is confronted with plagiarism. Study Advice are involved in a collaborative project funded by the TLDF to examine student difficulties with referencing, and produce a 'toolkit' of best practice materials for use in teaching referencing practices.

More details of both projects in our next edition.

To contact us...

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