Welcome to the University of Northampton

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to your studies at the University of Northampton. The purpose of this document is to help you prepare for coming to study with us and give you an opportunity to meet members of your programme team as well as other students who’ve chosen the same course. We want to make sure that you are inspired, anchored, prepared, and enabled to succeed.

Through engaging with our welcome and induction activities you will get to know your super-supportive tutors, have a chance to make new friends and be able to access what you need to know and do to start studying successfully. Ultimately, we want you to feel confident about how you will learn.

This Welcome Pack covers the following key areas:

- Details of 3 online Welcome and Induction sessions scheduled during the second half of August and the first three weeks in September
- Technical information to make joining these sessions as easy as possible
- What happens during Welcome and Induction Week – meeting with your Personal Tutor and other University-wide events

Welcome and Induction Online Sessions

We would like to invite you to join members of your subject and programme team, and other students joining you at the University of Northampton this year for three online welcome and induction sessions in the weeks leading up to the start of term. The details of your programme specific sessions are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Getting to Know You Session 1</th>
<th>Date: Wednesday 2 September 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time: 11am</td>
<td>Link: <a href="https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/2122fb46af524510877cd203cbe6f68f0">https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/2122fb46af524510877cd203cbe6f68f0</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Introduction to Learning and Teaching on your Programme Session 2</th>
<th>Date: Wednesday 9 September 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Time: 11am</td>
<td>Link: <a href="https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/6fb8b0fb0e564dff9eb775f68154bb9">https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/6fb8b0fb0e564dff9eb775f68154bb9</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Supporting Your Success Session 3</th>
<th>Date: Wednesday 16 September 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Time: 11am</td>
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Preparing you for Learning and Teaching at Northampton

Learning and teaching at the University of Northampton is designed to help you take control of your own learning, using small group teaching, team-working and one-to-one tutorials that allow learning to take place in face-to-face environments and using carefully crafted digital experiences. To help you prepare for this personalised approach to learning, our welcome and induction activities are designed to introduce you to our learning technologies so that you are ready to go for the start of term. Through engaging in some preparatory work before our live sessions, you can think about some of the questions you might have and have opportunities to explore the many ways in which you are supported. You can also meet the other students on your programme.

What to do if you can’t attend the live session

If you are unable to attend the live session, we will be sharing any resources used on our Programme NILE site (the Northampton Integrated Learning Environment). You will be able to access these once you have enrolled.

Technical Support

As part of our welcome and induction, we would like you to engage with us using our online tool, Blackboard Collaborate. It is broadly similar to using Skype or Zoom, which you may have come across before. You will be able to join your Welcome and Induction sessions as a guest, meaning that you do not need to create an account in order to participate.

Using Collaborate

- Test whether your browser will work with Collaborate
- Review the student guide to using Collaborate
- Test Collaborate by visiting our test ‘classroom’ to address any technological challenges. This classroom will be available 24/7 from now until the end of September. You can join the classroom now and follow the instructions to test your audio and video functions.

If you are still experiencing difficulties, please call our on-site team for further help: +44 (0)1604 893333.

LinkedIn Learning

Once you become a student at the University of Northampton, you will also have access to a wealth of online technical support through LinkedIn Learning so you can improve your digital skills any time, any place.
Getting to Know You

The aim of this session is to help you begin to meet new people, make new friends and get to know the staff team who will be with you over the course of your studies.

Pre-Work

Your task: If someone were to ask you the following questions, what would your response be:

- What groups and communities do you belong to now and what ones would you like to belong to at University?
- What values define you as an individual?
- What do you most want to achieve by coming to University?
- What does it mean to be part of a University community?
- What 3 things will challenge you most about being at University?

As with the all tasks for these sessions, it is completely up to you what you choose to share during the live sessions.

This pre-work should take you about half an hour.

Your Online Session

This will be your first online session – so, DON'T PANIC! It is just an opportunity for you to meet some of the Product Design Team together with your fellow students before we all get together in the studio at the beginning of term. This session will introduce you to Collaborate, one of the online tools that we'll be using throughout the course, so that you can familiarise yourself with it.
Introduction to the Learning and Teaching on your Programme

The purpose of this session is to learn more about how learning and teaching will work on your programme of study and meet your teaching team for this year. This will also be a great time to talk about how we have made our campus ‘Covid Secure’ and if there are any particular arrangements you need to be aware of depending on what you are studying.

