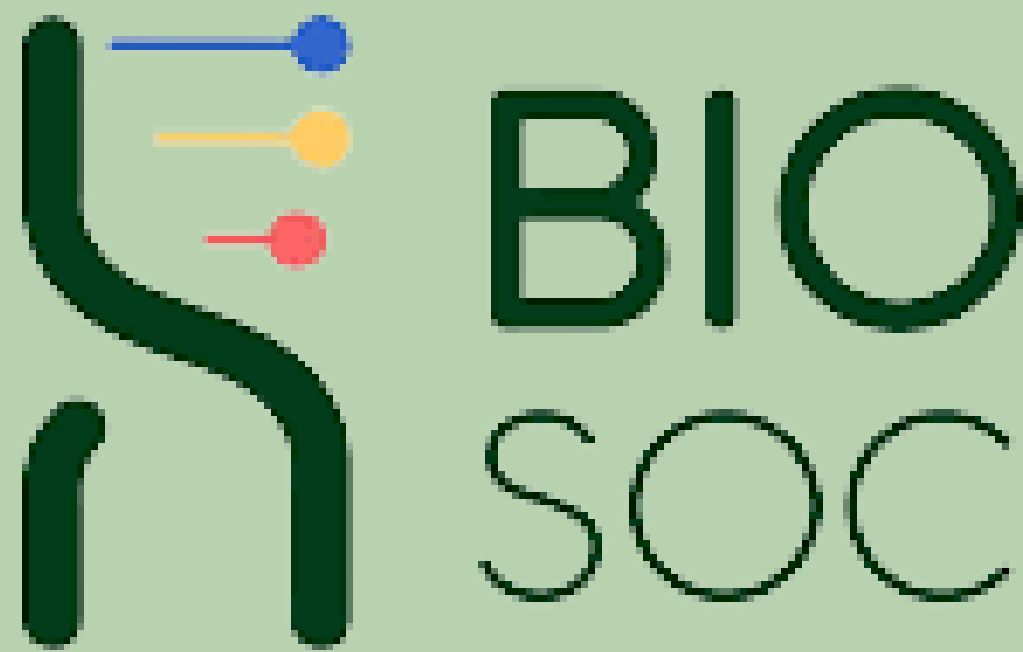


University of Warwick
Biology Society

FRESHER'S GUIDE



WARWICK

EVERYTHING YOU NEED
AS A LIFE SCIENCES
FRESHER



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AN INTRODUCTION TO BIOSOC

Scan me



to join!

We are the University of Warwick's only Biology society, amassing over 400 members. We are a multifaceted society that provides both academic and social events, helping you make the most out of your university experience!

Academics

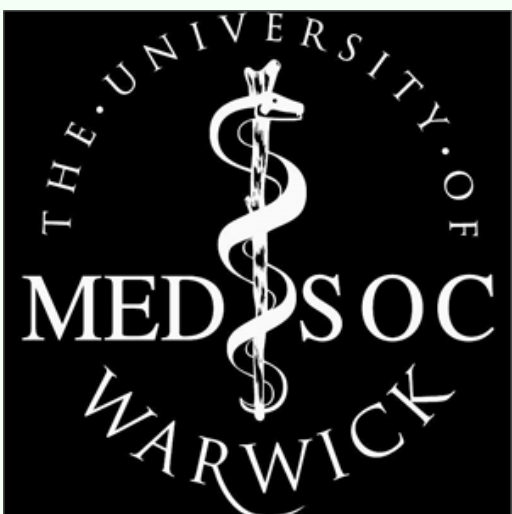
Peer Mentoring
Academic Talks
Outreach Opportunities
BioCafe Support Sessions



Socials

BioFamilies
Sports and Esports
Annual Ball
Termly Social Calendar

Collaborators



Sponsors



STARTING YOUR UNIVERSITY LIFE



JOIN OUR FRESHERS GROUP CHAT!

Getting Around

Want to get around campus faster? Rent a cycle or Voi scooter from a station!

