

Putting a Face to a Name: Using Technology to Reach Out to Overseas Distance Learners

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Distance Learning at Sunderland

- 41% students at Sunderland study off campus (2010/11)
 - 6,155 overseas or independent students registered with library
 - 2,149 students studying at a partner centre in the UK
- Different Models of Distance Learning
 - Independent Learning
 - Students studying at partner centres (not local partners)

Challenges

We want to reach out & offer support to all these students but we've faced a number of challenges:

- Many distance learning programmes are not run through VLE
- Students tend to contact staff at their partner college if they have a problem/question
- Staff at partner centres are like many other academic staff – they don't always have best grasp of library themselves
- Sunderland has offered a distance learning library service since 1997 – when the technologies of today were not available
- We don't have a lot of money!

Updating Our Service Offer

Our Quality Promises

"No matter where you are, when or how you reach us, we will strive to deliver an equivalent library service."



"You will have the opportunity to develop information literacy skills that will help you to use library services to your best advantage, support your academic progress and your future development."



Student Familiarity with Technology

Availability of Technology

Ubiquitous Access to the Internet

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Workshop

• Individually:

take a few minutes to think about how you deliver support / information skills,

- have you incorporated any technologies into your teaching?
- Write down one or two experiences that come to mind. What technology did you use?
- How did you use it?

• In small Groups:

Share your experience with other members of your group and think about following question:

- Did you run into any problems using technology in your sessions and how did they impact your use of technology in future sessions?

Skills for Learning

“ if we are committed to providing the “very best possible learning experience for students” this must include both access to high quality learning resources and the skills to use these effectively

University Library Services Skills for Learning Strategy, 2011

Distance Learning Service then...

In the early years of our distance learning service it was difficult to provide an equitable service - especially in terms of Information Skills

- technology was not as widely available
- we had (& still have) a limited budget
- some students had little/no access to the internet
- if they did it wasn't very fast

Videos on CDs that Faculties would make available

Help guides

Distance Learning Service now...

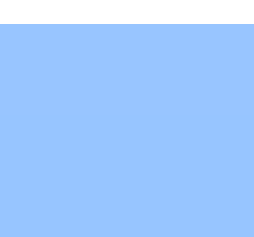
It's a lot easier to provide an equitable service...

- many new technologies - many of which are free
- we still have a limited budget
- pretty much all of our students have internet access
- Still some problems with internet speed in some areas

Captivate/Camtasia Video & Tutorials

Synchronous support via LiveChat, Skype & AnyMeeting

Help guides & blog posts



What do you do when

- You don't subscribe to Elluminate (or similar software)?
- You haven't got money to spend on subscribing to them?

Small text in the top right corner, possibly a list of names or a document snippet.

What do you do when
- You don't subscribe to Eliminate (or similar software)?
- You haven't got money to spend on subscribing to them?

Synchronous Support



- 6 sessions
- A lot of preparation
- 165 students in total signed up - not all attended

"It would have been really useful to have this session in late September/October last year... I have struggled to use the material, advice part of the library and been frustrated by this."

"I wish there had been more sessions... I wish there had been more sessions during the last term and this is my second year."



Chat

Jeremy Boulter from Saudi Arabia
Business law 4th addition

FRENDY TIO from Malaysia
Mine works, the screen is
exactly the same

Gao Hang from Singapore
me too`

Jeremy Boulter from Saudi Arabia
Information about the
publisher, author isbn

Jeremy Boulter from Saudi Arabia
three green buttons, the
first to download

stellaliewhiongyee from malaysia
sorry,because i don have
any book in class

Lim Kok Aun from Malaysia
the ebook that I found
'effective communication', I
selected the fourth ebook
but it doesn't provide the

The screenshot shows a video conference interface. At the top, there is a camera feed of a woman with glasses. Below it is a browser window displaying the University of Sunderland Library Services website. The website features a navigation menu on the left with items like 'Home', 'Services for:', 'Assignments', 'Support for your Subject', 'Information Resources', 'IT', 'Borrow, Return, Reserve', 'Learning Spaces', 'Our Feedback Loop', 'Our Study Spaces', and 'Help'. The main content area includes a search bar, a 'Meet, Think, Create, Enjoy!' section with a text block, a 'Reviews and Events' section with a 'Our Easter Vacation opening hours' announcement, and a 'our new ebooks' section with a 'Skills for Learning' ebook cover. The browser's address bar shows 'http://www.library.sunderland.ac.uk/'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the date as 05/14/2012 and the time as 10:27.

Clicking on advertisement
will open a new window.
[Next Offer >>](#)

Continuous Support

- 6 sessions
- A lot of preparation
- 165 students in total signed up - not all attended

"It would have been really useful to have this session in late September/October last year... I have struggled to use the journal articles part of the library and been frustrated by this."

