
Rep Acronym Buster

You have probably already come across a variety of different acronyms during your time as a Rep (and you might discover that you are finding it difficult to keep up with them all!). Therefore, the Students' Union have compiled a handy list of common acronyms for you to refer back on - as and when you need to:

SU - Students' Union

The Students' Union is an independent charity, devoted to the educational interests and welfare of all students studying at the University. Its members are all students (full-time and part-time) registered for a course of study with the University of Worcester unless they specifically choose to opt out of membership.

ARC - Academic Representation Coordinator

Every School has a named member of academic staff with responsibility for supporting the Department Reps and Course Reps within that School. They are our Academic Representation Coordinators (ARCs) and Course Rep Coordinators. Your ARC will communicate with Course Reps, Department Reps and other appropriate staff members with the aim of ensuring effective student representation. They will ensure that issues are raised, and changes implemented, all of which are fed back to Reps. They are also the first port of call for Reps who need advice and guidance regarding feedback. Their contacts can be found [here](#).

SSLC - Student Staff Liaison Committees

Course Management Committees are formal meetings within the University committee structure. The meeting's organisation and agenda will depend on your course but they will typically focus on items such as academic standards, the student experience, student feedback, reviewing courses and monitoring progress.

CES - Course Experience Survey

Designed to gather insightful and valuable information from students about their courses, this survey helps in the evaluation of course content, curriculum, lecturers, etc.

NSS - National Student Survey

Conducted every year on (mostly) final year undergraduates, the NSS uses student feedback to drive the delivery of education forwards and to improve the overall student experience.

AROG - Academic Representation Oversight Group

AROG is a joint SU/University group that oversees the rep system and reports directly into both LTSEC and the SU Student Council. It is responsible for ensuring effective delivery of the rep scheme, monitoring its effectiveness and supporting the staff who deliver it. It will also review and make any final decisions on requests from courses and/or Schools to alter their representation structure/depart from the Code of Practice's guidelines and acts as Returning Officer for all Course Rep Elections.

HEAR - Higher Education Achievement Report

The HEAR records and recognises student achievement. It also acknowledges the range of opportunities that UK Higher Education Institutions offer to their students.

NUS - National Union of Students

The NUS is a student-led and democratic organisation. By representing students' interests nationally and developing research that influences national policy, the NUS take on issues that affect the lives of students. The organisation aims to shape the future of education by fighting discrimination, isolation and injustice through campaigns and targeted action.

You can find out more about NUS on [their website](#) and [here](#).

OfS - Office for Students

The OfS is a new public body, established by the Higher Education and Research Act 2017, and will become operational in April 2018. Replacing the Higher Education Funding Council of England (HEFCE) and the Office for Fair Access (OFFA), the OfS will act as a regulator for the Higher Education sector. With a focus on student experiences and interests, the OfS will pay close attention to student participation, success and employability.

TEF - The Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework

As a scheme designed by the Government, the TEF aims to measure the things students care about the most to ensure high quality experiences. The TEF provides prospective students with the necessary information to help them make an informed choice about where they choose to study. Participating providers receive a gold, silver or bronze award that reflects the excellence of their teaching, learning environment and student outcomes. You can read more about our previous TEF submissions [here](#).

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