Buses regularly go to/from Leamington and Coventry.

The bus schedule can be found on the Stagecoach or National Express websites.

There is also a university page with information on bus services. Trains are available from Coventry or Leamington Station to London, Birmingham, and more!

Interactive
Campus Map



Download
MyWarwick



Freshers Checklist

- ✓ Enrolment tasks
- ✓ Visas for international students - collect your BRP!
- ✓ Check your finances are sorted out well before you start university
- ✓ Open a bank account ASAP
- ✓ Check your university email regularly; many important emails are sent during the first few weeks
- ✓ Come to BioSoc events and join our society! ;)

Launderettes

Launderettes are located at each accommodation on campus. Detergent & fabric conditioner are included at some launderettes so all that's needed is to pay and you're all sorted.

Senate House

To access student services including ID and key replacements, head to Senate House located by the Faculty of Arts Building. After 8PM, go to the gatehouse to get a key replacement.

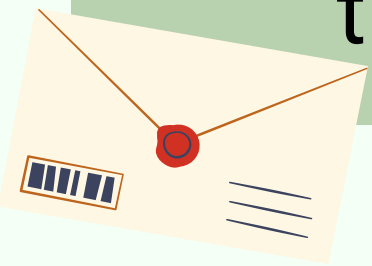
Grocery Shopping

Cannon Park, a 10min walk from central campus, hosts shops like Tesco, Iceland, Aldi, Wilkos, Boots, Seoul Plaza, Subway and Happy Lemon (yay boba!).



Post Room

To have items delivered to your nearest post room, be sure to use the **correct address format**. Mail is delivered to your accommodation's residence hub. There are 5 **Amazon locker** stores around campus, with "Ivory" being the biggest in the world!



Health Centre

The Health Centre is situated on **Health Centre Road**, the same road as Whitefields!

Aside from serious medical emergencies, you **MUST** register with the health centre in order to access health services on campus.



Things To Do On Campus

- **Food and Beverages:** Cafes & restaurants like The Dirty Duck & Benugo, alongside a weekly food fair at the Piazza (Wednesday).
- **Nightlife:** The SU hosts regular club nights at The Copper Rooms and Terrace Bar. Clubs nearby campus include Smack, Kasbah and Neon.
- **Arts:** Visit the Arts Centre to immerse yourself in a world of cinema, theatre, comedy and art galleries.
- **Sports:** The Sports & Wellness Hub offers fantastic facilities to stay active.



Explore Off-Campus

- Eat, shop and appreciate history & nature in Coventry, Kenilworth & Leamington Spa, all a short bus ride away.
- You can also get to Birmingham in 20 minutes and to London in under 2 hours by train!

INTRODUCING FRESHERS WEEK!



At BioSoc, we pride ourselves on providing a termly calendar of social events packed with both drinking and sober events! This is released before the start of each term and will allow you to plan ahead if you wish. Alternatively, if you're forgetful, there will be reminders across our social media pages before each event, so don't worry!

Join our
Fresher's Chat!

Freshers Term Calendar!



Freshers Week

Monday 26th Sep

Campus Tours @ 3PM *(meet us in the SU Piazza!)*

Tuesday 27th Sep

BioSoc Welcome Event @ 11:00-11:45AM in IBRB

Wednesday 28th Sep

Campus Tours @1PM *(meet us in the SU Piazza!)*

MIDWEEK: Societies Fair @ 11AM - 4PM

Come and see us on the stall in the Sports Hub!

