


UNI JARGON-BUSTER! Who?



Fresher: A term used to describe first-year students at university.

Finalists: students in their last year of their programme of study.

Graduate: A person who has successfully completed and passed a degree course.

Postgraduate: A student who has already earned their first degree and has progressed onto a more advanced course of study, e.g., a Masters

Tutor: An academic staff member from a Department assigned to each student to offer advice and support on your studies. Your tutor will also advise you on how to access further College Support Services when/if you need them.

Academic: A university staff member involved in the research and/or teaching of a specific subject area in Higher Education..

Teaching Assistant: assists an academic in the delivery of large-class or practical teaching situations

Mature Student: A student who is over 21 years of age at the start of a course.

Sabbatical Officer: A student who has been elected by the Students' Union to fulfil a role. The roles are either taken in between years of study (for example between year two and three of a typical degree) or immediately after graduation.

Alumni: The community of former Royal Holloway students.

Fieldwork: any practical work carried out by members of the School for the purpose of teaching and/or research outside of university-owned space.

Workshop: practical teaching & learning session often involving specialist equipment or space.

Seminar: discussion-led teaching & learning session, prioritizing interaction, discussion and debate.

Lab: Laboratory classes allow students to test the concepts and methods introduced in lectures and tutorials.

Lecture: Usually a formal, instructive talk, given by a subject specialist to a group of students. Content is information-led but can also involve interactivity.

Tutorials: A small class of one or only a few students, in which a member of academic staff (typically a tutor) focuses on individual students' work.

Assessment: the variety of tools and methods used to evaluate, measure and document learning achieved on modules within a degree.



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Office hours: Periods set aside by tutors specifically for consultation by students.

Contact hours: these are your timetabled learning sessions for each module. In order to succeed in your studies, it is important that you use independent study time every week to prepare for, and follow up on, the content in your timetabled classes.

Placement: Placements take place either as part of a degree's weighted curriculum or are available as an option alongside your degree studies. A placement offers a great chance for students to apply what they've learned and develop their skills.

Moodle: An interactive virtual learning platform where students have full access to all their module learning resources (access to lecture powerpoints and reading lists). Moodle is where you will submit your assignments through Turnitin (a plagiarism detection software.)

Department: A unit within a School. Each department is responsible for the academic functions in a field of study.

School: The administrative and operational unit that groups together a number of academic Departments.

Halls of Residence: Catered or non-catered accommodation on or near to the campus. Residential students are often first years, or returning finalists.

SU: Student Union is one of the main university student body that puts together social events, sports, and societies for a wide range of different hobbies and interests. They also provide support and advice on housing, finance, students' rights, wellbeing, harassment and academic guidance.

