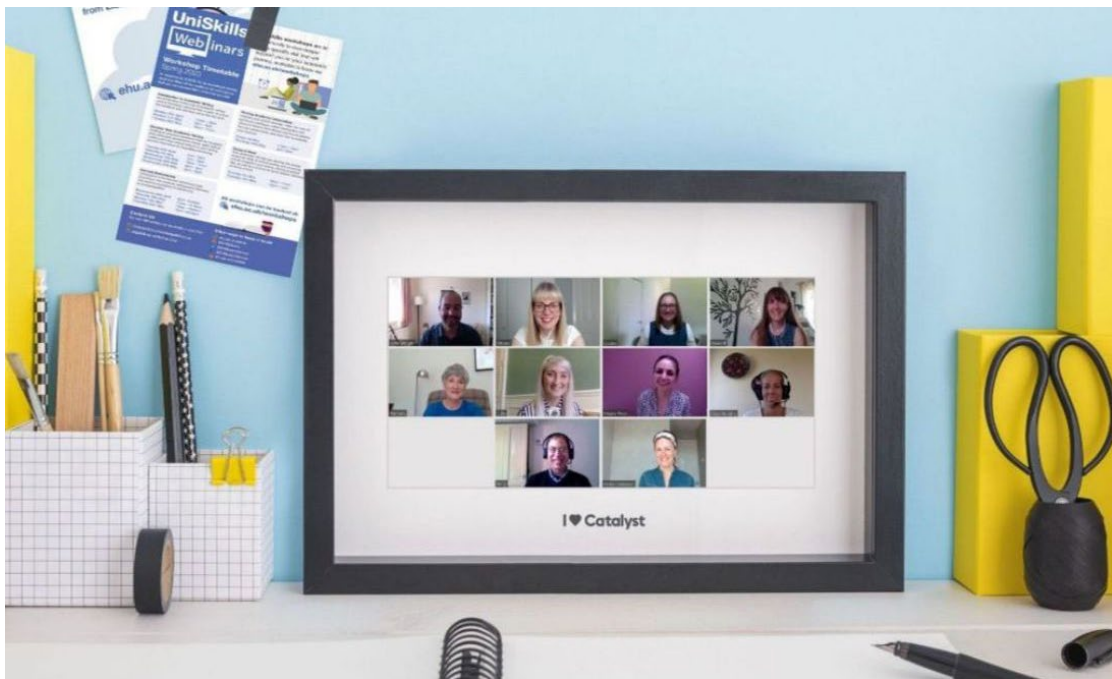


Fortnightly Update - ISSUE 5

Welcome to the 4th issue of Library and Learning Services fortnightly update, providing academic colleagues with up to date developments during Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The Student Engagement Team

Since lockdown the [Student Engagement team](#), who deliver the UniSkills support, have been busy navigating the transition to providing support in a virtual way. We were committed to continuing to provide UniSkills support to students who we know still need assistance with their academic skills during this challenging time, we just needed to think creatively and approach it in a slightly different way!



Like many colleagues we had to transition quickly into the world of digital learning - it's certainly been a learning curve getting to grips with some of the technology but we are getting there and have had some great support from our colleagues in the [Learning Technology Development team](#). Blackboard Collaborate has predominantly been our tool of choice and, overall, this has worked well so far. The team are currently busy figuring out how to use some of the more interactive features of BB Collaborate to provide a stimulating learning experience for students.

Our 1-2-1 appointments are now taking place using BB Collaborate. Students can book online in the [usual way](#) and we send students a link to join the virtual meeting. At first students seemed hesitant as they weren't sure what a virtual 1-2-1 appointment would look or feel like! But we have received some positive feedback from students who are grateful that the support is still available.

Our popular [UniSkills workshop](#) programme is now being delivered as a series of webinars via BB Collaborate. The webinar format is proving popular with students and we have been surprised at the number of bookings given that we are moving into a quieter time of year. We have had close to 370 students booked on to the webinars so far and the bookings increase daily.