Pre-Work

Your task: Take some time to familiarise yourself with How We Teach. This page provides an overview of how we personalise your learning to ensure that you get the best experience possible. We will use this page as the basis for our discussions in the live session, where we will explore what this looks like for your programme of study, and in line with the latest guidance around Covid-19.

Please also click on the link above to find out more about how we use digital technologies not only to support your studies, but also to prepare you for living and working in the modern world. Also, have a think about your favourite products or products that have inspired you to become a designer:

- What would that product be? Can you find an image of it to share? (If it’s online, keep a note of the link)
- Who was the designer or manufacturer of the product?
- Why have you chosen this particular product?

This pre-work should take you about an hour.

Your Online Session

During the online session we will give you an overview of the Product Design Course, introduce the type of modules you will be studying, and discuss typical design projects that you may be undertaking. We will also share our essential reading list – some of the books that will help you in your studies throughout the first year of the course. And, not forgetting, your ‘Designer’s Toolbox’ - we will go through all the drawing and modelling equipment you will need as part of the course.
Supporting Your Success
The purpose of this session is to introduce you to the different teams and services around the University who can support you in your studies and help you identify which of these you need to engage with.

Pre-Work
Your task: Visit the University Supporting You webpages to find out more about all our teams. The core teams you should find out about include:

- Library and Learning Services, including our Academic Librarian and Learning Development Teams
- Academic and Pastoral Support from your Personal Tutor and our Student Support and Advice Team
- The Student Information Desk who can signpost you to our specialist support services
- The University of Northampton Students’ Union – for clubs and societies, sports and other social activities, as well as support, information and guidance

Make a note of those teams that you think will be particularly helpful. Discussing these with your Personal Tutor during your 1:1 meeting with them will help you make a good start to your academic year, although if you want to contact them earlier, their details are available online.

You may want to have a go at The Induction Investigation ... an online, puzzle-based challenge to introduce you to the work of Library and Learning Services and how they support all students. This challenge can be undertaken individually but is more fun if completed in a team.

This pre-work should take you about an hour.

Your Online Session
During the online session, we will think about what it means to come to University and be part of the wider University Community. You will have an opportunity to ask those questions that you haven't yet found an answer to. In preparation, you might like to think about what coming to University means for you in particular – your hopes and dreams and also to think about what you might find challenging. Don't worry – you only have to share what you are comfortable to talk about.
What Happens Next?
Immediately before the start of term, we will ensure that all students are allocated to a Personal Tutor group (see below). If you are a Joint Honours student, you will be in a tutor group with other students who share one of your subject areas.

You will meet your tutor on campus during the week of the 21 September, along with the other members of your group. You can find out when your Personal Tutor Welcome session is on your online Timetable.

At the University of Northampton, our Personal Tutors meet regularly and frequently with their tutees, both in group and in 1-to-1 sessions. They will help you to reflect on how your studies are going and explore actions you can take to maximise your chances of success.

You will also be invited to a short (10 minute) 1-to-1 session with your Personal Tutor. This would be a good opportunity for you to discuss any questions you may have about personalised support if you haven't already contacted those teams directly. Please know that you can also get in touch with your Personal Tutor directly should you need to. Your PT will tell you more about how to do this.

Your Subject/Programme Team may also offer some additional activities during the week of the 21 September. Details of these will be available through your online timetable.

Information about other Welcome and Induction events across the University during the week of 21 September will be shared with you in due course. We are planning these in line with the latest government guidance around Covid-19 and so full details won't be available until nearer the time. These are all designed to help you make a solid start to University, whether you are living on our beautiful Waterside Campus, staying locally or commuting in when necessary, or studying remotely.

Who are the Personal Tutors for your Programme?
Just before the start of our Welcome and Induction week, the University will send you an email with the name of your Personal Tutor. You will need to use this information to know which face-to-face session you will need to attend with your Personal Tutor, based on the groups below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Tutor Group</th>
<th>Personal Tutor Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc Product Design</td>
<td>Paul Hines</td>
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