

Academic Orientation 2022

UNIO101: University transition and success

Module 1: Welcome and Introduction

Dr Rebecca Bird, Office of Student Success

Congratulations! You made it!

<http://jewishonlinemuseum.org>



Te Rangī Hīroa in academic robes, circa 1904 (1/2-037931-F) Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand



You have joined a community of 21000 students & 4000 staff!

Learning objectives:

By the time you have finished these modules you should be able to:

- Identify what transition refers to in a university setting
- Identify the key differences between high school and university, including the evolution of responsibility
- Identify successful student behaviours
- Know some of the skills needed to identify your own success strategy

What we will cover

Module 1: Welcome & Introduction

Module 2: High school vs University- key differences

Module 3: Planning your success strategy

Module 4: Active learning and time management

Module 5: A model for success, and reflection

What you will need:

Pen and paper

A computing device that can access Blackboard
(blackboard.otago.ac.nz)

The impact of COVID on your journey

- COVID regulations may change frequently across the year
- Make sure you check your student email for updates from the university
- And paper Blackboard pages for specific details about how COVID regulations may affect each paper
- UNIO101 provides some guidance for learning, and being assessed, while online

Module 1 Task

Check you can access UNIO101

- Log into Blackboard
- You should be able to see UNIO101- visit the site and spend a few minutes exploring!
- This is also a good time to check you can access your papers' blackboard pages

If you can't access these, check:

- Have you declared?
- Is there a reason that you might not have access?
- Contact AskOtago: university@otago.ac.nz if you need help

Academic Orientation 2022

UNIO101: University transition and success

Module 2: Key differences between school and university

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Transition- what does it mean?

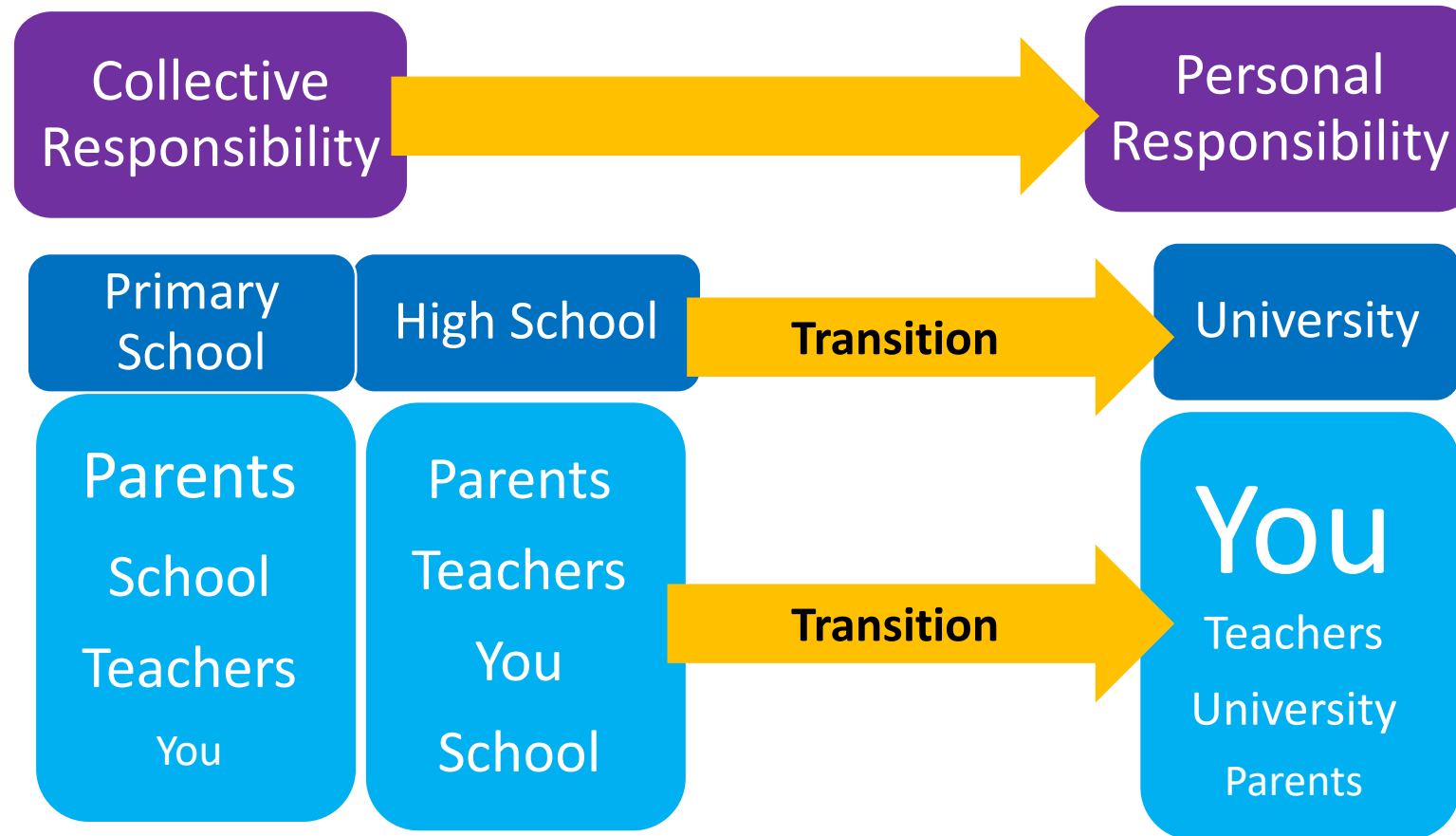
Moving from one state of being to another