"I wish these kind of sessions would have been made earlier as I just learnt about using the library services during the last term and this is my senior year."

Integrating Social Media

Find resources for your Assignments

This session is aimed at distance learners in the UK and overseas.
* Required

Full Name *

University User ID
(eg. bf10cd)

Your Email Address *

Which session would you like to attend? *
Sessions on 3rd May are now fully booked. Please choose from the following new dates:
Wed 4th April 9:30am (UK time) ▾

Your Programme/Course?

What level are you studying?
Foundation ▾

Location?
City/Country

Do you know your Athens username and password?
Yes ▾

Is there anything in particular you would me to include in this session?

Powered by Google Docs



Off Campus Library Blog

University of Sunderland

Online Library Session - Distance Learners Sign Up Here

Skills for Learning

UPDATE

I have organised 2 further sessions on Thursday 5th April at 10am and 2pm. If you have already registered interest in the Session I have emailed you with details of how to join and to help you with your Athens Account if you started you did not know it.

If you have not registered interest but would still like to join one of the sessions it is not too late. Click here to read the joining instructions.

If you need to find information and resources for your assignments but are having difficulty or you're not sure where to start then sign up for one of the virtual library sessions.

Finding Resources for Your Assignments

Dates: ~~Thursday 3rd April 9:30am & 2:00pm (Fully booked)~~
~~Wednesday 4th April 9:30am & 2:00pm (Fully booked)~~

Durations: 1hr 30mins (approx)

How:
I'll be using web conferencing software AnyMeeting to host this session. It's really easy to use and you don't need to download any additional software although you may want to ensure your current Java is up to date. You will need headphones and if you wish to speak to me, a microphone. However a mic is not necessary - there is a chat facility which you can use.

Who is this session for:
Distance Learners who are either new to using University library services or who have questions about our online resources although everyone who studies off campus is welcome.

About this session:
This session will cover:

- an introduction to the types of information that we have available electronically
- an explanation of Athens Accounts & how to use them
- finding and downloading full text articles using Journal Search
- finding and accessing e-books using the Library Catalogue
- guidance on finding other types of information such as newspapers.

The four sessions next week are now fully booked.

Library Web Pages
Library Webpages for Off Campus Students
Videos, E-books, & guides made for Learning
Library Website for Postgraduate Students

Facebook & Twitter
Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SERVICES
Library Services
Library Catalogue
Journal Search
e-books
e-journals
e-newspapers
e-reference
e-theses
e-articles
e-books
e-journals
e-newspapers
e-reference
e-theses
e-articles

Facebook & Twitter



Duong Duyen

hello, how can I access e-book in library? Even I log in to My Athens, go to Sunderland University Library but I don't receive the book I want at all. Thank you

Like · Comment · 21 December 2011 at 13:27



University of Sunderland Library Services Hi - you need to go to our Library Catalogue (see the link to the left here or on our webpages) and search for the books you want. If it is available as an e-book you will see a link in the record. If you only want to access e-books you can choose the More Search Options option and then search the E-Book Collection only. On clicking on the link you will be prompted to log in with your Athens Account. I hope that helps.

21 December 2011 at 15:13 · Like



University of Sunderland Library Services You may also find this video demonstration useful: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sM87ajvr-2o>



Finding ebooks
www.youtube.com

A demonstration of using the Library Catalogue to find and access ebooks.

21 December 2011 at 15:25 · Like · Remove preview

Write a comment...



Cwmis Rekha

School of Business and Computer Science (SBCS) students in Trinidad are having problems trying to get their Athens account. Our cases for exams are to come tomorrow according to you all. Sent you all an email moments ago with my user id etc. Any help appreciated. We need this to access ebooks and journals. Please help..

Like · Comment · 14 November 2011 at 14:49



University of Sunderland Library Services Hi. We have just checked our email account and unfortunately I cannot see your message. Please could you email library@sunderland.ac.uk as soon as possible and let us know your University User ID and we will try our best to help. Thanks Kay

14 November 2011 at 16:27 · Like



University of Sunderland Library Services Hi - we have located your message now and have just replied to your email. We have contacted the Faculty of Business and they have updated your registration details. You should be able to log into your University Email Account tomorrow with...

See more

14 November 2011 at 17:10 · Like



Cwmis Rekha Thanks soooooo much for your quick reply. Got, it, tried it, it works. Felt like the 13th hour. We were running out of time depending on SBCS getting it for us before exams and cases. So had decided email and send an FB message to you all directly.

15 November 2011 at 13:44 · Like

Write a comment...

The Future

Illuminate/Class Live

Offer Online induction & skills support all year round.

- Sessions for specific Faculties/Centres e.g. Applied Sciences & TESOL students
- General sessions at key times eg. before assignment times

Live Polling tumblr google docs

Short videos

personalised
in response to common questions

iPad captivate/camtasia

Facebook & Twitter