



THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH

# Centre of African Studies/Online MSc International Development

Virtual Information Session 2025 | 4.00pm BST Session Start

Dr Thabani Mutambasere & Dr Simeon Koroma | Programme Co-Directors

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# Agenda

1. About International Development at Edinburgh
2. Programme structure
3. Entry Requirements
4. Workload
5. Course structure
6. Career progression
7. Who are our students?
8. The online learning environment and community
9. Q&A



# Studying International Development at the University of Edinburgh

- Flexible and cutting edge programme in one of the oldest and most international universities
- A very multidisciplinary approach to development studies
- Affiliated with the University's Global Development Academy



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await



“”

*The program at UoE stands out for me - the teaching staff originate from and represents a wide geographic and contextual background of North-South, developed and developing world settings. It is this first-hand ability to critically evaluate, discuss and contrast different aspects of International Development that has impressed me in my ongoing study work up to this point. It has definitely broadened my mind, challenged my own underlying assumptions for the work I am doing.*

Stefan, MSc Graduate



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# Core Courses

- Global Development Challenges (MSc/PGDip/PGCert)
- Politics and Theories of International Development (MSc/PGDip/PGCert)
- Analysing Development (MSc/PGDip/PGCert)
- Researching International Development (MSc/PGDip)
- Dissertation (MSc)



# Elective Courses

- Activist Social Research
- Dynamics of African Development
- Organisational Management for Social Justice
- Theories and Politics of Social Justice
- Community Engagement: Co-constructing Knowledge with Communities
- Displacement and Development
- Ecosystem Values and Management
- Evaluation of Global Health & Development Programmes
- International law, human rights and corporate accountability
- Key Skills in Development Practice
- Learning for Democracy
- Innovations in Sustainable Food Systems
- Maternal and Child Health in a Global Context



# Entry Requirements

- A UK 2:1 honours degree or its international equivalent
- Evidence of English language competence
- CV/Resume
- References

The Main Library  
The Centre for Research Collections, 5th Floor Study Areas.



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await



# Entry Requirements

- Ready to commit time and energy for a new exciting challenge
- Range of academic and professional backgrounds
- We take a holistic view at applications; so difficult to say if you meet the entry requirements only from one document
  - Degree Finder: “[Important points to note when applying for this programme]  
(<https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught-programmes/international-development-online-learning>)