Thursday 29th Sep

BioSoc Mixer @ 15:15 - 17:15PM in
GLT3, Gibbet Hill Campus

Friday 30th Sep

BioFamilies Meet & Greet @ 2 - 4PM in OC0.02, The Oculus

Sunday 2nd Oct

ESports Taster @ 6 - 9 PM, remote, join via Discord! (page 11)



A NOTE FROM YOUR FRESHERS OFFICERS



Congratulations on making it to university! Be proud of yourselves for coming this far, it really was no easy task :)

The change that comes with leaving home and coming to university can be terrifying, exciting and overwhelming. Having been in your shoes just last year, we can tell you that this whirlwind of emotions is just the way it goes. We can also tell you that you will get by and that you'll be alright. With this new chapter unfolding in your lives, here are a few tips to help you in your first year:

1. Experience different societies and get to know different people.
2. Ask your lecturers or personal tutors for help when you need it.
3. Sign up to **Biosoc's mentorship programme** (see page 15) and join a **BioFamily** to meet lifelong friends (see page 8).
4. Your mental health comes first. Contact friends, family and university support, you should never go through things alone (see page 19).
5. Stock up on Lemsip to face Fresher's flu, it's no joke!!
6. Make sure to rest, you deserve it.
7. Don't let imposter syndrome get the better of you. Never bottle up your feelings or be afraid to make mistakes, we're all human after all.
8. Always remember to be yourself <3

1st year moves by in a blur so just make sure to appreciate it as much as possible :)

Love your freshers officers,
Rahma & Nadine



SOCIALS WITH BIOSOC



Welcome to your quintessential guide to navigating social life at University! My name is Murat, the Socials VP at BioSoc, it's my job to make sure that you have plenty to do during your time at university. In the next couple of pages, I will walk you through an exciting list of social activities that we run, from memorable parties to spectacular balls and everything in between!

BioFamilies

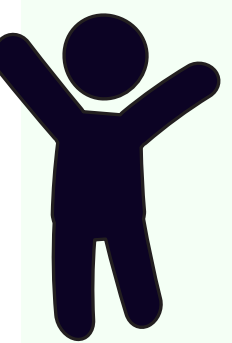
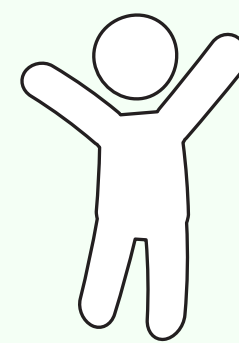
Many of you are probably nervous about coming to university, which is absolutely okay! We have all been in your shoes and understand how nerve wracking it can be to delve into the unknown but, fear not, we're here to help :)

The BioFamilies program allows us to match you with other freshers based on shared characteristics and preferences, collected through a simple form. Each family has 2nd and 3rd year students as Parents, who help guide you through any social activities you may be interested in.

Whether you're someone that wants to drink, party all night or would prefer to go out for dinner, our BioFamilies program will help you settle in and make the most out of your university experience!



Scan to join a BioFamily!



