

STUDENT GUIDE

**Preparing for entry into
Foundation Year**

September 2024 entry



Welcome!

Congratulations on making it onto our **Foundation Year Course!**

My name is **Wenona Dancy**, and I am your **Foundation Year Course Lead**. I am very excited to be overseeing the start of your journey at **Health Sciences University (HSU)**, together with our **Foundation Year Teaching Team**.

In the meantime, have a read through this document to get some useful guidance to help you settle in your future life as a HSU student.

Please click on our photos which will link you to our bios on the HSU website.



Introduction

Before commencing your studies with us at HSU this September, we, the Foundation Year teaching team, would like to provide you with some information about what you will study next year, and give guidance on topic areas to think about ahead of September. This will help you prepare for your academic studies and enhance your understanding of the subjects that you will study. It will also make your first few weeks somewhat easier as you ease into university life.

The academic calendar is made up of two twelve-week teaching periods, these are called semesters. There are two semesters: the September semester, starting on Monday 23rd of September and the January semester, starting on Monday 13th of January. We strongly recommend that you attend the induction week, to include the opportunity to meet with your Personal Support Tutor, to help you settle into University. At the end of each semester, you will have an 'assessment period' during which your examinations will be scheduled. The timetable will be published closer to the assessment period on our internal Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) also called Moodle.

Units of study

In the Foundation Year, you will study and complete six units. The units are either timetabled in September semester OR January semester, or throughout both September semester AND January semester.

Each are 20 credit units, which represents 200 hours of study in total, which include face-to-face teaching, tutor guided activities, self-directed learning and getting ready for assessments. We follow a 'spiral curriculum', which means the topic areas covered in the Foundation Year, will be revisited throughout your degree with an increasing depth of knowledge. It is important to know everything you are taught has a value for the future years.

The units we are introducing below are a representative of those you will study during the first semester, with the following three units introduced on the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) in preparation for the January semester.

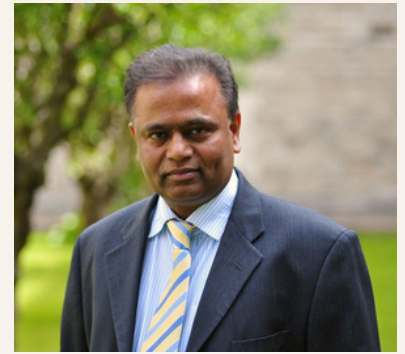
FDY3001 HUMAN SCIENCES I

Learn what the human body is made of, and how it works, from cellular structures and processes, through to organ systems, including immunity and how the body fights infection.

Dr Vijay Pabbathi leads this unit and will guide you through the content. Knowing anatomy and physiology is fundamental to building foundation knowledge in your chosen pathways.

Here is a message from Vijay:

“Welcome to HSU! I look forward to meeting you and guiding you through the foundations of anatomy and physiology. In the meantime, I recommend you look at the structure of the human cell, and general functions of enzymes”.



FDY3002 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTHCARE

Introduction to Healthcare looks at what health is, and how can we measure the impact of health interventions. Communication will be looked at regarding the population, alongside health promotion and research.

Marcus Sanger is unit lead, and is excited to support the start of your journey in Healthcare education. In preparation for this unit have a think about the importance of learning how to communicate with all people in the general population, and the best ways to support them to understand their health needs.

Here is a message from Marcus:

“There is so much to learn to become a competent healthcare professional. This unit gives a fantastic outline to many different important skills, including how to become a person-centred practitioner. I look forward to welcoming you to HSU and supporting you at the start of your journey”.

FDY3003 PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Personal and Professional Development will give you a broad overview of valuable key topics to give you tools to improve your future performance in healthcare. These, and other topic areas in FDY3003, will provide you with a valuable set of skills for your Foundation Extended Project in the January Semester, as well as the knowledge and understanding for future University activities.

Erdi Shaba leads this unit, and looks forward to working with you to develop your personal and professional foundation. Erdi is also Academic Lead for the **Foundation Year Peer Assisted Learning** scheme (PALs), and so will be working alongside your PAL mentors in guiding you through this year

Here is a message from Erdi:

I am looking forward to helping you develop both personally and professionally in preparation for successful continuation onto your undergraduate degree.



Support framework

The University offers an excellent range of student-centred support services. We encourage you to make use of these opportunities if you need them to ensure that you excel in your studies with us. Our aim is to enhance your student experience whilst studying at HSU.

You can receive additional support from any of the services below:

1. **The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) or Moodle:** this is the University's interactive online learning platform that compliments everything you study in your academic units. Each unit has a dedicated Moodle page that contains everything you need to be successful.
2. **Personal Support Tutor (PST):** these are members of academic staff who are there to support you in your academic, personal and professional development. Your PST will contact you throughout the year to ensure you are progressing at the appropriate pace during your studies and that you are realising your true potential.
3. **Student services:** located on the main building ground floor, they offer a diverse range of support services ranging from mental wellbeing and counselling to study skills and learning support. Further details are available [HERE](#).
4. **Peer Assisted Learning (PAL):** this is an excellent programme that involves a weekly meeting with your PAL mentors who have previously completed the first year of study on the MChiro. Your PAL mentors have had extensive training and are well versed in facilitating supportive weekly sessions. This support programme runs during semester one.
5. **Year Representatives (Reps):** these are students in your year who will be elected into the position at the start of the year. They will represent the Foundation Year Student Voice and will meet regularly with your Course Lead, Wenona Dancy, to share good practice and to identify and consider ways in which the course may be enhanced. If you are interested in becoming involved as a Year Rep, please email SUVPEducation@aecc.ac.uk.
6. **Student Union:** HSU Student Union comprise of our SU Manager, Rhianydd Lewis, and her yearly elected SU exec team. They have an important role of representing you and amplifying your student voice, alongside hosting social events, maintaining the HSU gym, organising sports teams and social clubs. Further details are available [HERE](#).

**Enjoy the rest of your summer,
and we look forward to seeing you in
September!**