

FYU 004-0

Academic English Skills

2020-21

Session 1: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021



# Our Academic Culture

Introduction to the Unit

Understanding Academic Culture

The Transition to Higher Education



# Introducing FYU 004-0, Academic English Skills

## *Four ways of finding key information on this (and any) unit...*

- 1) On BREO in the 'Unit Information' page – the Unit Information Form (UIF)
- 2) From the teacher/BREO: Scheme of Work, detailed assessment information (semester 1 assessment map), in particular test dates and deadlines
- 3) On BREO in the 'assessment' page – outline of assessment strategy for the unit and for assessments 1 and 2 the 'rubric' sheet
- 4) From the teacher: if you're not sure – ask!

# Scheme of Work and Assessment Details

## Scheme of Work:

- A clear idea of what to expect from each of the input sessions
- Subject to change dependent on needs, assessment and other
- You will find this posted on BREO under 'unit information'

## Assessment:

- The rubric sheets are **very** precise. Keep them to hand when preparing your response to the assessments. I will refer to them when I give you feedback
- Deadlines are **non-negotiable!** You must submit on time or risk failing the unit
- Feedback/feed-forward – what's the difference?

# FYU 004-0: Teaching and Learning

## Expect...

- Very practical sessions
- Me to move you around and change partners – get used to this!
- The sessions to become harder as the unit continues

## Wednesday 1130 - 1330 Sessions ('Current Affairs')...

- Are designed to practise the skills taught in this unit + English for Study
- Entirely practical
- Often a lecture, followed by discussion (seminar activity)
- You can use the information you gain in these sessions to help you with assessment 1 of this unit

***STAY MOTIVATED – EVEN WHEN WINTER SETS IN!!!!***

# FYU 004-0: How Much Have We Learnt about FYU 004-0?

*Discuss and reach agreement with your partner...*

- 1) What is the core aim of FYU004-0 'Academic English Skills' and why is this important?
- 2) What does the acronym 'UIF' stand for and where can you find the UIF for this unit?
- 3) What do you know about the assessments for this unit (weighting, dates, details, the skills required to pass them, other?)
- 4) What will we be doing during the Wednesday 1130 – 1330 sessions and why?
- 5) What is more important; grade or feedback? And what is the difference between feedback and feed-forward?
- 6) Where will I be able to find this PP and all other PPs for this unit (and all other units?)

# Defining 'Academic Culture'



The images show three different academic 'events' in progress.  
What are they?



What skills might you require to take part in each of the three events?



# Academic Culture: Vocabulary

*What do they mean to you?*

ATTITUDES RESEARCH THINKING

BELIEFS RULES

CULTURE PHILOSOPHY VALUES

REGULATIONS STUDY

# 'Learning Shock'

## *Work in pairs...*

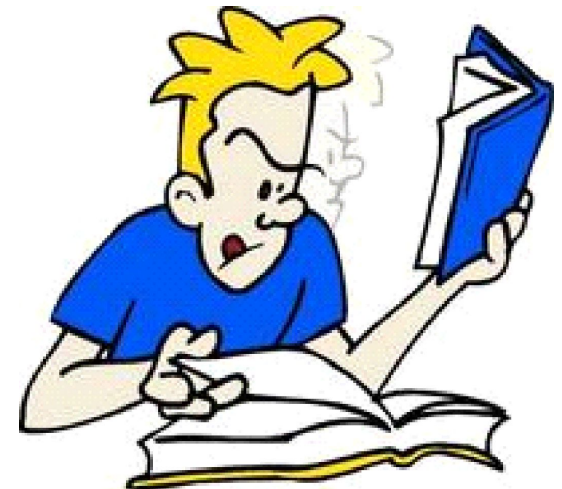
### *1) Before you read the text...*

- What do you think 'learning shock' is?
- From your experience so far/what you've been told/your best guesses – what do you think are the differences between studying in your own home country and in the UK?



### *2) What are the differences between...*

- Formative assessment and summative assessment?
- A tutor and a personal tutor?





# The Transition to UK HE

*Below are four quotes taken from typical students who are new to UK HE. What advice would you give them?*

**Student 1:**

“I did not organise the time very well, and this led to not finishing my written exams.”

**Student 2:**

“Like all overseas students, I need to find ways of increasing my vocabulary.”

**Student 3:**

“The reason for my poor performance is that I haven’t put in enough effort.. I think many of us had similar problems because we were not sure what the tutors expected from us and what the unit required.”

**Student 4:**

“I felt really nervous the first time I had to participate in a seminar. Even though I wanted to contribute, I couldn’t find the right words. And some of the other students talked so much and so quickly that I found it hard to interrupt.”

# What Have we Learnt Today?

With your partner, list things which we've looked at today which have surprised or confused you...

**Any questions?**