The Meadows

Public park beside the University of Edinburgh

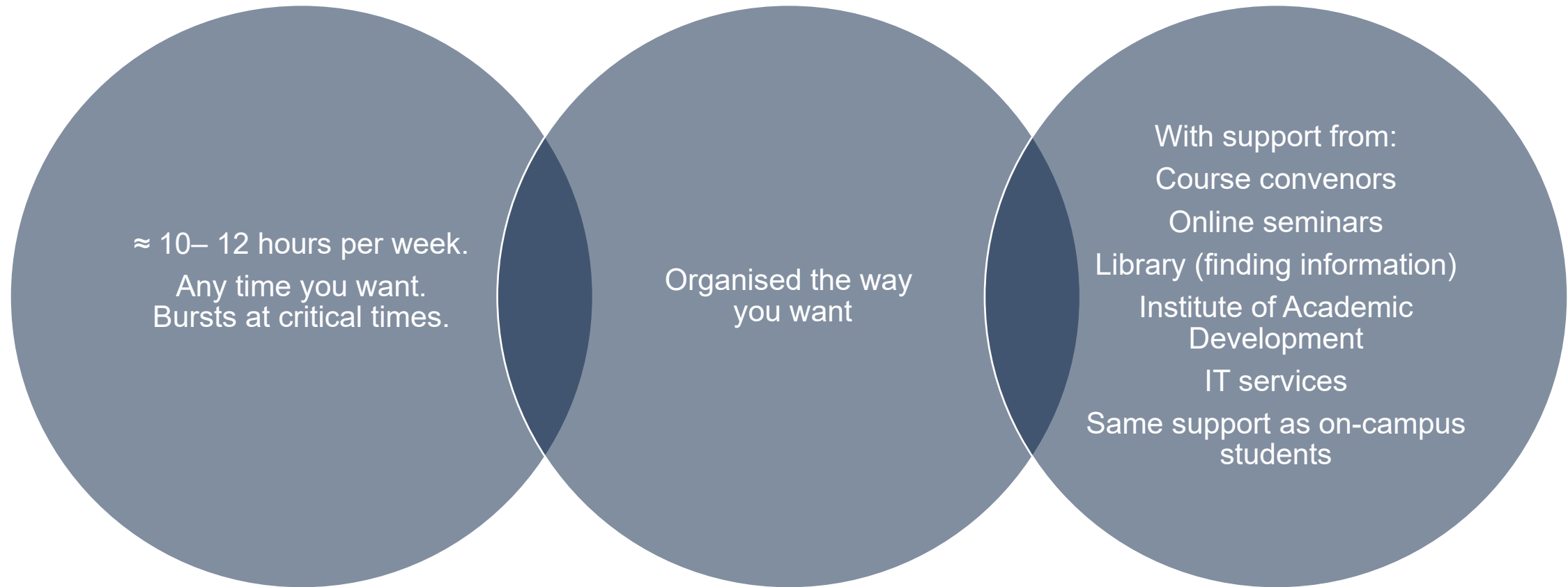


THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

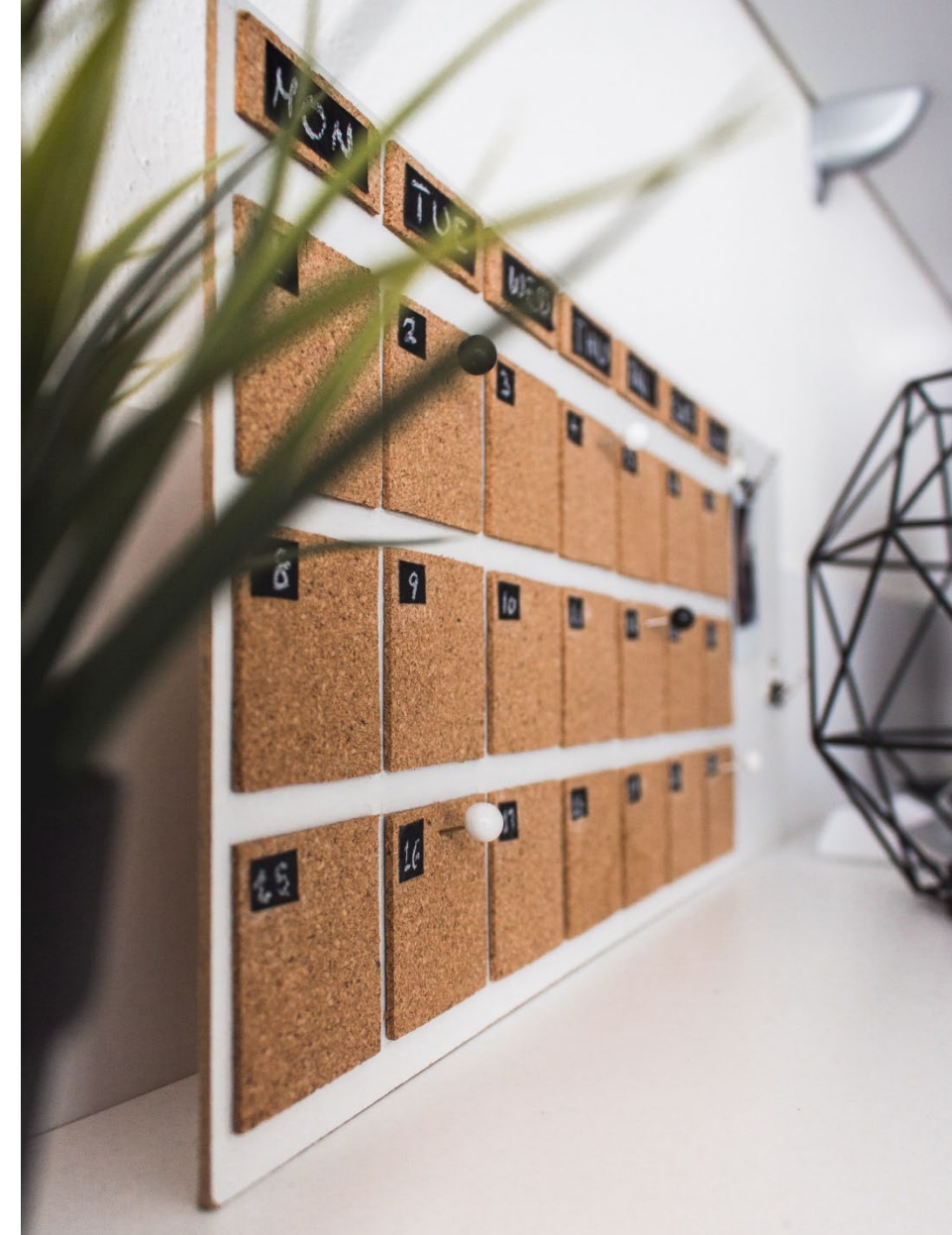


# Workload per course (although this may be different for some students)



# Workload 2

- Semester 1: 10 weeks from mid-September, final essay due around 2 weeks after the end of semester