Known → unknown

Learning the new 'rules'- including the hidden ones!

Academic integration + Social integration + Administrative

What's the big difference between school and uni?



It's all about you! Take control of your degree

High School vs University

~40 subjects to choose from

Collect credits as you go

Exams = optional extras

Revise and resubmit to improve marks

~20 degrees, ~130 majors, >200 FY papers

Work towards a final mark

“Formative” doesn’t add to marks

Exams = critical to success

internal work + exam = final mark

Every mark is precious: hand something in!

What you hand in is what is marked

Building your grade

The University of Otago uses the following scale to convert numerical marks into grades:

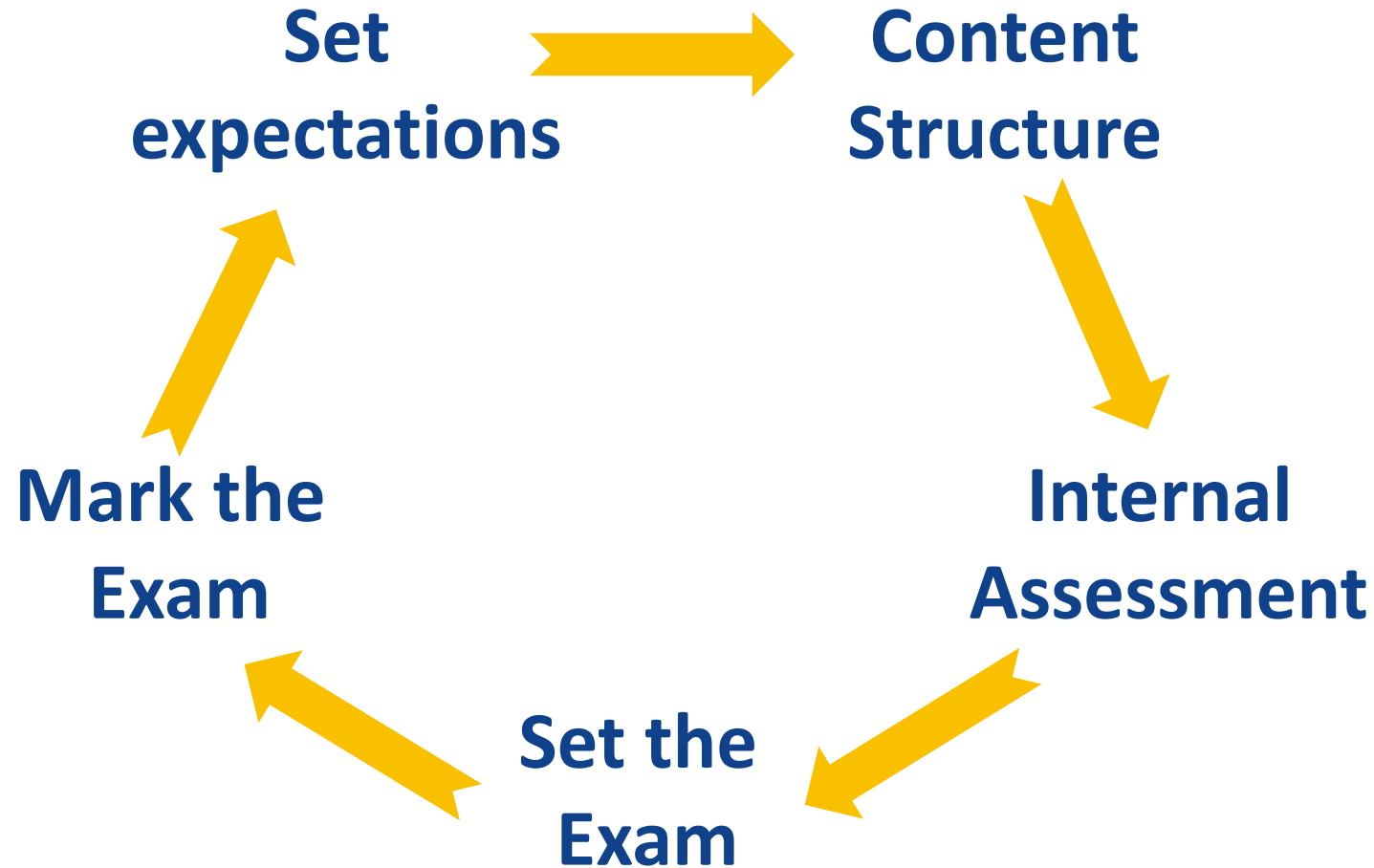
MARK	GRADE
90-100	A+
85-89	A
80-84	A-
75-79	B+
70-74	B
65-69	B-
60-64	C+
55-59	C
50-54	C-
40-49	Fail D
Below 40	Fail E

Building your grade

Type of assessment	How much of final grade is it worth?	Mark you get	Your final grade (your mark/total marks) x % of final grade	What if you miss an assessment?	
Assessment 1	10%	16/20	8%	8%	8%
Assessment 2	15%	21/25	12.6%	0%	6% (10/25)
Assessment 3	15%	11/15	11%	11%	11%
Final Exam	60%	75/100	45%	45%	45%
Total	100%		77.8% (B+)	64% (C+)	70% (B)

The circle of knowledge at University:

The academic (teaching) staff:



So it makes sense to go to class and listen to what they say

What is a lecture?

Critical information on a specific topic
Delivered by academic staff members
Supplemented with other learning material

What is research-informed teaching?

University of Otago has a focus on teaching and research
Most of your lecturers are research active
So lecture content is informed by recent, up to date research

Lectures form a core part of learning

What should you do during a lecture?

Be present (in person, or by watching recordings at normal speed!)
Prepare (if you're given slides/readings beforehand)
Take notes
Ask questions

What should you do after a lecture?

Revise content and link to other learning materials
Test your knowledge
Ask questions

Module 2 Tasks

Use the worksheet to help you identify:

- Positives and negatives of the shift in responsibility
- Key differences between your high school experience and what you now expect at university
 - What will the positives and challenges be? How will you manage the challenges?
- What grades are you aiming for for your papers? What will you do to reach these goals?
- How do you plan to approach your lectures?