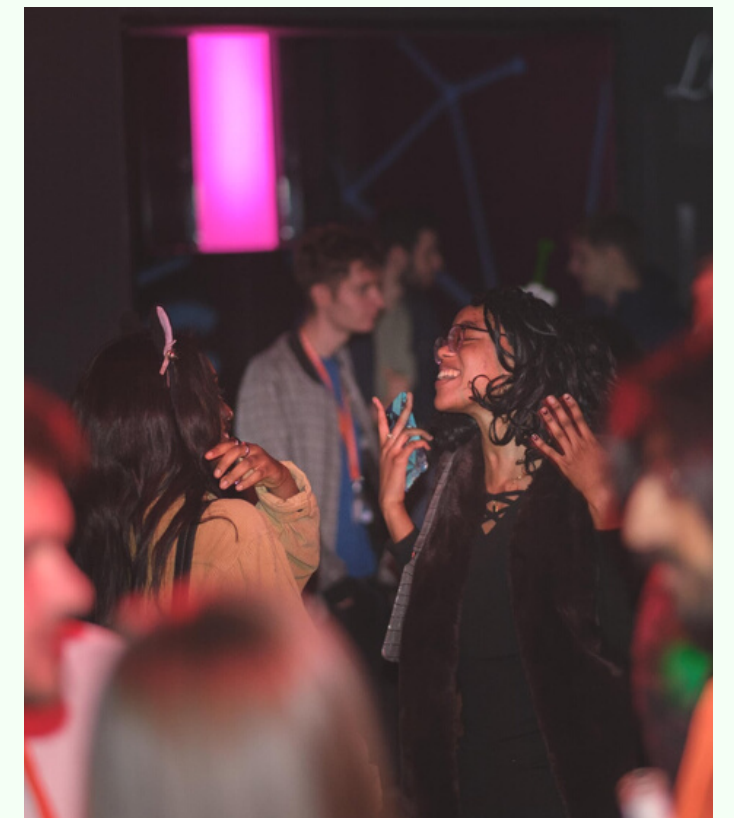


OUR EVENTS

Drinking Events

Circling is our most popular drinking event. You essentially sit in a circle and play drinking games (run by our wonderful Social Secs).

Each week has a theme, like Supernatural or Festival and is usually followed by a club night, in POP! (a student nightclub on campus), or one of the clubs in Leamington Spa or Coventry. As well as circles, we also run Pub Tours, Club Nights and Drinking Challenges against other societies.



We ensure your safety at these events by having an appointed Sober Exec at each event. There is no pressure from peers to drink alcohol - just come for the fun! Our Exec members are also first aid trained.



Sober Socials

If you prefer not to drink, we have you covered! Last year we ran a host of different sober events, such as: Ice-skating, Stargazing with AstroSoc, Laser Tag, BBQ, Day Trips and Games Nights. We also like to maintain open communication with all of you so that we can run events that you actually want, so be sure to send us any requests you have :)

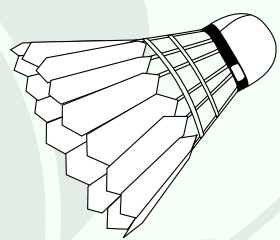


SPORTS

@warwickbiosocsports



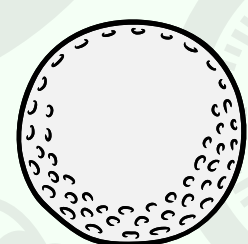
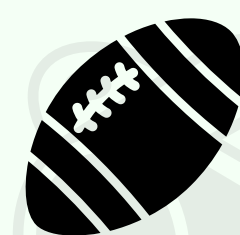
If you're looking for a great way to exercise, meet new people or participate in friendly inter-society leagues join a BioSoc sports team!
We offer free and accessible sport without needing to join a club!



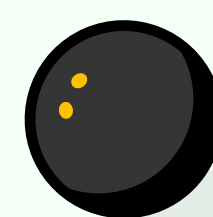
Badminton



Football Netball



Hockey Squash Rugby



We are grateful to be able to offer Squash, Rugby and Hockey through collaboration with MedSoc. BioSoc members are all welcome to come along!



Team Tryouts are held at the start of each year. But you are welcome to join in with training at any time!

To keep up to date with dates/times for our training sessions, make sure to follow us at [@warwickbiosocsports](https://www.instagram.com/warwickbiosocsports)

THE TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES



THE LAB RATS



THE MIGHTY CHONDRIAS



ESPORTS



Join our
Discord server!



Hi, our names are Harry and Praj and we offer casual gaming sessions where you can play your favourite games, such as Mario Kart 8, League of Legends and Among Us while getting to know different people.

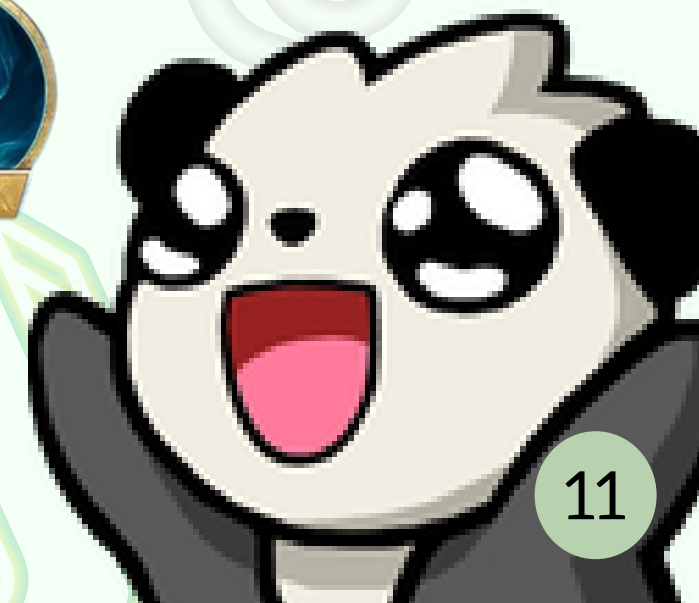
There will be casual tournaments where people can register and play with their friends for prizes. For people who enjoy the competitive gaming scene, we will be hosting tournaments (with prizes!) and watch parties for games such as League of Legends and Valorant.

