

Disability Resource Centre Newsletter – April 2022

Dear Students,

Welcome back for Easter Term 2022!

If you would like to discuss your access requirements with a Disability Adviser or Assistant Disability Adviser, please make an appointment on the [DRC Moodle Course](#). Please let us know if you have any problems when booking.

Please find below numerous items which may be of interest or useful to you.

Best wishes,

The DRC Team

disability@admin.cam.ac.uk



Figure 1 Entrance to the DRC and Student Services Centre

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Libraries Accessibility Service update

Welcome back! Here's a quick reminder of some of the ways the Libraries Accessibility Service can help you:

Alternate Formats

Do you need library books and articles in an unrestricted electronic format? Email the details to disability@lib.cam.ac.uk

Do you have a document you'd like to convert yourself? Try [SensusAccess](#) to convert PDFs, Word documents, PowerPoint slides, EPUBs and other formats. Output options include PDF, Word and MP3.

Bookable Study Space

There is a [bookable private study room](#) on the third floor of the UL. This room is for students registered with the DRC.

We have plans to relocate this facility to the first floor later this term. Watch this space for further information.

Assistive Technology

The bookable study room contains a PC running Dragon Professional Speech-to-Text and Dolphin Supernova. To use the PC, please email disability@lib.cam.ac.uk to register your account. This takes around 5 days.

Height-adjustable desks

Just a reminder that we have four new height-adjustable desks in the UL's North Reading Room. Currently these desks are not bookable. We have a further three height-adjustable desks outside the main Reading Room. Please ask staff if you need help finding them.

UL Click & Collect

The UL is still running its [Click & Collect service](#) for students registered with the DRC.

A number of other libraries offer Click & Collect services too. Check their websites for local information.

Scan & Deliver

Available for all students, the [Scan & Deliver service](#) can email you an OCR'd PDF version of one chapter from a book or one article from a journal issue held in Cambridge University Libraries.

If you need more than one chapter from a single book or more than one article, please email disability@lib.cam.ac.uk

Proxy borrowing

Can't get to the UL to collect books? You can register a friend or support worker as a proxy borrower. Contact readerservices@lib.cam.ac.uk for further information.

Something else?

If there's anything else we can help with, please contact disability@lib.cam.ac.uk

Student Advice Service update

Exam worries?

The Student Advice Service has developed a bank of exam-related resources such as guides, videos, flowcharts, and templates to help you navigate and understand the University's exam-related procedures. [These can be accessed on our website.](#)

Guide to Getting Through Exams

[Our Guide to Getting Through Exams](#) has guidance and information on any concerns you may have about your exams and tips on how to de-stress before the test. It is important to remember to take breaks and practise self-care alongside your studies to support your physical and mental wellbeing. Additionally, sources of information on managing exam stress can also be found on the University [Student Wellbeing page](#) and [Student Minds website](#).

Disabled students who have not already applied for exam arrangements and need to do so, can find information about the process, who to contact and what may be needed for an application, as well as links to further information.

Have a question or need one-to-one support from a professional Advisor?

You can send us an email with your questions or [request an appointment with an Advisor](#).

University Counselling Service update

As Easter term commences, in an addition to our group and workshop programme for this term we have included 2 workshops to help with preparation for exams.

These are:

No panic! Managing exam stress and anxiety

Exam preparation (Not subject specific)

You can [sign up to these and other workshops and groups](#) via the UCS website.

The University Counselling Service is now offering a hybrid service consisting of remote and face-to-face appointments. [Further information can be found on our website.](#)

New public transport trial for Homerton and Faculty of Education

The Sustainability Team are excited to announce that we have launched a Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) trial along Hills Road, to locations on the current Universal bus route. It is fully operational as of Monday 25th April and will be open for all staff and students to use for journeys that begin or end at either Homerton or the Faculty of Education. Journeys will cost £1, in line with the Universal bus, with the remainder of the cost being paid by the University.

The trial service aims to provide better public transport connections for University and College establishments along Hills Road with the rest of the University, and seeks to test the DRT concept.

Please email sustainability@admin.cam.ac.uk if you have any questions or feedback about the service.

World Economic Forum post: Dyslexia, climate change and human adaption

Helen Taylor, University of Cambridge:

“My research shows the connection between dyslexia, climate change and human adaptation so the World Economic Forum and Mission, so the World Economic Forum and Mission Possible Platform asked me to write a blog.” [Please find the blog on the WEF website](#)

Research study: Experiences of final year neurodiverse undergraduate students and their return to campus this year

Gill Porter, University of Leeds:

“Are you a final year neurodiverse undergraduate student?”

Would you like to share your experiences of university study? This study would like to hear from YOU!

Research title: Examining the effects of pedagogical changes during the academic years 2019-2022 on the study experiences of final year neurodiverse undergraduate students.

Are there lessons to be learned from the COVID-19 pandemic?

The study is seeking to recruit final year students identified with specific learning differences and / or AD(H)D and / or autistic spectrum condition.

What it involves: a 1:1 online (via MS Teams) 45-50 minute interview (to be arranged for mid-May 2022 at the latest).

This is critical disability studies research so it wants to include your voice about what is important to you.

If you are interested, please contact me directly for an initial discussion: Gill Porter ss20gp@leeds.ac.uk

I know this will be a busy time of year for you but hope this might offer a break from your studies and a welcome opportunity to share your experiences.

Additional note: This research has full block ethics approval from the University of Leeds and forms part of an MA in Disability Studies (ethics approval date: 24 March 2022)."

Research study: Exploration of topics around music therapy and ADHD

Lizzie Robbins, University of Cambridge:

"I'm doing a final-year dissertation exploring the potential use of music to aid students with study. I'm looking for Cambridge students (both *with* and *without* ADHD) to [fill out my questionnaire](#). It should take about 5 minutes and I would be very grateful. Thanks!"

Research study: Resource for neurodiverse pet owners

Anjali Jayasekera, University of Cambridge:

"A group of Cambridge vet students are putting together a resource to improve communication with neurodivergent clients in vet practices. As part of this research, we have created a survey to get an idea of the experiences and opinions of vet students and neurodivergent clients.

This will give us some indication of what needs to be addressed in order to achieve effective communication. If you identify as neurodiverse and have visited a vet practice, your help would be really appreciated! All questions are optional and anonymous, so you can fill out as much or as little as you would like:

<https://forms.gle/pwwHqnzJ5r6mAHky5>

Any questions, please contact amj57@cam.ac.uk. Thank you!"

Please note: The DRC newsletter contains content which has been sent to us from other parts of the University and also external contacts. Inclusion within the newsletter does not necessarily imply a recommendation from the DRC or responsibility for the content.