Academic Orientation 2022

UNIO101: University transition and success

Module 3: Planning your success strategy

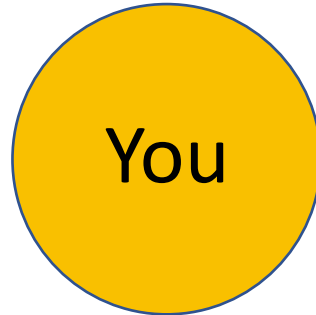
Dr Rebecca Bird, Office of Student Success

Let's get back to you... why are you here?

What do you plan to study?

What study habits will you continue?

Why have you chosen that path of study?



Will you try new study techniques?

What do you want to do when you leave uni?

What does success mean to you?

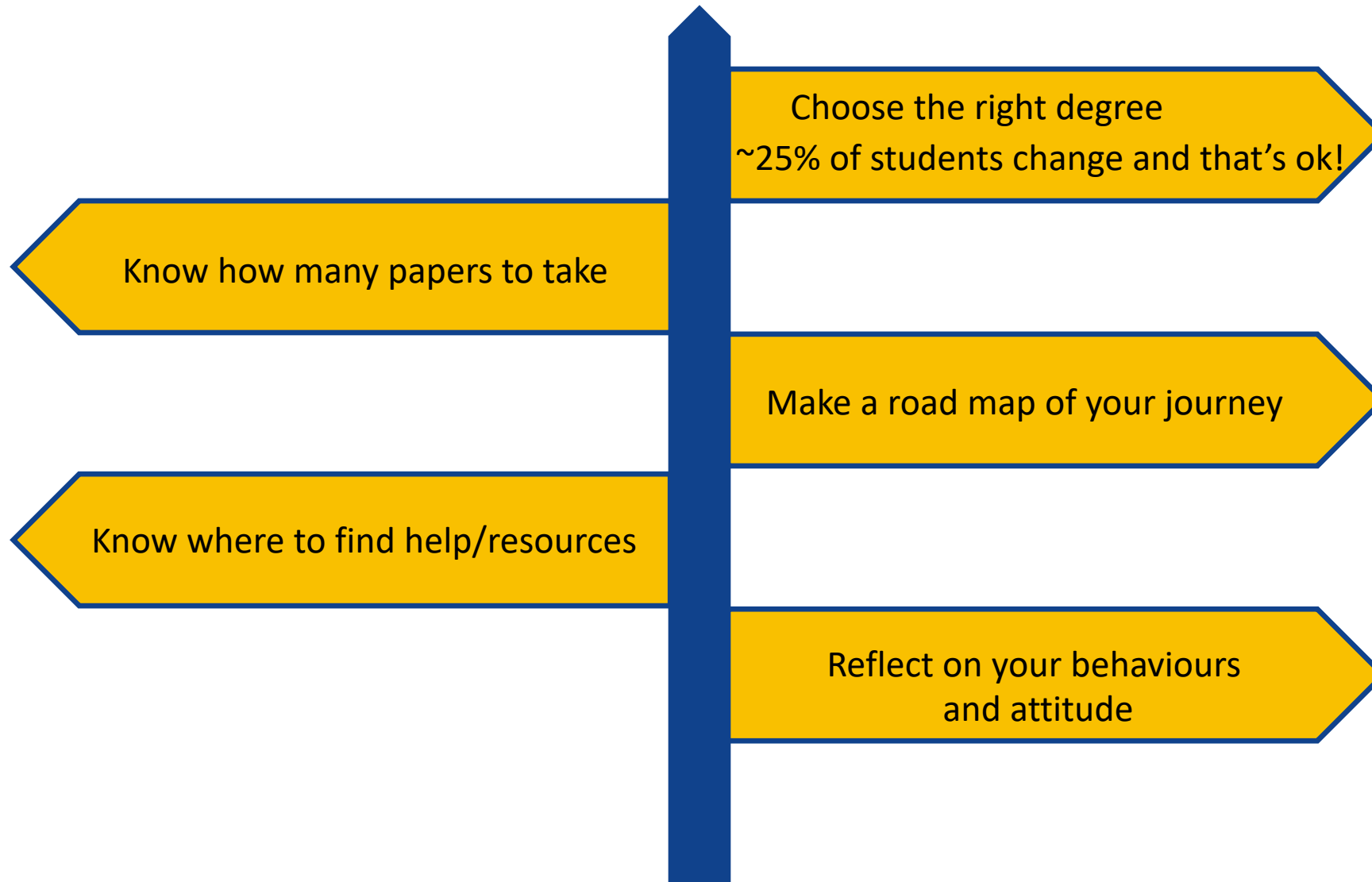
What is your plan for success?

