UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

School of Life Sciences
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

ORIENTATION WEEK

BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences

Orientation and Welcome Programme

September 2018

University of Westminster, 115 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6UW

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Welcome from the Head of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

A very warm welcome to you from all of us in the College at the start of your studies at Westminster. The staff and our continuing students are delighted that you are joining us. Our community here is a large and diverse one, mirroring the population of London itself. There are students from a very wide range of countries and backgrounds, taking courses from Foundation to PhD level in a great many different subjects. For that reason alone, I think you will find this an exciting place to make friends and develop your ambitions.

We hope you enjoy being based at Cavendish. The building and facilities here have undergone major refurbishment in the last few years. We have updated the student social space, refurbished and relocated the registry facilities, refurbished the Biosciences laboratories, expanded the library facilities, updated the Polyclinic and refurbished spaces to accommodate Psychology. We continue to invest in the equipment you use with our regular summer updating programme and to update your classrooms. We hope that, as students here, you will benefit from all of these facilities. We are also in an excellent location in the centre of London, with a huge variety of social and cultural places and opportunities to explore right on our doorstep.

Before you arrive, you can start to get a feel for the University and for your new course by looking on our website (www.westminster.ac.uk). Please ensure that you attend all the events on the orientation timetable for your course. During orientation and welcome week, there will be a programme of activities arranged for you. You will complete the important formalities of enrolment, but you will also begin working with your course tutors and tutor groups, find out about your course, your academic School, the University and its facilities and meet your fellow students. I would also encourage you to join at least one of our student societies - there are opportunities to pursue interests related to your subject area or to try something new - or to do both!

Once you arrive at the University, staff will do their best to answer any questions you have, so please do not hesitate to ask.

I look forward to meeting you.

Professor Andrew Linn

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Introducing your orientation programme

A complete timetable of all the events and sessions that make up your Orientation & Welcome programme are set out on the next page, and it is very important that you attend all the scheduled activities.

Your first session begins at 10.00 am on Tuesday 18 September in the Large Lecture Theatre (2nd floor, the room number is C2.12) at New Cavendish Street.

Apart from the formalities of enrolment, the programme has been designed to introduce you to the University, your course, the key staff who will be teaching you and not least the other students who are starting their course with you. You will also meet your personal tutor, with whom you can discuss any queries or concerns you might have.

Where is it all taking place?

All the Orientation & Welcome sessions are taking place at our **115 New Cavendish Street** building. A map is provided on the back page of this programme and is also accessible via the University website. We are in the heart of central London and within close walking distance of several Tube stations: Warren Street, Great Portland Street, Oxford Circus and Goodge Street.

When you arrive

The first session at University will be at 10.00 am where you will be welcomed to the University followed by meeting your Course Leader at 10.30 am. Later on in the day you will also meet your own "FAN", or Friend of Arriving New Students. He or she will be one of our current undergraduate students who knows what it's like to be starting at University, and their important role is to help and support you through Orientation and the first couple of weeks of term.

In addition to your Course Leader and FAN, there will be staff and student-helpers based at various information points throughout the building who will also be providing information and advice should you have any queries about any aspect of the Orientation programme and timetable of events.

For your enrolment in person with us please make sure you have completed pre-enrolment and bring with you:

1) Printout of the completed enrolment form
2) Proof of identity only a valid passport or EU Identity Card will be accepted
3) Certificates of courses/ examinations, which do not have VERIFIED on the enrolment form
4) If you have not paid your fees online, bring payment or proof of payment (sponsorship/ SLC letter) with you
5) If an international student, original Passport, Visa and BRP card.

Want more information? Visit www.westminster.ac.uk/newstudents

Quiz: We have developed a short quiz for you to find out more about the University! You will need your new student email w*********@my.westminster.ac.uk (w********** is your personal student ID number). We will announce the winner at the Welcome Party on Thursday 20th September. Good luck!
https://goo.gl/forms/jL7s0AZUEIXBBWCh2

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BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2018		
9.45 – 10.00	**Assemble in Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
10.00 – 10.30	**Introduction to Orientation (Dr Paul Curley)**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
10.30 – 12.00	**Course Welcome** **Meet your Course Team - Dr Caroline Smith** **Option Module Choice**	C2.15, New Cavendish Street
12.00	**Enrolment**	C1.15, New Cavendish Street
13.30 – 15.30	**Course Laboratory Session** Laboratory Taster Event	C6.08 6th Floor lab, New Cavendish Street
16.00 – 17.00	**Meet your "FAN" - Friend of Arriving New Students**	C2.04, C2.10, New Cavendish Street

THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2018		
10.00 – 10.40	**Introduction to IT / Blackboard and Library Facilities**	C2.01, New Cavendish Street
12.00 – 12.30	**Health & Safety Briefing**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
12.30 – 12.45	**Student Services**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
12.45 – 13.00	**Students' Union**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
14.00 – 15.00	**Introduction to the Academic Tutoring Scheme (ATS) Dr. Claire Robertson**	C2.12 Large Lecture Theatre (2nd Floor), New Cavendish Street
15.00 – 16.00	**Meet your ATS Tutor**	Rooms: announced at the introduction
16.00 – 18.00	**Welcome Party**	C1.18 Pavilion, 1st floor, New Cavendish Street

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NB: Elements of the programme may be subject to minor modification

KEY CONTACTS FOR ORIENTATION WEEK			
CONTACTS	NAME	TEL	EMAIL
BSc Biochemistry	Dr Stuart Thompson	64143	S.Thompson@westminster.ac.uk
BSc Biological Sciences	Dr Caroline Smith	64119	C.Smith24@westminster.ac.uk
BSc Pharmacology & Physiology	Dr Chris Biggs	64098	C.Biggs@westminster.ac.uk

School of Life Sciences
Fitzrovia Registry Office

E-mail: fst-registry@westminster.ac.uk
Telephone: 020 7911 5884 or 5866

Essential Westminster

Essential Westminster is the University's student handbook and all new students will receive copies at their enrolment sessions. You can also download a PDF version of the guide at www.westminster.ac.uk/study/current-students/resources/essential-westminster. The guide provides an introduction to the University, its services and resources, with links to more detailed online information.

Current students' webpage

The "current students" webpage is your main gateway to the University's online resources. The latest news and events are also published here, so make sure you visit the page regularly to keep up to date with what's going on at the University. The webpage can be found at www.westminster.ac.uk/students.

Key University Services

Contact details for other key University services and administrative offices can be found at www.westminster.ac.uk/key-contacts.

Academic Services

Contact details for all academic staff are available at www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-staff.

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University Location Map

You can also find interactive maps and directions via this link:
www.westminster.ac.uk/about-us/visit-us/directions

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Level 4 BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences Option Modules

Dear Students,

Welcome to University of Westminster, I hope that you will enjoy your studies here.

Below is a summary of the modules you will study this year (level 4), the Core modules are a compulsory part of your BSc (Hons) Biological Science course. This year you also need to choose one other Option module, this could be a Biological Science module, a University Elective module or a language module (Polylang). I have included brief descriptions about these modules to help you to decide.

If you think you might want to study Pharmacology (the mechanisms of how drugs work) in your level 5 or 6 studies, then you will need to take the Fundamentals of Pharmacology 4PHY002W module as this provides the basic knowledge you need for a level 5 Option Systems Pharmacology 5PHYM003W.

Once you have made your choice you need to complete the Option module registration form which is in the Orientation week handbook and then return it to me after the Course Welcome talk.

I look forward to meeting you on Tuesday 18th September and at during the Course Welcome we will discuss these modules so you have chance to ask any questions before you make your choice.

Best wishes,
Caroline

Dr Caroline Smith (Ph.D., MA HE, SFHEA, FRSB)
Course Leader for Biological Sciences |
School of Life Sciences |College of Liberal Arts and Sciences |
University of Westminster|
115 New Cavendish Street, London, W1W 6UW
Email: C.Smith24@westminster.ac.uk

Level 4 modules:

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
4BICH001W	Biochemistry	Core	20	10
4BIOL002W	Cell Biology	Core	20	10
4PHYM001W	Human Physiology	Core	20	10
4BICH003W	Science: History, Philosophy and Practice	Core	20	10
4BIOL001W	Applications of Biological Sciences	Core	20	10
4PHYM002W	Fundamentals of Pharmacology	Option	20	10
4BICH002W	Biological Chemistry	Option	20	10
4HRBM002W	Botany	Option	20	10
	University Elective	Option	20	10

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Level 5 modules:

Module code	Module title	Status	UK credit	ECTS
5BIOM010W	Research Methods	Core	20	10
5BICH001W	Metabolic Biochemistry	Core	20	10
5EVBI001W	Contemporary Global Issues	Core	20	10
5BICH002W	Bioinformatics	Option	20	10
5BICH003W	Molecular Biology and Genetics	Option	20	10
5PHYM002W	Physiological Networks	Option	20	10
5PHYM003W	Systems Pharmacology	Option	20	10
5BIOL001W	Exploring the Microbial World	Option	20	10
5EVBI002W	Urban Living and the Environment	Option	20	10
5BIOM002W	Medical Genetics in Practice	Option	20	10
5BIOM003W	Molecular and Cellular Therapeutics	Option	20	10
5BIOM008W	Infection and Immunity	Option	20	10
5BIOM009W	Human Parasitology	Option	20	10
5PHYM001W	Medical Physiology	Option	20	10
	University Elective	Option	20	10

Level 4 Biological Sciences Option Module Descriptors

4PHYM002W Fundamentals of Pharmacology – SEM2

The module explores the scope of pharmacology and introduces the concept of drugs as biologically active, selective molecules. In addition, drug interactions with cellular targets will be studied, in order to provide examples of their clinical usage, and consideration of potential adverse effects. Selected experimental techniques used in pharmacology will be reviewed. The significance of absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion in determining systemic drug action will also be studied.

