

# the edit

Explore | Decide | Implement | Thrive



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

Issue 14  
October 2019



# LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE!

by Sultan Abbas

## Freshers Done! What to do next?

Well, the heading says it loud and clear. If you're looking to build up your skills for future employment or just want to meet new people or simply understand a new culture! The best way to start is by learning a new language.

The Language Centre here at Queen's has everything you need. Whether you want to say Ni Hau Ma (Hello) in Chinese or hold full-fledged conversations in Arabic or simply learn the alphabets of the Korean language, you have it all! It's super subsidised for students and open to students of all levels and courses. Additionally, it counts as a Degree Plus activity so it's a win-win!

## What can I learn?

Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Catalan, Cornish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hindi, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese (European), Portuguese (Brazilian), Latin, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ulster Scots, Urdu, British Sign Language.

Classes are held 2 hours every week per semester.

ALL language classes are segregated into 3-5 different levels depending on the language:

**1**  
BEGINNERS

**2**  
POST  
BEGINNERS

**3**  
LOWER  
INTERMEDIATE

**4**  
INTERMEDIATE

**5**  
POST  
INTERMEDIATE

## How do I register?

Enrol online on [www.qub.ac.uk/lc](http://www.qub.ac.uk/lc) or simply drop into the Language Centre. Alternatively, to find more details visit their Facebook or Twitter page too.

Enrolment will open 5 November at 00.30 for classes beginning in January 2020.

Registration will close promptly on Thursday 9 January 2020 at 5pm or when a class is full. Early registration is strongly recommended as classes are popular and can fill up quickly!

Classes are 20GBP per semester!

## TANDEM Language Exchange

Fancy learning a new language but hate lectures? Learn the fun way!

TLE is an online platform which helps you learn a new language in a fun, relaxed, and social environment. Start now by registering in the link below, then find a native speaker of the language you want to learn and keep the enthusiasm going!

[www.qub.ac.uk/lc/LearningSupport/TLE/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/lc/LearningSupport/TLE/)

# HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TUTORIALS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

WITH DR SHEILA MCWADE

by Becky Njambi Njoroge

**What can students do to get the most out of their tutorials and seminars?**

Two key responses: preparation and attendance. Prepare fully and turn up. Then, engage meaningfully in every aspect of the class prepared and led by your tutor. Tutors spend many hours, if not days, planning your classes. Students should reciprocate: read all course materials, tutors' emails, colleagues' work. Discover and read relevant materials outside of the course which can further enhance your learning. University students are not vessels to be filled but independent adult scholars amassing knowledge, practice and expertise to improve the quality of their intellectual and personal life. It's not just showing your face, signing the attendance sheet, sitting there. Nor is it relying on the tutor's follow-up email, an online handout or your mate's notes. Full attendance in class brings its own rewards.

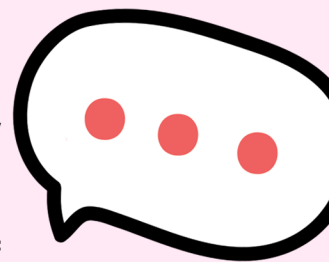


**I hear a lot of students complaining that some of their tutorials and seminars are dull and unproductive. What can they do, or who can they talk to if they feel like this?**

This is a tricky one. Balanced, informed maturity is crucial here. Everyone in the classroom, including the tutor, is an adult who has earned the right to be there. If you have concerns, you have the adult responsibility to speak up in a mature, professional fashion. Have a mature conversation with your peers. Confide in your personal tutor. But above all, talk to the class tutor involved. Respect the process and everyone involved in it.

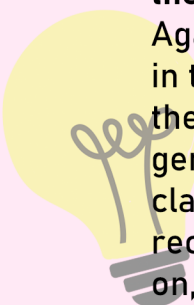
**What would you say to students who are uncomfortable speaking in tutorials and seminars?**

I am a natural communicator, a professional communicator, but I empathise entirely with students who feel they can't speak up or don't have anything worth saying. I'd appeal to them to re-evaluate those thoughts and make a sincere, concerted effort to join the class conversation. They'll be warmly welcomed and certainly supported by me! A fresh voice always brings a fresh perspective and dynamic into the class discussion. Remember too that once you graduate and proceed to the workplace, speaking up will be expected of you. Use your classes as a training ground for this.



**What are tutorial/seminars leads passionate to see in their students, and what can these students do to enhance their participation grade?**

Again, it comes back to mature, adult engagement. Memorable students engage fully in the learning process and beyond it. Yes, I admire and respect all students who do the work, the reading, the writing, the turning up to class. Memorable students are generous: they go beyond the course "tick boxes". Memorable students come to class armed with knowledge and questions, ready to contribute as well as to receive. These are the students who earn the highest contribution marks and, later on, the best references for potential employers.





# SHOW THIS ARTICLE TO THE NEXT PERSON WHO ASKS IF YOU WANT TO BE A TEACHER WHEN YOU ARE DONE WITH YOUR ESSAY BASED DEGREE...

by Una Jackson

Ok so clearly there is nothing wrong with teaching, it's an honourable profession. However, as an English and Creative Writing student with little to no interest in becoming a teacher whatsoever, it is a little disheartening that anytime I mention my degree people respond with "Oh so you want to be a teacher?" For those of you who want to teach... go do that! But for those of you who, like me want to see what other options (seriously though any other options) they have with their arts degree and in particular, writing degrees read on!

