

## Monthly Report

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Motonari Hamanaka

Now it is the term 3 which is the last term in an academic year at Warwick. I introduce a general schedule of the University of Warwick. I suppose this is applicable to other British universities.

An academic year is from September or October to June or July. It consists of three terms and there are vacations between terms.

Month	10-12	12-1	1-3	3-4	4-6	7-9
	Term 1	Winter Vacation	Term 2	Easter Vacation	Term 3	Summer Vacation

We have main lectures in term 1 and term 2, and term 3 is basically for revision lectures and exams. We generally do not have exams at the end of the term 1 and term 2. Instead, we have all the exams in term 3. It seems easy to prepare for the exams because we can have a plenty of time in term 3, but it is actually not so easy because we have to remember all the things of the lectures in one academic year. In addition to lecture notes and text books, there are many recommended reading materials which are big burden for students. Moreover, the final year students have to perform their final projects and write their final essays after or before the exams. I recommend to prepare for the exams continuously from the term 1.

In my case, I had exams at the end of April and I am doing research project from May. I had been doing another research work from October to April, so actually I did not have enough time for preparation of the exams. Exams were essay style and I was asked to answer the 2 questions out of 4 questions in 90 minutes. It was hard for me because it took time just to think about the English sentences, but I managed to write about 1.5 pages for each question. I show examples in Oncology exam below.

- e.g.)
- Describe both onco-suppressive and tumor-supporting functions of autophagy.
  - Discuss the mechanisms for deregulation of FGF signaling in cancer.
  - Discuss the mechanisms used by some viruses to transform cells into tumorigenic cells.

I guess it is better to conceive the exam questions and make answers in advance of the exams. It will surely save your time in the exams. I expected that the autophagy question would be asked in the exam because Dr. Ohsumi had got the Nobel Prize last autumn, and it was actually on the test. This was not gambling since I had also studied all the other contents. I just put more focus on autophagy. I hope my exam results are good.