Reflection keeps us motivated

What are successful academic behaviours?

- No magic formula BUT research tells us key things:
 - Successful students have a plan
 - Successful students are positive and proactive
 - Successful students are aware of, and utilize resources

How will you get to where you want to go?



Positive behaviours and attitudes

Be present- attend class

Identify resources- and use them!

Ask for help

Make a timetable

Study smart, not hard
hours studied \neq knowledge gained

Review content in a timely manner

Know it's okay to fail/get things wrong

Module 3 Tasks

Think about your WHY and your HOW

- Why are you here? How will you reach your goals?

Use the worksheet to help as you

- Consider the self reflection questions
- Identify successful academic behaviours
- Think about the positive behaviours and attitudes you already do, and which you might start doing

Academic Orientation 2022

UNIO101: University transition and success

Module 4: Active learning and time management

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Be an active learner

Unpack your paper

- course outline
 - Assessments
 - Due dates
 - Terms requirements
 - Support

What skills do you need?

- Study support (PASS, College/Local tutorials)
- Workshops (note taking, planning, exams etc)
- UNIO101 on Blackboard

Make sure you get the info you need

- Check your (uni!) email regularly
- Check Blackboard regularly
- Refer back to course outline
- Office hours? Drop in sessions?
- Ask for help when you need it!

Plan -and use- your time wisely

- Make a study plan that works for you

Plan your time- and stick to it!

