

Covid-19 – Week Four Check In Survey: Response from the Department of Chemistry – UG

Dear students,

Many thanks to those who filled in the short survey in week 4. We have started to plan for Semester 2 and the comments from the survey, conversations with the DoT/DoS Team (Matthew Jones, Claire McMullin, Gan Shermer and Mary Mahon) and SSLC are helping to shape how we will do things next semester, learning from experiences in Semester 1. There were some general themes:

University:

Moodle/Panopto stability: I am aware of a couple of occasions early in Semester 1 where there were issues. The University has worked with the providers to understand these and I think that since those initial teething problems things are more settled. The Moodle issue was not a Bath-only problem and affected other universities too.

Library booking: Students have requested to be able to book more than 8 hrs a week for self-study in the library or other rooms (on/off campus). I understand that this cap has now been removed. If you want to book some study space please click here (<https://bath.libcal.com/>) and follow the links.

Semester 1 exams: All details about the forthcoming exam will be disseminated by Matthew in the next couple of weeks. This was discussed at SSLC – the 2020/21 Semester 1 exam process will be very similar to May 2020 i.e. the exams will be available for 24 hrs and are essentially open book, but we are waiting for a few details from the University.

Department:

Use of LOILS: The main comment about LOILs is to use these when needed for focused problem sessions. Some are used for general Q&As and the general consensus appears to be that these are less useful. To add some context, we are trying to mimic 1) the “after lecture time” where students can ask staff questions OR 2) students just popping into someone’s office to ask a question. As we go forward, we will try to use the LOILs more strategically. I know that the DoS team (Claire – Yr1; Gan – Yr2 and Mary – Yr3-5) have already been feeding this back to staff members. This should give you more time to study the recorded material.

Recorded lectures: The general feeling is the desire to have all recorded material released on a Monday. We are encouraging this as much as possible, however, this is not always possible due to staff members having other commitments (labs, final year projects etc).

Notes on Moodle: It has been requested that lecture notes are added to Moodle at the start of the week so that they can be printed if required on your on-campus day. We have passed this request onto staff members.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact myself, Matthew or your Director of Studies (Claire, Gan or Mary).

Best wishes,

Andy

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