



Supporting you from start to finish

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DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Hello and welcome to the December newsletter and our last of 2025!

This month we have information on the Christmas holidays and key dates for both UCAS 2026 and March 2026 moderation.

Christmas closure dates

Your tutor's Christmas break will run from **Friday 19th December 2025 to Monday 5th January 2026** and they will be unable to answer emails or have tutorials/phone calls during this break.

Materials codes give you access to all of the learning materials for a subject set and you can request access to a maximum of 2 assessment codes for this period. Please review your ILP and think about your plans for Christmas in readiness for the break.

Please note - apart from the bank holidays over the break, Student Services,

Exams and Finance will all still be available if you need them. However, they 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.

We wish you all a lovely break, a very happy new year, and all the best for 2026.

UCAS deadline - January 2026



In order to have your UCAS application submitted by DistanceLearningCentre.com before the 14th January 2026 UCAS equal consideration deadline, you must have completed and sent your application to your tutor by **5th January 2026**.

DistanceLearningCentre.com will accept applications after the 5th January 2026. However, these applications may be sent after the 14th January deadline and so will be classed as a late application by universities.

If you apply through DistanceLearningCentre.com:

- Your tutor will check your personal statement and form for content, spelling and grammatical errors and advise accordingly
- Your tutor will also provide a reference.

Predicted Grades - if you have achieved 24 credits or more, your tutor will be able to predict the rest of the diploma grades as they will have marked enough of your work to make an informed prediction.

If you have achieved less than 24 credits your tutor will put in grades that have been recommended so far. These grades are NOT predicted grades for the whole course; they are recommended grades for the units you have completed (subject to moderation). Before they offer places, universities can, and do, get back to us later in the course to see how you are doing, and whether you are likely to meet their entry requirements.

If you apply as an independent student:

- You can apply at any time and do not need to adhere to our deadlines.
- Your form will not be checked.
- You will not receive a reference from your DistanceLearningCentre.com tutors.

Further information and guidance on the UCAS application can be found in your Toolkit on your learner account.

Countdown to our UCAS deadline =



March Moderation 2026

If you are aiming to finish your Diploma in time for March 2026 moderation, you will need to have completed **45 credits** by **Friday 16th January**. The deadline for submitting your final unit assessment is **Friday 27th February**.

Remember to update your Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and keep in touch with your tutor to update them on your progress as you work towards this deadline.

Countdown to 45 credits for March moderation =



Online Sessions



We are busy putting together the schedule for next year's webinars, but in the meantime you can access a bank of previous webinars that can be watched on-demand from the YouTube channel or from the webinars page on your learner account.

Your questions answered



This month's questions are:

Why is the Ready for marking process important?

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. If your submission isn't ready for marking, your tutor will ask you to meet all things on the checklist before they are able to mark it.

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

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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