

This jargon buster is to help you understand different and unusual terminology, words or abbreviations you may come across.

Accountability Board	The Accountability Board is made up of elected Students. It is their role to scrutinise the elected officers and student reps to ensure they are being as fair and representative as they could possibly be and to hold them to account.
By-Election	An election to fill an unfilled position, after the main elections have taken place.
By-Laws	The rulebook of how certain procedures have to be carried out and further detail on how an organisation is governed.
Constitution	A document outlining the basic principles of an organisation and how it is governed and structured.
Co-Opt	When an elected position is filled by approval of a committee, rather than running a full by-election.
Motion	An idea taken to a meeting before it is passed and becomes policy.
Part Time Officer	Part Time Officers represent particular groups or demographic of students, they do work to support students and make sure that the voice of students is heard.
Policy	An idea or action that is approved by a committee and has become part of the organisations working guidelines.
Quorate/Quoracy	The minimum number of votes for an election/vote to be valid.
Ratify	Giving official consent or approval.
Referendum	A Yes/No vote about a particular issue/idea.
Returning Officer	A member of staff at UPSU or NUS, that acts as the final decision maker in elections if rules or procedures are broken.
Sabbatical Officer	A Full Time Officer elected by members of the Students' Union. Six Sabbatical Officers are elected by the students to be their representatives, with the aim for our SU to be run by our students for our students.
Trustee	An individual person that has been given the power of administration of an organisation, with trust and legal obligation to work with in the best interest of the organisation.
Vote of No Confidence	A vote taken by a committee (or by a general vote) to show that an individual is not filling their role fully, and if the vote passes, they would be asked to stand down.
Webinar	A seminar conducted over the internet.



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AcB	Academic Board
ADTL	Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning
AOB	Any Other Business
ASM	Annual Student Meeting
BMBS	Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery
BoG	Board of Governors
BSA	Business Service Agency
CEP	Curriculum Enrichment Project
CEPPL	Centre for Excellence in Professional Placement Learning
CKY	Cookworthy Building
DLE	Digital Learning Environment
DVC	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
ELC	English Language Centre
eOAR	Electronic Ongoing Achievement Record
FEG	Faculty Executive Group
FTLQC	Faculty Teaching and Learning Quality Committee
HE	Higher Education
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency
HoS	Head of School
MDS	Module Delivery Sheets
NSS	National Student Survey
NUS	National Union of Students
NFP	No Further Preference
PDT	Placement Development Teams
PEARL	Plymouth Electronic Archive and Research Library

Practice Environment Profile
Post Graduate
Programme Lead
Plymouth Online Practice Placement Information
Placements on the Web
Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey
Roland Levinksy Building
Re-Open Nominations – an active vote against any candidates standing in an election
Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
Special Education Needs Co-ordinator
Senior Leadership Team
Student Perception Questionnaire
Student Staff Liaison Committee
Single Transferrable Vote – the voting system used at UPSU
School Teaching & Learning Quality Committee
Teaching Development Framework
Technology and Information Services
Teaching and Learning
Union Council
Undergraduate
University Executive Group
University Teaching and Learning Quality Committee
Vice Chancellor



This is a guide to help you recognise the acronyms commonly used to identify different the faculties and schools.

FoAH	Faculty of Arts and Humanities
SoADA	School of Art, Design and Architecture
SoHPA	School of Humanities and Performing Arts
FoB	Faculty of Business
SoLCG	School of Law, Criminology and Government
PBS	Plymouth Business School
FoHHS	Faculty of Health and Human Science
SoHP	School of Health Professions
SNAM	School of Nursing and Midwifery
SoP	School of Psychology
FoSE	Faculty of Science and Engineering
SoCEM	School of Computing, Electronics and Mathematics
SoBMS	School of Biological and Marine Sciences
SoGEES	School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences
SoE	School of Engineering
FoMD	Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
SoBHS	School of Biomedical and Healthcare Sciences
PDS	Peninsula Dental School
PMS	Peninsula Medical School