**Monday**: Groan! My head hurts. I can’t even start to concentrate on what they are going on about! Why do I need to know about this stuff right now?!

…and another thing, it feels like they are changing the goalposts all the time. I got marked down for my assignment because the referencing was not good enough…the same tutor never marked me down for it last year. When I asked him about it he said ‘well you’re in your final year now, you should be doing it properly’ I really wish they had told me I was getting it wrong last year at least the marks were only worth 30% then – this year it’s 70% - it’s too big a deal! I feel really p\*\*\*\*d off about it.

UhOh! This seems a bit more intense to me, I’ve only missed a couple of classes and I don’t have a clue what they are talking about!

I have just tried to get the book I need out of the library. There are none available and the waiting lists are horrendous! Obviously EVERYBODY will need research methods at this time of year!!!

I am so looking forward to going back this year! I’ve spent a bit of time working but I’m really looking forward to seeing my mates – I’ve registered on-line this year so my loan will come through quicker(I hope). It feels a bit more positive.

I really wish we had some kind of induction to go back to though. I know in the 1st year I thought it was all a bit of a waste of time, but it would be good to be told what to expect at the beginning of the year!

**Diary of my Final year at University**

January – here we go again a whole load of bunching of assignments every year we complain, every year they do nothing about it. Honestly what’s the point? Nobody listens!

Had to go and meet my dissertation tutor today – thought that was a bit of a laugh really, I mean its not even due in for like another 6 months.

I’ve just done the NSS Survey thing – not even sure what it’s about really, but at least I got to vent about all the crap that’s going on this year, I couldn’t even get on the computer this week because everyone is trying to do assessments at the same time! . I bet they don’t take any notice though!

Nearly Christmas already I have run out of money, I’m stressed, I’m confused, I’m working overtime to pay my bills and I have missed a few classes again. Why am I doing this!!

This is all getting a bit crazy, this is nothing like the other levels! My tutor keeps telling me ‘you are a final year student, you are supposed to be an independent learner’ What I don’t understand is how that supposed to happen – it’s not as if they prepared me to be independent is it!

What a weekend – we had such a good laugh, it was like we hadn’t been away. So bushed though…and Uni tomorrow, guess I’ll try and get an earlier night… or maybe not.

I did think about going to counselling again to see if they could help, everything is getting on top of me now and I don’t have a clue how I’m going to get it all done in time. I have put loads more effort in this year, but I always feel like I’m playing catch up because I have to keep going over stuff I should have done in year 1 or 2

People keep asking me what I’m going to do next year! I don’t know, this year has gone so fast I haven’t had time to think about it.

I can’t believe there are only 3 weeks to Easter! This is crazy… the library is so noisy I can’t concentrate, I can’t get the books I need! The carrels are fully booked (not that they are particularly quiet anyway)

I’ve got all these assessments and my dissertation to do. There is just so little time left

Finally went to see my dissertation tutor today, I took my proposal in with me and had a quick look through my ghant chart! It’s funny it didn’t feel real when I doing it last year, I don’t think it all sunk in – it’s only when I look at it now I realise how good it would be – it’s just that I am so far behind! According to this I was going to start my lit review in October!! It is February now!!

They brought some woman in from careers today to talk about careers box or something – it was brilliant, loads of employers and info and everything but it’s a bit late now – If I had known about it last year it might have been more useful!

This is honestly the most stressful time ever! I don’t think we were ever prepared for this dissertation lark! I really think we NEED MORE GUIDANCE

Well that wasn’t much of an Easter break! I have never juggled so much I really wish I could have gone to see the SSN Officer and asked her about the planner she helped me with last year, but I didn’t know what she would have thought if I’d gone back in my last year, as my tutors keep saying – ‘you’re supposed to know it by the time you get to this stage’ sometimes I wonder if they remember what it was like being a student?

I am really panicking now! I keep trying to find my tutors but they are always busy busy busy, I feel really rejected sometimes, - I mean I know I haven’t always been a brilliant attendee and I have missed an appointment or two, but at the end of the day I am not going to get through this unless I get some help!

I keep thinking of graduation, I’ve got to make it, I try to imagine what it will be like, sometimes that’s all that keeps me going… I am so close to the end bit every day I just keep asking myself what it is all for. My parents say – ‘oh but there are only a few weeks left, don’t be silly’ They just don’t understand how much there is too do in those few weeks.

Bunched assessments after Christmas have put me behind. I jut feel exhausted all the time, my girlfriend is always nagging me to go out and to ‘have some fun’, I tried to explain but she doesn’t see that the final year is so different. She says she will go out without me if I don’t take her, more likely she will just get J to take her and I can’t risk that…I will just have to try and catch up when she is not around

RESULTS DAY: WOW I’m a graduate I looked on-line I got a 2:2 it is such a great feeling. Everyone is really happy and telling me how great it is, I can’t say this to anyone but I really feel I could have done better. Still, I’m really looking forward to Graduation though not as much as my Mum, I think she has told the whole street already(and it’s only breakfast time)

WOOT! it’s in, my dissertation is finally finished! I hope I never have to do anything like that again! It did look good when it was finished though.

We will all be celebrating tonight; we have been talking about it for weeks

What a night we had – it seems really odd not having anything to do? I’ve been working on that dissertation so long. I guess I ought to think about a job now then…

A week to go and it will all be over (Hopefully)

I have been working in the library every day and there are a bunch of guys in there who are doing their dissertations too. It’s good to have a moan about it all, and when one of us is having a bad day the other all try to cheer him up. It’s cool really. Somebody should have said that we should do this, like kind of peer groups to help take the pressure off and help each other out, I mean, these guys, they know what it’s all about because they are doing it themselves.

I had a look in the careers place for jobs and stuff today – they told me to bring my CV in and they will check it out for me. I reckon they are having a laugh! I don’t have time for none of that! They should have told us in the second year to get that ready, I might have done it over the summer and put it in careers box or something.

Now they are banging on about another survey we have to do! SEE SUE! I thought we had just done one. I asked my dissertation tutor about it , because I thought SUE was for 2nd years and NSS was for finalists, it turns out that they are completely different things and I have used them in the wrong way really.

Apparently the NSS marks the Uni against every other Uni, it’s where the league tables come from! So I have just told the world my uni is rubbish, and my employers will see that I come from a ‘bad uni’, it’s not even as though it was really bad, but it came at a time when everything was getting to me!

Why didn’t someone explain this to me properly! What I should have done is used SUE for my gripes about my units, at least the tutors would have seen those comments.

It’s like everything else in your final year you don’t find out until it’s too late