## **Digital Content Creator**

Digital Content Creators are one of the best examples of how writers can be employed in literally every occupational sphere. From real estate companies to humanitarian organisations, freelance and hired bloggers can be found writing persuasive blogs across the net. The best thing about this job is that you don't need an internship or obligatory week of work experience to start getting experience in doing this. You need only a laptop and to get on Wordpress.com and start writing and publishing articles on different things that you are passionate about. The only downside to this role is depending on your experience and popularity your pay may not be able to sustain you by yourself. However, providing that you are diligent and consistent in your uploads, for a college student making a little extra money, it is a flexible and accessible way to get paid and get paid for writing.

## **Social Media Marketer**

Social Media marketing is one of the most in-demand services in the world right now. It has been said that consumers are 77% more likely to buy from a brand if they follow it on social media. It takes some time but it has absolutely no initial monetary investment needed. Many full-time Social Media Marketer's started off doing it alongside a full-time job or being in full-time education, so it's possible any of you could start making the first steps towards your online marketing career here and now whilst studying at Queens.

To find out more about additional alternatives to teaching visit [go.qub.ac.uk/career-options](http://go.qub.ac.uk/career-options)

# INSPIRING LEADERS WORKSHOPS: INCREASING YOUR CAREER PROSPECTS

by Michael Dallat



The Inspiring Leaders Programme, offered by the Student Union is a programme for volunteers that teaches participants about the different types of leaders, different styles of leadership, and helps them to hone in their own leadership style. Throughout the various workshops you build confidence working in teams with other future Inspiring Leaders, each with their own unique skill-sets. Learning about your strengths and weaknesses as a leader will help you to excel in your role as a leader in your volunteering endeavours.

The specific event I applied for, and attended was an overnight stay at the Dunadry Hotel outside Antrim on the 21st November 2018. At this event we were placed into teams and sat at tables in one of the main conference rooms. Over the course of the two days we spoke with leaders from different backgrounds – politicians, businesspeople, volunteering and Student Union officials, and garnered an insight as to how they approach their respective roles. We did various presentations on our own styles, leaders and teams that inspired us, as well as having many profound discussions during the activities and our leisure time. As a Film student coming into the programme, I had my own set of experiences and ways of working that I was used to, but having interacted with students in English, Psychology, heads of Debating Societies, people doing Masters courses in Agricultural Development, PhDs in Medicine, I learned a lot, both about myself as a leader and how to interact with others.

A few weeks later we delivered a presentation in front of various employers, where we talked about our experience. Everyone delivered their very own 'elevator pitch' in front of company figureheads from places such as PwC and the Student's Union.

All in all the experience was fantastic as it was all completely free – the accommodation, catering and workshops were all funded by Volunteer SU, and the knowledge, insights and experience I took from the programme has transferred well to my volunteering. It was an invaluable thing to be a part of.

As an added bonus, I made a few close friends from this experience – Raju Ahmad, a Masters Student in Agriculture, who is also a government official in his native Bangladesh. We have teamed up for Northern Ireland-Bangladesh 'Cultural Encounter' projects. Another good friend is fellow editor Sultan Abbas, who is writing articles for this very issue!

## Rewards and Eligibility

To be eligible for the Programme you must be a Queen's Student who is in a volunteering role, with at least 25 hours of backlogged volunteering hours completed. You will submit an application via the Volunteer SU website.

Upon completion of the Programme you will be invited to attend a special Inspiring Leaders Graduation ceremony, as well as optional follow-up workshops.

Applications for this semester close on the 29th October and will re-open for the second semester some time in February, so stay posted.

# CAREERS IN FILM - JOAN BURNLEY KEATINGS MBE, CEO OF CINEMAGIC

by Michael Dallat

**Hi Joan, can you give us a little bit about your background?**

I've been working in Cinemagic for 19 years. I grew up in Armagh, and when I went to university I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I did a degree in business studies, then I did a Masters in Public Advertising. I worked in BBC, worked on live television, which I loved – the adrenaline rush is where I got my passion for film and media. I then worked in Corporate Affairs and I saw a job advertisement for Cinemagic. They were looking for a Press Officer. I hadn't done too many press releases but quickly got into the hang of it. Within a couple of months I progressed to Festival Director and then to Chief Executive. I'm so proud that we've grown so much over the years and are now hosting festivals across the world, in Belfast Dublin France, New York, and LA!

**WHAT DOES CINEMAGIC OFFER?**

Cinemagic is a film festival charity that started 30 years ago. We do classes for young people aged 4-25, as well as intense masterclasses for aspiring film-makers, animation classes, cinematography, acting. It's all about helping kids and young people unlock their creativity and come together. We offer an opportunity to try things first hand, and hear from industry professionals. You can find out about film and television roles. We give young people access to practical skills, as well as the opportunity to meet like-minded people.