4BICH002W Biological Chemistry – SEM2

The module will provide an understanding of chemical structure, stereochemistry and organic functional groups of importance in biochemistry as well as facilitating an understanding of enzyme mechanisms crucial in biochemistry through an introduction to selected organic reaction mechanisms. The module will also introduce the importance and use of thermodynamics and redox chemistry in biochemistry. In summary, the module will help students understand biochemical reactions via a sound foundation in biologically relevant chemistry.

4HRBM002W Botany – SEM2

An introduction to Botany and especially to medicinal plants, with instruction on identification and use of a floral key, quality assessment, horticulture and collection methods, sustainability and ethical uses. The module provides an

introduction to basic plant sciences, anatomy, physiology, phytochemistry and taxonomy, with a focus on key medicinal plant families. There are opportunities to study plants in living collections and natural habitats and in museum collections.

Level 4 University Elective Modules

Polylang Modules: The University's Open Language Programme

*Languages are taught across at five levels, from beginner to advanced. Please note that not all languages or levels may be offered in a given academic year. If you wish to join one of these modules, you will need to attend a registration session. More information can be found here: www.westminster.ac.uk/polylang.

1ARAB999W Polylang Arabic - Initial Registration Code

1CHIN999W Polylang Chinese - Initial Registration Code

1FRNC999W Polylang French - Initial Registration Code

1GRMN999W Polylang German - Initial Registration Code

1ITAL999W Polylang Italian - Initial Registration Code

1JPAN999W Polylang Japanese - Initial Registration Code

1RUEE999W Polylang Russian - Initial Registration Code

1SPAN999W Polylang Spanish - Initial Registration Code

4CHMA001W Chinese medicine: Concepts and Context – SEM1

An introduction to the distinct and coherent Chinese medical model, the result of a continuous process of critical thought, clinical observation and testing over the past two millennia. The key philosophical and historical concepts that are important in the understanding of Chinese Medicine, including an introduction to the four examinations and disease causes which underpin the understanding of the diagnostic process within this medical model.

4HMDS001W Yoga and Meditation – SEM2

This experiential module will provide you with the theoretical and conceptual framework to learn the physical, mental, spiritual and social dimensions of yoga and meditation. You will explore the principles underlying the safe practice of yoga and meditation, and personally experience the effects of yoga postures, breathing, and relaxation and meditation techniques.

For the duration of the module you will develop your yoga and meditation practice, as well as maintaining a learning journal. The journal will enable you to reflect on the experience of practising yoga and meditation. By the time you

complete the module you will be able to demonstrate and explain the effects of a range of appropriate positional, breathing, relaxation and meditation techniques drawn from diverse yoga practice, and describe how the underlying anatomical and physiological principles of alignment relate to safe yoga practice. You will also be able to summarise the philosophical framework underpinning a range of styles of yoga, and demonstrate awareness of the effects of yoga practice within the context of health.

This is an experiential module, so all sessions will include a practical component, learning and experiencing the postures, breath work, and relaxation and meditation techniques. Assessment will include an in-class practical assessment, and an essay featuring a reflective summary of your learning.

Academic English Module

4ALDS001W Academic Language for Disciplinary Study 4 – SEM1 & SEM2

This module is for first year undergraduate students. It will help you develop your linguistic competence in academic contexts, focusing on the level 4 skills of interpretation and evaluation. The module will also help you acquire the necessary learning tools for academic development, including the ability to produce coherent and sound argumentation using the appropriate style and register required in your academic discipline. You will learn how to integrate information from a variety of academic sources into essays and presentations. In this module you will be given extensive guidance and feedback on every stage of the researching and writing process.

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SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES
LEVEL 4 OPTIONAL MODULE REGISTRATION FORM
Academic Session 2018/9

This form must be completed and returned at the end of your Module Registration session during Orientation Week.

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Registration number

W								

Course _____

As part of your course you may select ONE optional or elective module. Please list your top 3 optional or elective module choices in order of preference below. Please note that while we do our best to accommodate everyone's request, there is no guarantee everyone will receive their first choice option.

Module code	Module title	Please mark CHOICE as appropriate			Option / free (O / F)
		SEM1	SEM2	Y	

The relevant module titles and codes as well as descriptions for each module can be found in this orientation guide. All sections of this form must be completed and returned at the end of your Module Registration session in Orientation Week.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS FORM CONSTITUTES MY REGISTRATION FOR ASSESSMENT IN THE ABOVE MODULE(S).

Signature of student _____ Date _____