

# The Skills Centre

## Studiosity briefing for staff 2019/2020

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**Studiosity** is an **online writing feedback service** which provides constructive written feedback to students about their academic writing style. After a successful pilot project in 2018/19, the service is now embedded as part of the broader academic study skills offer delivered by the Skills Centre. This year students will be able to **submit up to 8 samples of work, of up to 2500 words each**. They can submit work online 24/7 and will receive their feedback report within 24 hours.

Building upon the success of the pilot phase the Skills Centre has worked to develop **new pathways for students** to enable them to act upon the feedback they receive in their personalised reports. This message will be communicated to students directly via Studiosity, and via a broader campaign to staff and students about ways in which students can both enhance their academic writing and develop other study skills. Options for students are available **both on and off campus**, and students are encouraged and supported to choose the best strategies in order to develop their own **personal action plan**.

### Skills Check

Our newly developed online **Skills Check** enables students to use feedback received to self-assess their academic writing skills. On completion they receive a personalised report, alongside tailored advice for further development. Students are encouraged to complete the Skills Check on a regular basis. The Skills Check can be found at [go.shu.ac.uk/skillscheck](http://go.shu.ac.uk/skillscheck)

### Advisor-guided Pathway

#### Workshops

Interactive workshops to learn more about areas your report has highlighted for development. These sessions offer practical tips and strategies. Popular topics include Planning & Structuring your Assignments, Critical Writing and Introduction to Academic Writing.

#### Writing Forums

The 1 hour **Writing Forums** offer students an opportunity to discuss their work and feedback in small groups, and reflect upon how they can develop their academic writing style. These bookable sessions are guided by an experienced Learning Advisor, and are available every week at City, Collegiate and via webinar.

#### 1-1s

For students who need a more tailored approach or are unsure where to start, 30 minute **1-1 Sessions** are also offered. Students are able to seek guidance on how to best act upon feedback received and are encouraged to bring along Studiosity feedback reports for discussion. Bookable sessions are available each week at City, Collegiate, and over the phone.

#### Quick Query Drop-ins

For quick questions, our advisors run drop ins at both campuses. Check our website for details.

### Self-guided Pathway

#### Online Study Guides

Alongside the Skills Check, a new series of self-guided **Online Study Guides** provide in-depth guidance to students exploring the development of academic writing. These guides form the first phase of a programme of e-resource development which will include co-production projects with both academic colleagues and a team of student developers.

#### Skills4Study Campus

The Skills Centre continues to provide free access to students to the highly regarded **Skills4Study Campus** online study skills package based upon the work of Stella Cottrell. The entire package is available via the Skills Centre website, and academic colleagues are also able to embed modules into Blackboard sites.

### Further information

For further information about Studiosity and the Skills Centre, alongside details of how to book sessions and where to find online resources please visit [blogs.shu.ac.uk/skillscentre](http://blogs.shu.ac.uk/skillscentre)

If you would like to speak to a member of the Skills Centre team about ways in which to work collaboratively to enable students to develop their academic writing and study skills, please email [skillscentre@shu.ac.uk](mailto:skillscentre@shu.ac.uk)