

<b>Motion title</b>	Don't Fail Us for Surviving
<b>Proposer</b>	Bianca Holland Education and Community Officer on behalf of the Education and Community Sub-Council.
<b>Seconder</b>	Erika Messineo, School Rep for Business, Computing and Social Sciences. Nathan Welham, School Rep for Education, Health and Science. Luke Jones, School Rep for Business, Computing and Social Sciences.
<b>Motion Summary</b>	On behalf of the Education and Community Sub-Council, we are bringing this issue to Student Council's attention as it will significantly affect students in the coming years. This paper seeks to establish a clear direction for the Students' Union to campaign and petition in defence of discounting grades, both locally and nationally, through coordinated action with other universities.
<b>Union Notes</b>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The OfS is the Office for students, a government ran body.</li> <li>- They have recently put out a report which asks universities to get rid of discounting, or to keep it but to a calibration exercise which is expensive.</li> <li>- The reasoning the OfS gave for this, is that the act of discounting grades infringes on the B4 condition which in summary means academic regulations are designed to ensure that awards are credible.</li> <li>- Discounting is the act of removing CAT's. ¼ of the sector uses this practice.</li> <li>- At UoG each year students do 120 CATS, only the top 90 CATS count towards students' final grades each year.</li> <li>- This allows for students to have a 30 CAT leeway every year.</li> <li>- If the OfS forces UoG to get rid of discounting all 120 CATS will count each year. Removing the leeway.</li> <li>- The reasoning for this removal being a conflict on the B4 condition is also incorrect reasoning - as transparent policies in place allow discounting to be in place while adhering to the B4 condition.</li> </ul>

<b>Union Believes</b>	<p>Why keeping discounting at UoG is important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discounting recognises that students cannot be perfect all the time. It acknowledges that life happens, and one difficult module should not define a student's overall performance.</li> <li>- In the current economic climate, many students cannot dedicate all their time to study. Rising living costs mean that a significant number of students must work alongside their course just to afford basic needs. While students put their full effort into their assignments, expecting consistently high performance across all 120 CATS is unrealistic and increases stress, worsens mental health, and may contribute to students withdrawing from university.</li> <li>- A substantial proportion of UoG students face additional challenges. Around 20% of our students are disabled, whether that be a hidden disability or not and we have many mature students, student parents, student carers, and students working 20–30 hours per week. In addition, removing the 30-Credits unfair impact on neurodivergent students. The 30-credit flexibility offers these students essential breathing room and helps create a fairer, more inclusive assessment experience.</li> </ul>
<b>Union Resolves</b>	<p>What needs to happen</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have a united front with the university, which at Academic Board, the university agrees that discounting grades should not be gotten rid off</li> <li>2. Have the relevant SU members research how to start a petition.</li> <li>3. Have the Education and Community Officer, School reps and Course reps write the petition.</li> <li>4. Have the relevant SU members gather sabbatical officers from other universities to communicate on this issue to see if they would support the petition.</li> <li>5. Have the relevant SU members reach out to local MPs to try get their support on this matter and bring it to parliament.</li> <li>6. Have the relevant SU members gather a set of data that supports what the union believes.</li> <li>7. The relevant SU member and/or Education and Community officer will do an education piece which aims to spread awareness on what discounting is, how it works at UoG, what the OfS report means and how will the OfS report effect UoG students. School reps will do the same within their schools. SU will lobby to make</li> </ol>

	this information widespread through use of MyGlos and staff net for lecturers to be aware.
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