- Semester 2: 10 weeks from mid-January, final essay due around 2 weeks after the end of semester
- MSc dissertation due mid-August of your last year



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# Dissertation

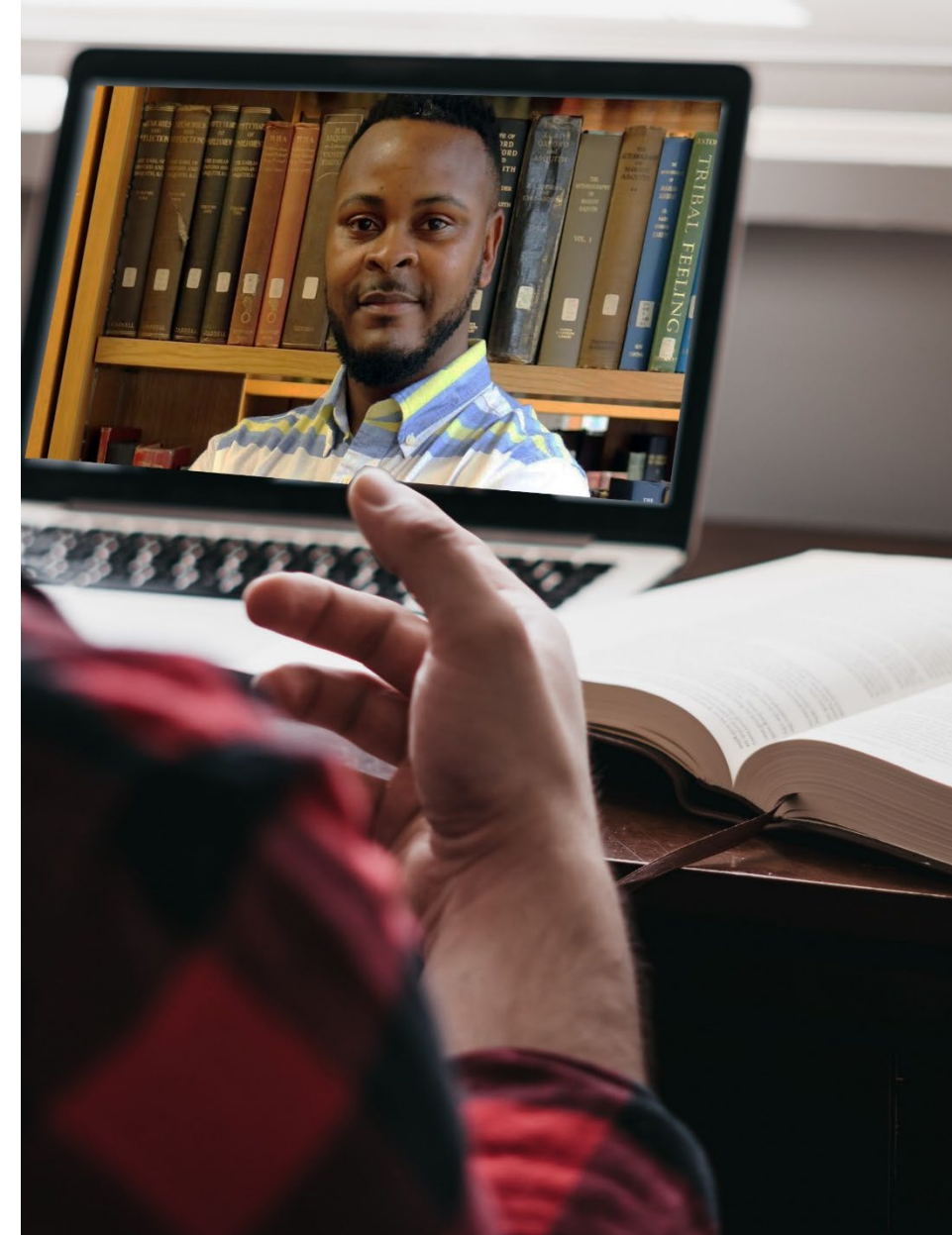
- You will start to think about the dissertation over the summer the year before the last
- In February/March of the last year you will be allocated a supervisor
- You will work towards the dissertation with your supervisor until mid August
- Option to do standard research dissertation (15,000 words) or placement-based placement (12,000 words + 3,000 words reflective journal)





