



Supporting you from start to finish

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FEBUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



Hello and welcome to the February newsletter!

This newsletter offers some guidance on the use and misuse of Artificial Intelligence, provides a reminder for students aiming to complete for March moderation, and upcoming webinar dates for February and early March.

Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)



Every piece of work that is submitted to TurnitinUK to check for originality and plagiarism, is also checked for AI use. This means that if you have used a Chatbot or AI generated answers in any of your TAQ responses, 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 misusing it.

Understanding the difference between AI use and AI misuse is very important:

- Permitted AI use in your studies means that you can use AI Chatbots to help you plan or research,
- AI misuse 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,
- Asking a Chatbot to improve how your work is written is also classed as AI misuse.

The declaration in your student answer sheets addresses 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 uploaded 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.

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 from our YouTube Channel: [AI Use and Misuse](#)

Moderation Dates 2026

The next upcoming moderation date is in March.

In order to complete for March moderation, you should have achieved 45 credits by the 16th of January. The deadline for submissions is **Friday 27th of February** - please ensure that all of your work is submitted before this date.

The next moderation date is in June.

We are currently running "Countdown to Moderation" webinars on a regular basis in preparation for June moderation.

- Thursday 12th February @ 7:30pm - [16 Weeks to June Moderation](#)
- Thursday 12th March @ 7:30pm - [12 Weeks to June Moderation](#)

Some important dates for your calendar if you are aiming for June moderation:

Friday 17th April - deadline to achieve 45 credits

Friday 29th May - deadline for all submissions.

UCAS applications

UCAS

The deadline for UCAS applications for most 2026 entry undergraduate courses was 14th January. Applications can be sent after this, but providers cannot guarantee they will 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 Webinars and Drop ins



February and early March's webinar/Q&A sessions are:

- Thursday 12th February @ 7:30pm - [16 Weeks to June Moderation](#)
 - Wednesday 25th February @ 7:30pm - [Advice on Fundamentals for Chemistry for Medicine Assessment](#)
 - Thursday 5th March @ 7:30pm - [Advice on Budgets and Budgeting Assessment](#)
 - Thursday 12th March @ 7:30pm - [12 Weeks to June Moderation](#)
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Your questions answered



This month's questions are:

Why do we set TCDs and moderations?

Your TCD (Target Completion Date) is the date that you plan to complete your studies. You then moderate in the next moderation after your TCD. Moderations are where the diploma is awarded to you and happen in March, June and November. We set your moderation and TCD as these are key dates in your progression and entry to university and give you goals to work towards. Your TCD is also linked to your payments (if you are paying for your course in instalments). For instance, if you extend your TCD then your payments are spread over more months and so would reduce (unless you are on the monthly extension fee).

Why do we ask you to use your ILP?

Your ILP helps you to plan your time so that you meet your moderation goals and are able to stick to rules we have such as the submission of one assessment a week maximum. This ensures that your work is spread evenly across your time on the course, you are not rushing for moderation (which can lead to poorer quality work) and you are therefore able to complete everything you need to in time to moderate and go to university.

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