With bi-weekly events and seasonal events, such as our upcoming Five Nights of Horror Halloween stream, there are plenty of opportunities to join our community!

We also hope to run fundraising streams aiming to raise money for Movember and other charities, stay tuned for more information!



twitch



FIND US /WARWICKBIOSOC

ANNUAL BALL



BioBall

As one of the highlights of our social calendar, the annual spring ball is the perfect opportunity to dress up and dance the night away!

BioBall 2022 saw an incredible 300 people attend our "La Belle Époque" themed evening. From the moment guests arrived, they were given a free welcome drink and serenaded with live music. With entertainment from spectacular aerial performers and a magician, guests delighted in a 3-course meal, complementary wine (alongside a private bar) and access to a chocolate fountain! But the best part?

BioSoc members get discounted tickets - worth more than the price of membership!

This year, **early-bird tickets will go on sale in November** before the theme is announced in January for BioBall 2023!



You can bring friends or a plus 1 with you but they also need to have a member/non-member ticket!

Any questions? Ask this year's ball organiser, Morgan Purvis.





ACADEMIC SUPPORT



The jump from College to University can be unfamiliar and tough! This section will introduce you to all the support available to you at university, ensuring that you can continue to succeed academically :)

Teaching

You can expect 10 lectures and a tutorial (with 6 or 7 other students) every week. Your personal tutor helps aid your learning and will assign coursework to boost your skills (for example a vacation essay over the Christmas break), but you can also go to them for pastoral support!



Labs are an essential part of Life Sciences - you'll have up to 12 lab sessions over Term 1 and Term 2 that are assessed via lab reports. You'll also have coursework, in-module assessments and summer exams throughout the year.

Study support

[BioCafe](#)

[Get a Mentor](#)

[BioTalks](#)

[Science101](#)

[QuBiC](#)

[Your Tutor](#)

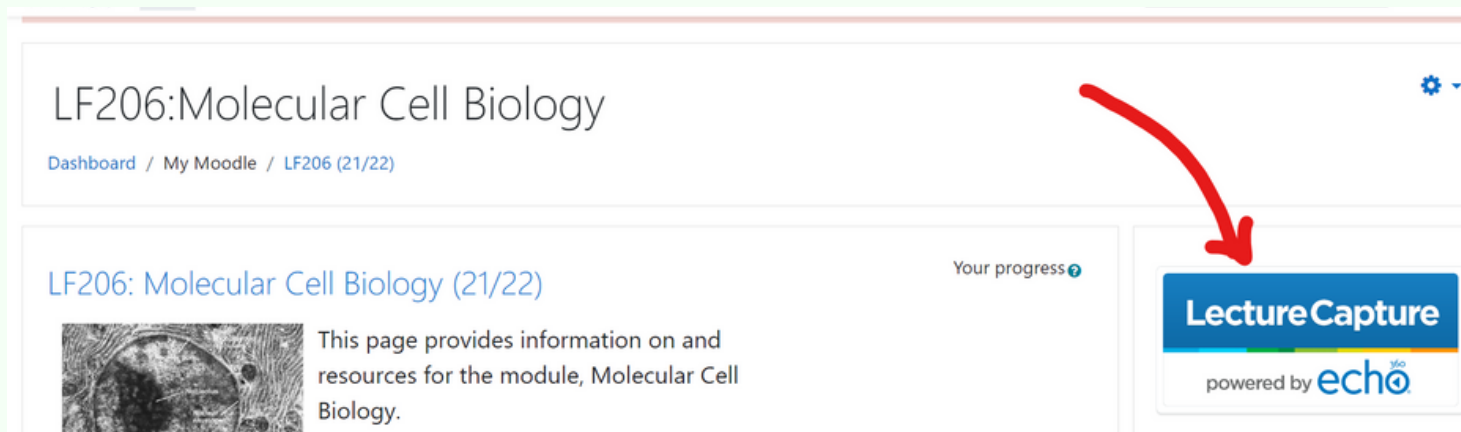
And much more!

