FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Hello, and welcome to the February newsletter where we are focusing on AI and the upcoming March moderation.

We will explain the difference between AI use during your studies and AI mis-use in your assessments, and look at how AI detection is now used by your tutor. There are some key dates for your diary relating to March moderation, links to the AI webinar and information about our February Zoom drop-in classes.

As well as posting useful information and news in our newsletter, we also post items of interest on our various social media channels; so if you haven't already done so follow us on Facebook and Instagram. There is also a Facebook Group just for learners called DistanceLearningCentre.com (Official) where you can get help and support from your fellow students.

Using AI

From February 2024 every piece of work that is submitted to TurnitinUK to check for originality and plagiarism, is now also checked for AI use. This means that if you used a ChatBot or AI generated answers in your TAQs, this will be detected and your work will be returned to you as it will not be 'ready for marking'. To avoid this, make sure that if you use AI, you are not mis-using it.

Understanding the difference between AI use and AI mis-use is very important:

- **Permitted AI use** in your studies means that you can use AI ChatBots to help you plan or research

- **AI mis-use** is when you use the responses from the ChatBot in your assessment. This is academic misconduct as the work that you submit will not be your own.

The declaration in your student answer sheets has been updated to include AI and includes a link to an **AI evidence form** that you can complete to evidence any AI used in your planning or research.

Once you have submitted an assessment to TurnitinUK a report will be generated that your tutor will check before they mark your submission. If there is evidence of AI use they will send your work back to you: this is the first step in the Plagiarism Procedure (see also the Plagiarism Policy). This policy and procedure has been updated to include AI mis-use.

To avoid this, please ensure that assessments you submit are your own work and sources are paraphrased in your own words to demonstrate your understanding. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact your tutor in the first instance.

A webinar on AI use is available here: https://youtu.be/QNlqwjvBrDo

March Moderation 2024

For the March 2024 moderation, the deadline for final submission of assessments is Friday 1st March. You are advised to submit your work well in advance of this date as there will be insufficient time remaining for re-marking should your work not be up to standard.

Moderation is when assessment work that has been marked by your tutor is checked by the Awarding Body, Ascentis. During this process, final grades are confirmed, and Diplomas are awarded. Certificates are then issued, and these should be with successful students in May.

UCAS

The deadline for UCAS applications for most 2024 entry undergraduate courses was 31st January. However applications can be sent after this, but providers cannot guarantee they'll give it equal consideration.

If you would like to make an application after the deadline, please see the Toolkit on your learner account for more information.

Online Question & Answer Drop-ins

We have a variety of webinars and drop-ins this month, including a discussion with our alumni student Laura, who will be sharing her experiences of progressing to university after completing the Access Diploma.

- **Progressing to Uni after Access** - Former DLC student Laura Herman will share her experiences - 18:00 on Tuesday 13/02/2024

- **Chemistry** - 19:30 on Tuesday 13/02/2024

- **Psychology** - 19:30 on Wednesday 21/02/2024

- **Biology** - 19:30 on Wednesday 28/02/2024

Our Recorded Webinars

If you missed any of the previous webinars you can still watch the session whenever you want from our YouTube channel or via your learner account (my Courses / Webinars / Webinar videos).

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