Cinemagic members have some incredible stories. Michael Lennox, an Oscar nominee came through Cinemagic! He's best known for his short film 'Boogaloo.' We've had loads of members get work with Disney and Game of Thrones. At Cinemagic it's about finding your way.

We engage with over 40,000 young people a year, and make an impact with over 1,000,000 young people indirectly.

**Do you have any ADVICE for those looking to break into the industry?**

Experience, experience, experience. Shoot video on your phone. Work with your friends and make something. You'll find out what you love to make – sentimental movies, things that make people feel good, do you like darker movies? Make sure to have fun and don't take yourself too seriously.

**How can we GET INVOLVED with Cinemagic?**

We have a website where you can find out about our events all year round, such as the BFI Film Academy. Short film academies with NI Screen. Proactive teaching, community groups. Cinemagic Festival

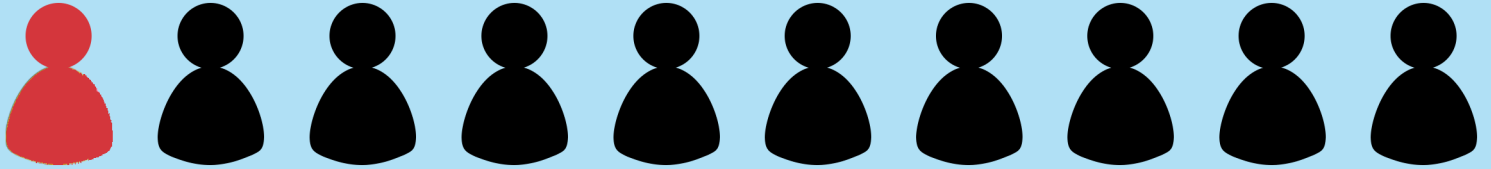
**Lastly, what is the FESTIVAL?!**

Starting the 1st October, to the 3rd November we are having over 200 EVENTS for the Cinemagic Film Festival. We have many world-renowned figureheads within the industry delivering workshops and hosting events, such as Golden Globe winner Saoirse Ronan, and Saoirse Monica Jackson from Derry Girls. There are casting masterclasses, showreels, and film screenings. There will be a 72 hour film-making challenge as well as a very special 80th Anniversary of Wizard of Oz Event at St Anne's Square.

# LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING...

by Kali McDermott

Did you know that 1 in 10 Brits have stayed in the UK their entire life and never once been abroad while 22% of the population have never travelled on an airplane? In fact, 37% of people in the EU have never travelled outside their home country.



That's where **The Edit** comes in.

Here at **The Edit**, we remind the student populace of opportunities to travel that they might be missing out on. Whether or not you think you're well-travelled or have no desire to leave your home country, a semester abroad not only looks great on a CV, but also widens your cultural perceptions and betters your understanding of the world around you. Queen's University Belfast provides a range of travel opportunities to all students who show a desire to do as such.

## ESRASMUS

STUDY ABROAD IN  
EUROPE FOR A SEMESTER  
OR ONE ACADEMIC YEAR

## STUDY USA

STUDY ABROAD  
FOR ONE YEAR

## STUDY CHINA

THREE-WEEK CULTURAL  
EXPERIENCE DURING  
THE SUMMER

## BOSTON AND NEW YORK CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

DEVELOP CAREER RELATED SKILLS ENHANCED  
THROUGH ON CAMPUS WORKSHOPS AND  
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

## CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN STUDY PROGRAMMES

STUDY ABROAD FOR ONE SEMESTER  
OR ONE ACADEMIC YEAR

With programmes like Erasmus and Study USA, there is a place for everybody. Why not take advantage?

For more information, visit:

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/careers/GlobalOpportunities/StudyAbroad/>

Or stop by the Student Guidance Centre where they will be more than happy to point you in the right direction.

...I hope you enjoy your flight.

# VOLUNTEER SU

by Isabel Gomez Garrido

**Volunteer SU** is a Students' Union initiative that offers a wide range of volunteering opportunities to Queen's students; from local to global activities, from weekly commitments to casual volunteering, there is something for everyone.

**Volunteer SU** offers two on-campus opportunities: **Homework Clubs** and **Handy Helpers**. **Homework Clubs** is a weekly commitment for those who want to help children from areas of academic underachievement with their homework and study skills. Talking from experience, it is a fantastic opportunity to meet great and fun children and to make a difference in the community by contributing to their education.

What if you don't have time for a regular commitment but still want to volunteer? **Volunteer SU** has the perfect solution: **Handy Helpers!** You can choose which activities you want to take part in based on your interests. There are plenty of events running throughout the year such as community gardening, conservation, street clean-ups, arts and crafts... You can find activities for all tastes.

Furthermore, if you decide to give a try to any of these activities, you can get rewarded through Degree Plus, Millennium Volunteers or Prestige Volunteers. However, engaging in any volunteering activity offers more than just a great addition to your CV. It is a great opportunity to meet new people that have similar interests, learn new and transferable skills, make a difference in your local community and take on new challenges... but most importantly, be sure to have fun!

You can find more information at <http://www.qubsu.org/VolunteerSU/>

## THE EDITORS



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