Expect (and plan!) to spend
~12 hours per week, per
paper

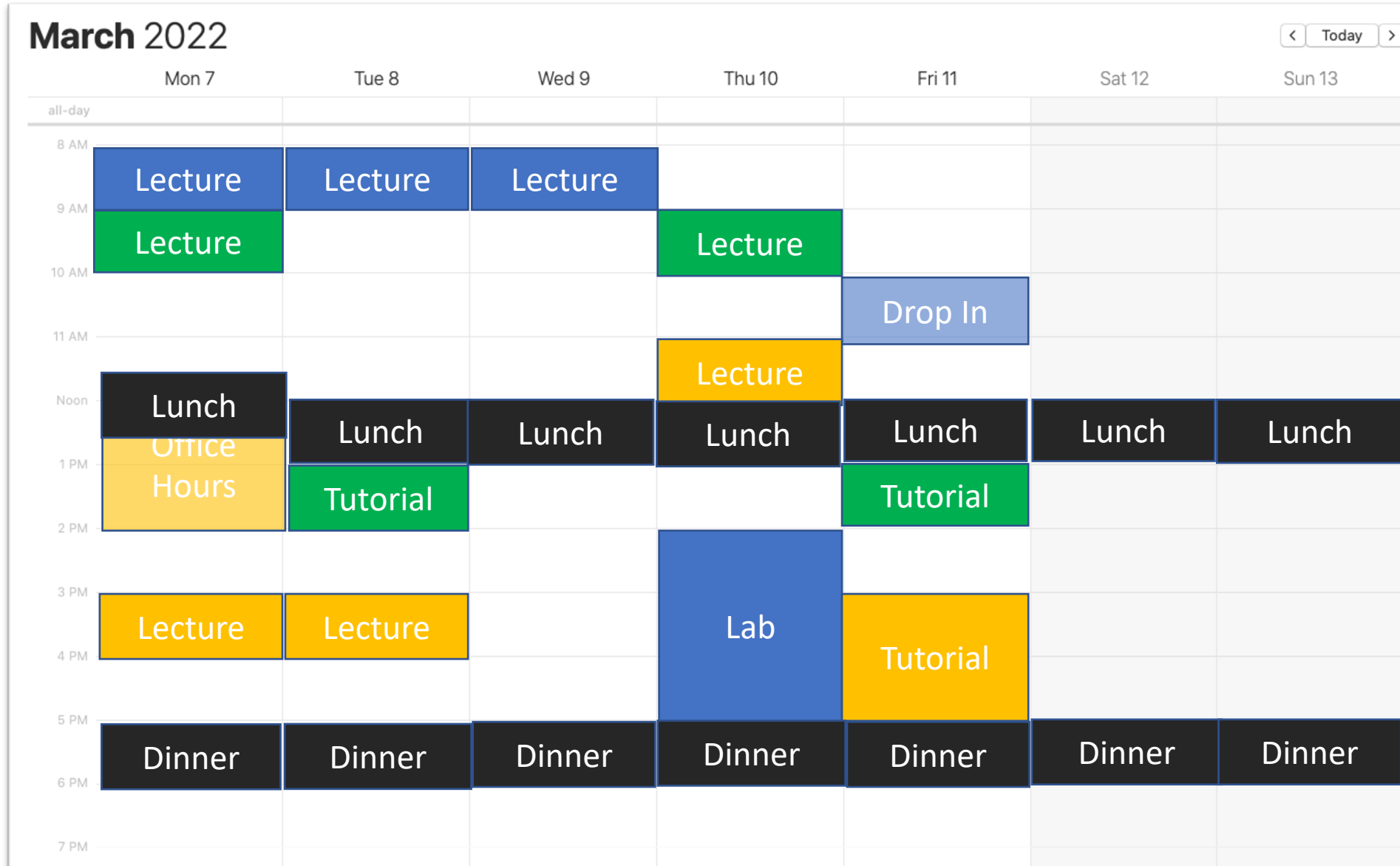
Paper A

Paper B

Paper C

What to timetable:

- Compulsory (lectures, labs, tutorials etc) ✓
- Optional (self-directed learning activities, drop in tutorials, lecturer office hours etc) ✓
- Eating/sleeping ✓
- Assignments/tests
- Studying
- Time to relax/ socialise/exercise etc