# Course structure

- Course assessment:
  - Participation in online forum (20%)
  - Portfolio of online activities (20%)
  - End-of-course essays (60%)
- Detailed feedback on essays and posts
- Access to online academic support



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# The Online Learning Environment

In your web browser,  
designed and  
supported by a team  
of experts in online  
learning.

Course Content 

Course Information

Assessment

Week 1: Introduction - Working in Development



Week 1 - Introduction and Readings



Week 1 - Lecture Materials and Recordings



Week 1 - Additional Resources



Week 1 



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# Career Progression

- A recognised degree from a top 20 world-class university that can lead to:
  - Further education (MSc, PhD)
  - Career development (promotion)
  - Career re-orientation (new job, typically in international organisations, government, or not-for-profit)



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await



# Who are our Students?

- Our students come from all over the world - UK, USA, Canada, Austria, Ireland, Switzerland, Singapore, Indonesia, South Korea, Qatar, Mauritius, Kenya, Malawi, Ghana, Ecuador, etc.
- The majority of current students are aged 30-45, but some are well into their 60s, and others in their early 20s.
- A lot of our students are practising professionals, some in a related field – e.g. international development, international policy/organisations, NGOs, healthcare, etc.



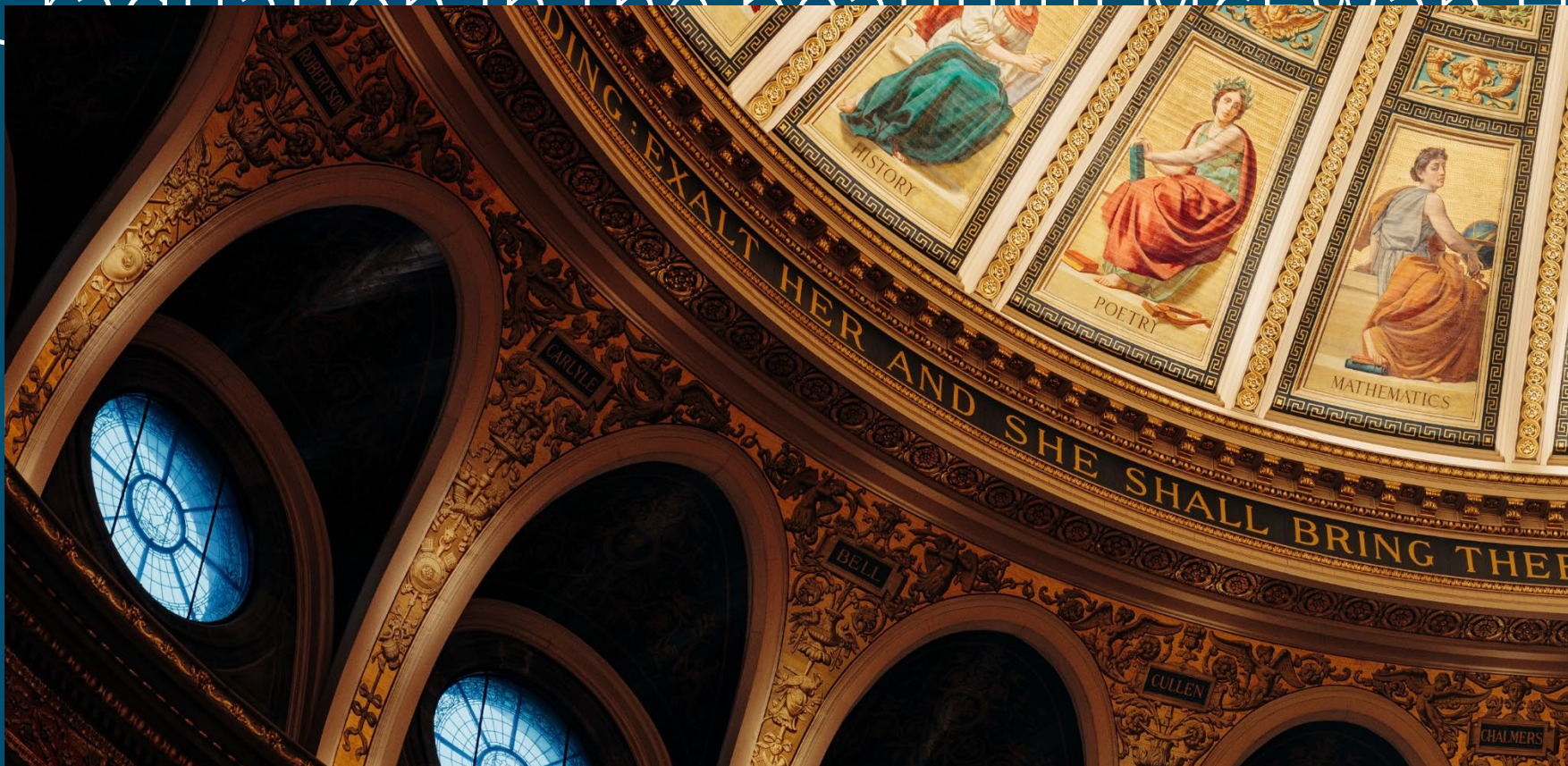
# You will be part of our community!

- Online students are regular students:
  - Access to library, online learning resources and the Institute for Academic Development.
  - Access to University-wide support services
- Be part of our vibrant community:
  - Online *Centre of African Studies* and International Development activities
  - Online forums accessible to all students
  - Come and visit us, anytime you want!





# Graduation in the beautiful McEwan Hall



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

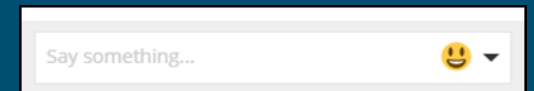


# Questions?

Always use the hand raise icon to queue up your question.



When called upon to ask your question, **type a question** in the “Text Chat Area”



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
xtraordinary futures await

# Next steps

<https://virtualvisits.ed.ac.uk/pg>



<https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg>



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await

# Contact details for follow-up questions

We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email:  
[futurestudents@ed.ac.uk](mailto:futurestudents@ed.ac.uk)



THE UNIVERSITY  
of EDINBURGH

**EDINBURGH**  
extraordinary futures await





THE UNIVERSITY  
*of* EDINBURGH

# Thank you