Hello and welcome to the final newsletter for 2023.

In this month’s edition we have information on the Christmas closure, key dates for UCAS 2024 and links to December’s Zoom drop-in classes.

Christmas College Closure

The college will close for Christmas on Friday 22nd December 2023 and will re-open on **Monday 8th January 2024**. We wish you all a very happy Christmas break.

During this time, your tutor will be unavailable for tutorials and will not be answering any phone calls or emails. You will be able to have access to a maximum of 2 assessment codes: please review your ILP and think about your plans for Christmas.

Remember that materials codes now open up all of the materials for a subject set so you should have enough work to keep you busy over the closure period.

**Please note** - Student Services are unable to provide you with any passwords so you will need to ensure you have requested and received passwords from your tutor before we close.

UCAS

The application deadline for 2024 entry UCAS Undergraduate courses is the **31st January 2024**.

If you are applying to university for 2024, we **strongly advise** you complete your UCAS application as soon as possible, remember to use the advice on the UCAS
application page in your learner account toolkit.

The deadline for applying through the DistanceLearningCentre.com is **15th January 2024** to guarantee your application is not late.

### Online Classes over December

Don't forget we have regular online classes on a range of subjects. This month's classes are:

- **Biology student drop-in** - Wednesday 06/12/2023 at 19:30
- **Social Issues student drop-in** - Wednesday 13/12/2023 at 19:30

You can also access any links for upcoming and previous videos on the Online Classes tab on your learner account.

There will be a couple of week's break from classes over the Christmas period, but they will resume in January 2024.

Your questions answered

**Why is the Ready for marking process important?**

**Why do we ask you for word counts on your assessments?**

Our answer:

The ready for marking process is a checklist we have developed to help make sure that your assessment submission meets our required standards and those of the awarding body.

For instance, all 3 credit assessments must be between 1000 and 1500 words and 6 credit assessments between 2000 and 2500 words. This is so that assessments fit with awarding body requirements and also allows all students to have the same opportunity to write a similar amount. It wouldn't be fair if some students were allowed to write much more than others and so achieved higher grades.
If you have any questions that you think we could feature in future newsletters please email them to editor@distancelearningcentre.com

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