What is a Monitoring Point?

If you see "Monitoring points" in your timetable, for example for Labs or Tutorials, this means attendance is recorded and you **MUST** attend these! If you can't or are ill, let your tutor or lab convener know!

Missed a lecture?

If you do have to miss a lecture, make sure you watch the recording on LectureCapture so you don't fall behind. Try not to leave it to the Christmas or Easter holidays - you'll need a break!



BioCafe

BioCafe is an informal weekly support session provided by the SSLC and BioSoc. Each week, topics are designed to aid your learning and to provide a supportive environment where you can unwind and take a break while enjoying free snacks: including pizza and drinks.



Get a Mentor!

Get support throughout your first year studies!

BioSoc mentors are older students who have been in your shoes and are eager to share their experiences and advice with you. Any first year student can apply for a mentor!

Scan to sign up!



BioTalks

Want to delve into topics beyond the syllabus across a range of disciplines? Past BioTalks included: "How can genetics influence human obesity?", "Principles of Neuroinflammation and Alzheimer's disease targets" and are open to all!

If you have any requests, get in touch!

QuBiC

QuBiC helps boost your confidence in using quantitative methods. Daily drop-in sessions are run by Postgrad QuBiC mentors via Teams from 4-5pm every Mon-Fri. This is especially helpful for your first year Quantitative Skills module and will be **valuable if you struggle with maths and statistics** in Biology.

Science101

This programme **supports learning in areas that students have identified as needing more support.** Term 1 focuses on technique for labs and scientific writing, while giving you the necessary skills to conduct quality research.

Online Textbooks



Click or scan!

OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES



Outreach with BioSoc

Through school visits, workshops and science fairs for students of all ages, Outreach aims to **bring the world of Life Sciences to a younger audience**. Outreach Volunteers are recruited and trained every year to help run these activities. Volunteering is a fantastic opportunity to improve your soft skills and gain valuable experience.

Sponsored by:  **BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY**



Course Representatives and SSLC

Each course has a number of elected Course Reps that take part in the Student-Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC). As a Course Rep, you can directly influence actions of the department to continue to improve teaching, learning or facilities at Gibbet Hill! Course Reps are HEAR-accredited and elections usually run at the start of Term 1.

Summer Projects



iGEM competition

iGEM is an annual competition where teams of students from across the world compete to create synthetic biology solutions to global issues from biotechnology to sustainable materials.

Find out more at <https://igem.org/>

Undergraduate Research Support Scheme



URSS is a summer research scheme for all undergrads at Warwick. Work with researchers in the department and get some lab experience for your CV! **Application deadline is usually in February** - find out more at <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/skills/urss/>

STUDENT JOBS



There are plenty of opportunities to find work alongside your degree. Part-time jobs can be a great way to get some experience and develop transferable skills for your career, with the added bonus of some extra cash!

How do I find a job?

UNITEMPS

www.unitemps.com

Unitemps is an online job search and recruitment portal where you can sign up to receive alerts about vacancies for jobs on and around campus. You can find a regular part-time job, or a one-off event or paid project.

Work for the University or SU

Become an SLS ambassador and help out the department on Open Days by answering questions from prospective students and giving tours around Gibbet Hill. **Applications usually open in Term 1 so keep an eye on your Warwick emails!**

Work on campus!

