

# The UL Student & The First Set of End-of-Semester Exams

## FAQs for First Years about your first set of exams

**1. What are the dates for my first semester exams (Semester 1 2015/16)?**

From Saturday 5th December until Friday 18 December 2015.

**2. When and where can I view my exam timetable?**

You can view a provisional exam timetable at the beginning of Week 9 at [timetable.ul.ie](http://timetable.ul.ie).

**3. There's an issue with my exam timetable, is it possible to have exam times changed?**

Yes where there is a genuine issue (e.g. three exams in a row on a day). It is your responsibility to read the provisional exam timetable at the beginning of Week 9 and where necessary request a change via your Class Representative. Your Class Rep will inform the module leader of the need to request a change to the exam timetable.



**4. How long do I have to alert my Class Rep about issues with my exam timetable?**

The deadline for notification of an exam timetable issue to Student Academic Administration is 12pm Thursday of Week 9 – move fast if there's a problem!

**5. When is the exam timetable finalised?**

The final exam timetable is available in Week 11. Re-check your exam times, dates and locations; these may have changed from the provisional exam timetable.

**6. What do I need to do to sit my exams?**

You must be registered for the module you are due to sit an exam in and you must provide your current valid UL student card. Also study!

**7. What can I bring into an exam with me?**

Only authorised material. You cannot bring items such as bags, jackets, mobile phones, unauthorised electronic devices, calculator covers and pencil cases into the examination centre. Be smart and leave the good stuff at home!

# 'Top 5' study tips for first year students

1. Decide that you are going to prepare for your exams well in advance. You've probably heard the old saying that 'failure to prepare is to prepare for failure.' Try to avoid putting off study until the last minute.
2. Make a study plan. Sit down and make a plan for how you are going to put in the study time you feel is required. Perhaps spend a few minutes each day revisiting your strategy and refining it.
3. Be realistic in your time-management. When planning study days, students frequently make the mistake of thinking they have 'all day' to get around to the work. There usually isn't as much time available for study as you might think. Be realistic.
4. GUARANTEE yourself 'guilt free' relaxation time and structure your study sessions around these times. Believe it or not, exam preparation doesn't have to be stressful! Start by scheduling all the enjoyable things you are going to do & once you have guaranteed yourself these fun activities, schedule in times when you can study.
5. Focus on completing short study sessions rather than long sessions. Set a start time and aim to complete a short study session, perhaps 30 minutes as a minimum. At the end of your 30 minute session, tell yourself that you have earned a break. Then, take a break (you've earned it!)

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## For further information:

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*The dates and information in this flyer are specific to first year students for their first semester 2015/16.*

# Jargon Buster

## Bibliography:

A list of books or a list of sources on a particular topic.

## Citation:

A brief description of a publication referring to a specific passage, text, author etc. It appears as a Reference or Footnote and contains sufficient details to enable you to locate the publication. Please refer to the library's booklet Cite It Rite for help with referencing.

## Lab:

Laboratory classes allow students (depending on the module) to test the concepts and methods introduced in lectures and tutorials. (\*2)

## Module:

A unit of teaching and learning formally offered within the university that carries credit which may contribute to a university award (certificate, diploma or degree). Your degree course consists of a number of modules. (\*1)

## QCA:

Your QCA (Quality Credit Average) is the quality and standard of your academic performance expressed as an average numerical value based on the grades you receive in the credited modules you've been assessed on.

## Referencing:

Referencing is the process of acknowledging all the sources you use in your essay, assignment or piece of work.

## Short Loans:

3-hour and 24-hour short loan items are located on the ground floor of the UL Library behind the Information Desk. 3-day and 7-day short loan items can be found with standard loan items on floors 1 and 2.

## Sulis:

SULIS is the name given to the University of Limerick Learning Management System. Some lecturers (but not all) are currently using SULIS to communicate with their students. SULIS facilitates communication and assessment with students of a particular module.

## Tutorial:

A small class of one or only a few students, in which a member of academic staff (typically a tutor) gives focus to individuals' work.

\*1 Preparing for University: A-Z: University jargon and terms <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/s3/?id=32N°letterM>  
Accessed on 13/10/15

\*2 Ibid Accessed on 13/10/15 <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/s3/?id=32N°letterL>

\*3 Ibid Accessed on 13/10/15 <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/s3/?id=32N°letterT>