Like many colleagues across the University, we are also busy planning for Semester 1 and thinking about how we can deliver our support, particularly our embedded classroom sessions, in a blended way. We hope to finalise our offer over the coming weeks so keep an eye on the UniSkills section of our [wiki](#) for updates. In the meantime if you have any questions or would like to have a chat about what UniSkills support we can provide to your new or existing students

just contact us at uniskills@edgehill.ac.uk

The SpLD Support Team

Since lockdown began the [SpLD Support Team and Learner Support Service](#) have been working to ensure the transition to a remote study skills support offer for students at the university who have dyslexia, dyspraxia and ADHD. The teams have worked closely with our colleagues in the [Inclusion Team](#) to provide supplementary support to all disabled students at the university. Our priority was to ensure a continuity of support for students during this challenging period as we all adapted to new technologies and ways of working.



The support offer is now being delivered predominantly through Microsoft Teams. Flexibility is offered to all students to meet their needs. Although initially students were a little hesitant as they transitioned to this new way of working some excellent work has taken place and students have adapted well to the changes.

We are not currently able to offer Diagnostic Assessments for SpLD and therefore begin any DSA applications, however any student who contacts the service can access support. Students can book appointments for support or to explore any issues by contacting the team via spld@edgehill.ac.uk

As we are all working with a wider range of technologies it may be useful to raise awareness of the [Assistive Technologies \(AT\)](#) available to all staff and students off campus. Inspiration 9 is available for home download to all staff and students and is a useful mindmapping and ideation tool. Additionally, Read and Write have for a limited time made their text to speech software available for staff and students at the University. Read and Write can be useful for accessing content by listening rather than reading. Please get in touch with Catalyst Helpdesk via [email](#) or [live chat](#), they can provide an instructional video and product key to download the software at home.

Inspiration®

 read&write

Similarly to colleagues across the university our focus is now shifting to preparing for the new academic year and how we can deliver the best blended and remote support to students.

If you have any questions or would like to have a chat about the support we could provide for new or existing students please contact the team via spld@edgehiil.ac.uk



SPOTLIGHT
ON FREE RESOURCES

Due to the pandemic, many publishers are opening up their content or extending our existing subscriptions on a temporary basis. It can be overwhelming to assess all the interesting offers out there, so every fortnight we highlight resources supporting research. **This time we have four collections from JSTOR that are brand new to us:**



What are the collections called?

[Global Plants Database](#)

[Lives of Literature](#)

[Security Studies](#)

[Sustainability](#)

What is JSTOR?

A not-for profit digital library covering more than 75 disciplines.

Why use it?

JSTOR scholarly content goes beyond typical items like articles and book chapters. For example, Global Plants features 3 million high-resolution type specimens

More details

JSTOR have also extended the access to collections Edge Hill currently have.

How to access

Click on the individual link for each specific database

When does access stop?

31 December

Research Support

Sage Research Methods training Thu 2 July, 14:00 - 15:30 (via Zoom)

Join us as we explore the platform that supports researchers of all levels through every step of the research process.



 **SAGE** research**methods**

We've arranged training for all research students and staff across the university on Sage Research Methods, an online knowledge platform supporting you with research methodologies, literature reviews and data analysis.

This training session delivered by Chloe Turner from SAGE introduces *SAGE Research Methods*. Participants will have plenty of time to ask questions, so that by the end of the session, everyone will be ready to start exploring the platform independently and confidently.

- **Delivery:** Online training delivered through Zoom
- **Time and date:** 14:00-15:30, Thursday 2nd July
- **Register here:** ehu.ac.uk/SageResearchMethods



Visit the Library & Learning Services webpages:

ehu.ac.uk/accessinglsonline

Keep the conversation going:

blogs.edgehill.ac.uk/lis

ehu.ac.uk/askus