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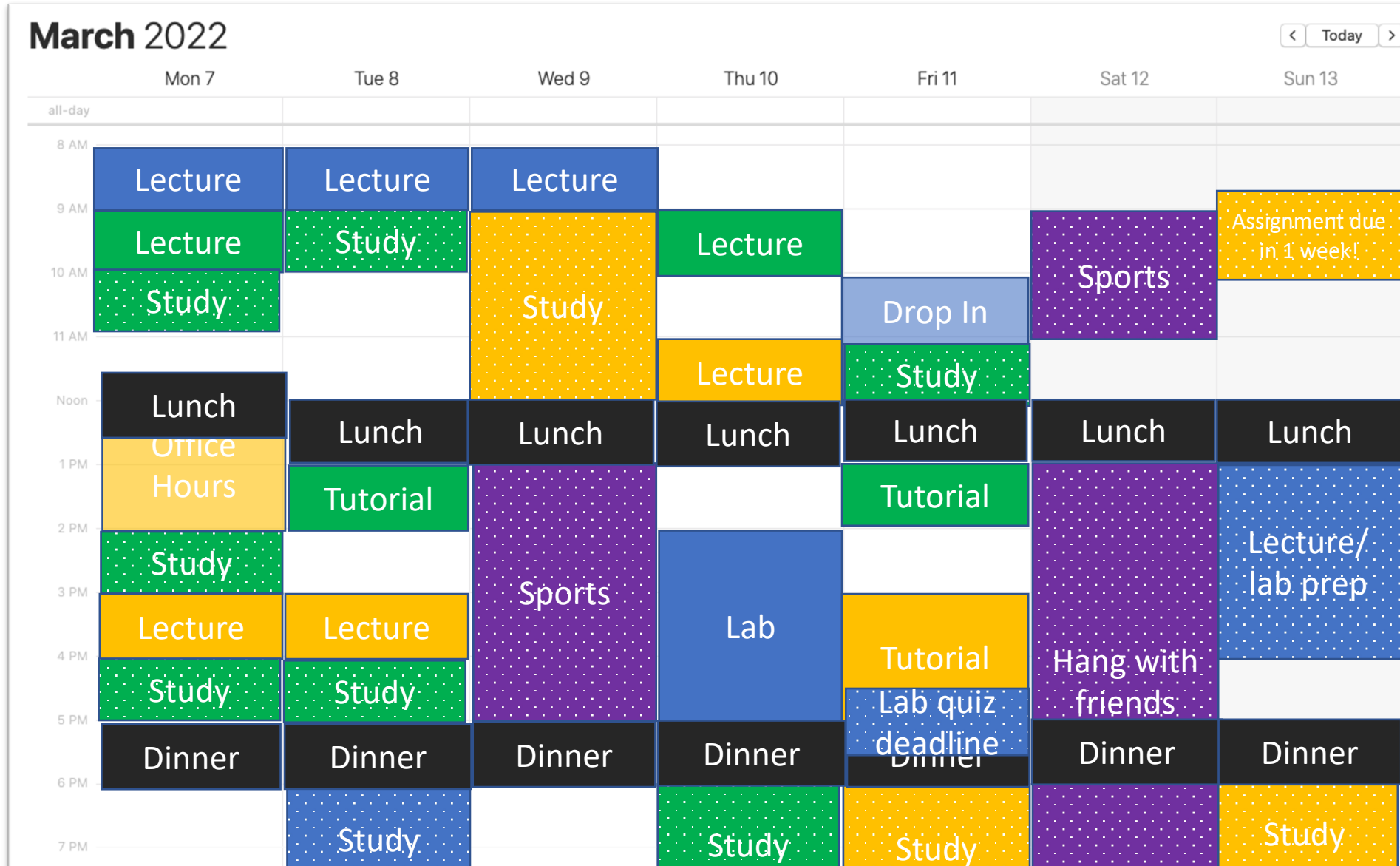
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- Studying ✓
- Time to relax/ socialise/exercise etc ✓



Give knowledge time to grow!

Week 1: skip 1 lecture because it doesn't matter

Week 1: attend classes, note assessment dates, study plan put in place

Week 3: trying out new study techniques, figuring out what works for you/the paper

Week 3: several lectures behind, it's hard to find time to catch up

Week 5: test looming, up to date on content and study skills, feel confident in knowledge

Week 5: test looming, still not caught up on missed content, not feeling confident

Week 8: knowledge keeps building, good balance between studying and socialising

Week 8: large sections of paper unrevised, feeling panicked about exam

Week 12: pre-exam nerves but no need to cram, just checking knowledge, filling in small gaps, testing understanding

Week 12: pre-exam panic, trying to cram 12 weeks of content into a few days
Social life? What social life?

BONUS: deep learning, so knowledge sticks around for future study too

Don't let things slide!

Module 4 Tasks

It's time to unpack your papers, and plan your study

Use the worksheet to help you

- Identify key information for each of your papers
- Reflect on your strongest and weakest academic skills
- Draft a study timetable