There are plenty of opportunities for work right here on campus. Can you pour the perfect pint? Apply to work behind the bar at Terrace Bar or The Dirty Duck. Check out all vacancies on the SU website!

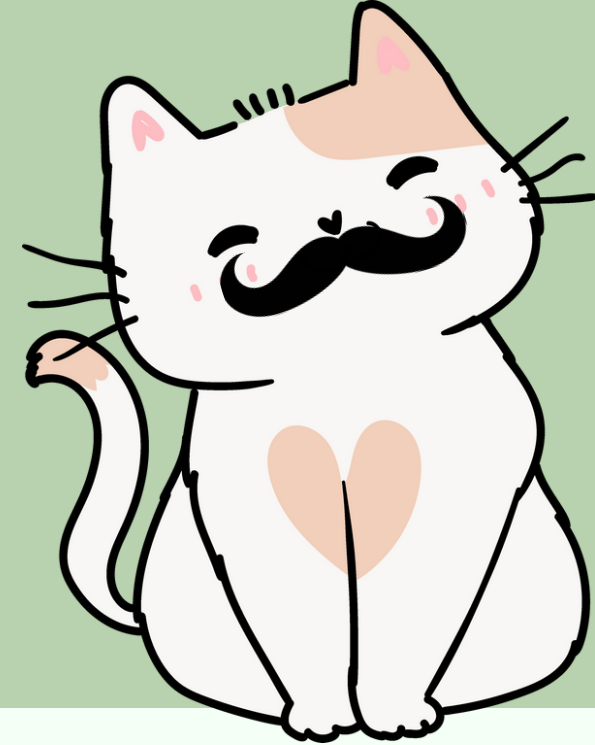
Don't work too hard!

Remember, you're doing a full-time degree at one of the top universities in the UK! If you are struggling financially, you can seek support from the University and the SU.

Work off-campus

Willing to travel a bit further afield? Check out job sites like Indeed, Totaljobs and more for opportunities in the local area. This may include Coventry, Leamington Spa or Kenilworth.

CHARITY WORK AND FUNDRAISING



Charity Initiatives in BioSoc

Throughout the year, BioSoc regularly run numerous charity initiatives to increase public awareness and encourage donations to various charities. Our fundraising events are always fun and social so you won't want to miss them!

For each initiative, our members help decide which charities to support and donate to. Keep an eye on our social media to have your say!

Movember



Last year, we passed our goal of £1500 and raised £1847!

Like other societies at Warwick, BioSoc raises money for Movember every year to contribute towards making a difference in men's mental health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.



Whether it's bake sales or pub quizzes, stay tuned for our efforts this year too! Expect charity Twitch streams with our ESports Officers Praj and Harry, doggy distress sessions with our Welfare Officer Manu, a BioSoc Sports Day and many more exciting fundraising events!

WELLBEING AND PASTORAL CARE



Moving out is a big step in your life and can sometimes be distressing, the University and BioSoc are ready to help its members with any challenges during this transition and throughout University.

BioSoc Welfare Officer: Manu

As your Welfare Officer, I can support you by listening to you regardless of who you are and direct you to the most appropriate resources available. I typically try to ensure events are as comfortable and safe as possible for everyone (and of course fun).

Wellbeing in Life Sciences :

You will each have a Personal Tutor, who will guide you through your learning experience and will also offer pastoral support. For more complex personal situations, you will be able to seek support from the Year 1 Senior Tutor.

We recommend engaging with Science101, as it provides support for your studies and will help you manage university pressures more effectively.

My best advice for any Fresher is to try find what best suits you, so attend as many events as possible and look for what environment you enjoy and drives you to be better!

Wellbeing Support



Support from Warwick



Mitigating circumstances



Extensions



WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JOIN BIOSOC TODAY!

WARWICKBIOSOC.CO.UK

@WARWICKBIOSOC

FACEBOOK.COM/WARWICKBIOSOC

WARWICKBIOSOC@GMAIL.COM

SCAN ME!

