

The first semester of university has been a huge adaptation for me, as I've learned how to balance my academic and social life, along with learning how to manage finances, albeit with a few stressful setbacks regarding my maintenance loan that, thankfully, did not make much of an impact on my assignments. I've begun to learn the value of modules that are not related, or fully-related, to my specialism – this allows me to remember and make usage of my skills in modules where I struggle with motivation due to the restrictions of the topics, and will become helpful if my future choice of modules in my first year doesn't allow me to get as detailed as I'd particularly like. The major challenge in that, however, is that lack of motivation. If there is no drive for me, I tend to have more issues getting the work done, finding an adequate way of answering specific questions and such; yet, I do understand how having these restrictions forces me to work outside of my comfort zone and to push myself into new areas that may eventually help me with my specialism.

Block 3 has helped me push through my previous issues with English Literature specifically – I did it originally for an A-Level, but ended up dropping it altogether due to lack of improvement in my assessment grades despite actively putting aside my two other A-Levels in favour of progress. The assignments set were the biggest we've done so far, and I struggled a lot with motivation until I realised that I can incorporate my knowledge on Ancient Greece in 2 of the set questions that I chose, yet I have managed to persevere through my past issues and the subject itself, and ended up with two essays I am quite proud of.

My New Year's Resolution is to do more reading outside of my current studies and learn ways in which to incorporate them into my modules – some are separate from my own interests, and finding ways to add them into my assignments tends to give me more motivation.