



University
of Exeter

Student Life as a Mature Learner

Kerri – Student Ambassador

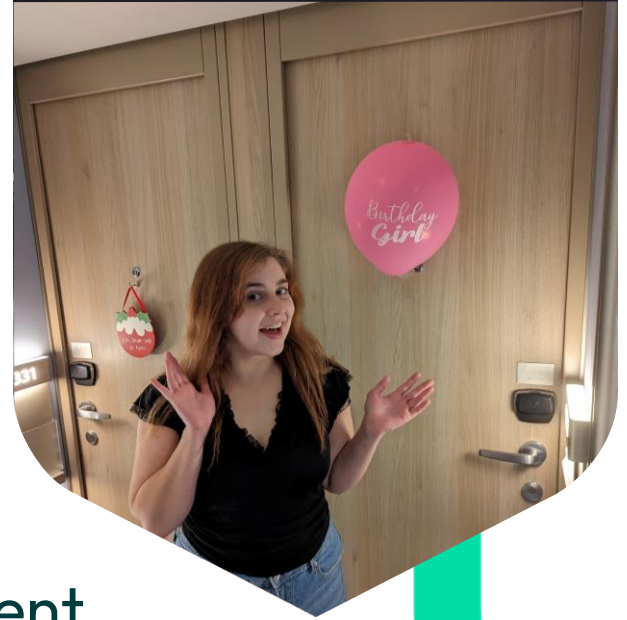
This session will cover:



- What it is like to be a mature student at university
- Expectations
- Answer any questions you may have

Introductions

- Kerri, 4th year BSc Criminology student
- Studied my 2nd and 3rd years part time
- Commuter student
- Started university at 24
- Previous study - Access to Higher Education Course in Education/Teaching/Childhood Studies at Portsmouth College via distance learning.



Transition to university

- Type of learning and level of independence is very different to A Level or equivalent such as the Access to HE course.
- University expect you to take total responsibility for your progression.
- The teaching day is from 8:30am to 7:30pm!
Don't expect staff to know your personal/additional needs (if you have any), keep them up-to-date and liaise with your personal tutor on a regular basis.

Being a mature student

- Have a lot more things to juggle, may have caring responsibilities, job, etc.
- May have additional commute time/costs to consider.
- Less in common with some of the students on the course.
- May have health issues and disabilities to manage alongside studies.
- Have life skills that make time management and group work easier.

Support

- Lecturers are really supportive and happy to give extra help to mature students
- Personal tutor
- Other mature students on the course and U of E mature student society
- Timetable adjustments*
- Wellbeing support
- Accessibility- including learner support for learning disabilities such as dyslexia
- ILP's- Independent Learning plan
- Peer mentoring
- Mature Student Scholarship

*Dependant on a case by case need and varies across schools and disciplines

Expectations

- So much more practical support available at H.E.
- Be aware you need to enquire for additional support such as the timetable changes, it isn't a given.
- Similarly, don't expect additional help such as DSA/learner support to be ready for when you start.
- **TOP TIP-** make enquiries before you start your course and get the ball rolling in Welcome Week to beat the rush!

Any questions?