Academic Orientation 2022

UNIO101: University transition and success

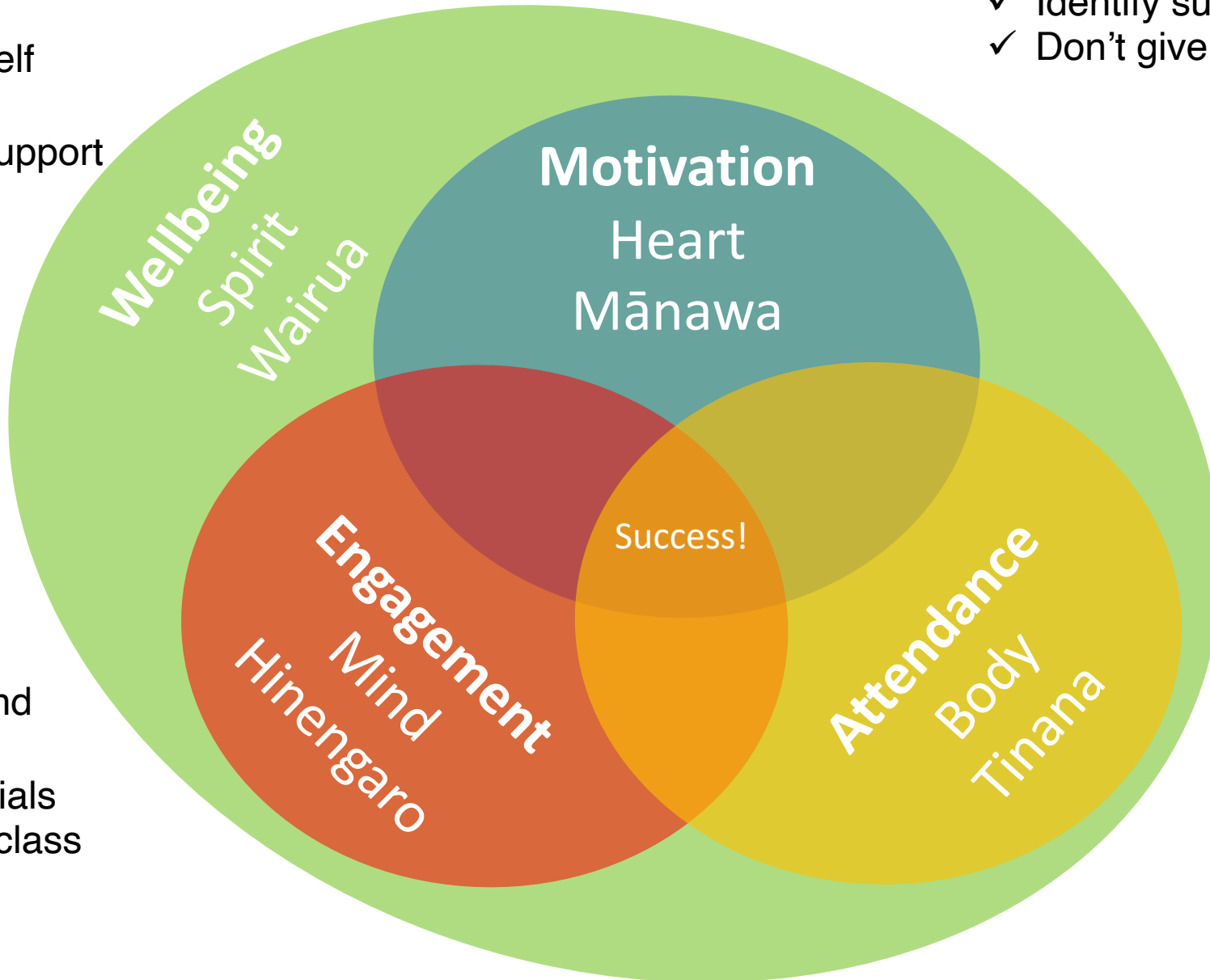
Module 5: A model for success and reflection

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A model for success

- ✓ Have a clear goal
- ✓ Identify internal vs external motivation
- ✓ Identify support
- ✓ Don't give up!

- ✓ Look after yourself
- ✓ Stay healthy
- ✓ Seek help and support



- ✓ Go to lectures and take notes
- ✓ Prepare for tutorials
- ✓ Pay attention in class
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Practice exam techniques

- ✓ Physical space makes a difference to success
- ✓ Go to lectures (or watch online on the same day/time if possible)
- ✓ Have a timetable
- ✓ Make a study plan

Module 5 Tasks

Personalise the model for success

Use the worksheets to help you:

- Think about your strengths and weaknesses for each of the four aspects of success
- Reflect on what you've learnt from these modules
- Plan your next steps towards academic success

Am I ok? Is what I'm doing working?