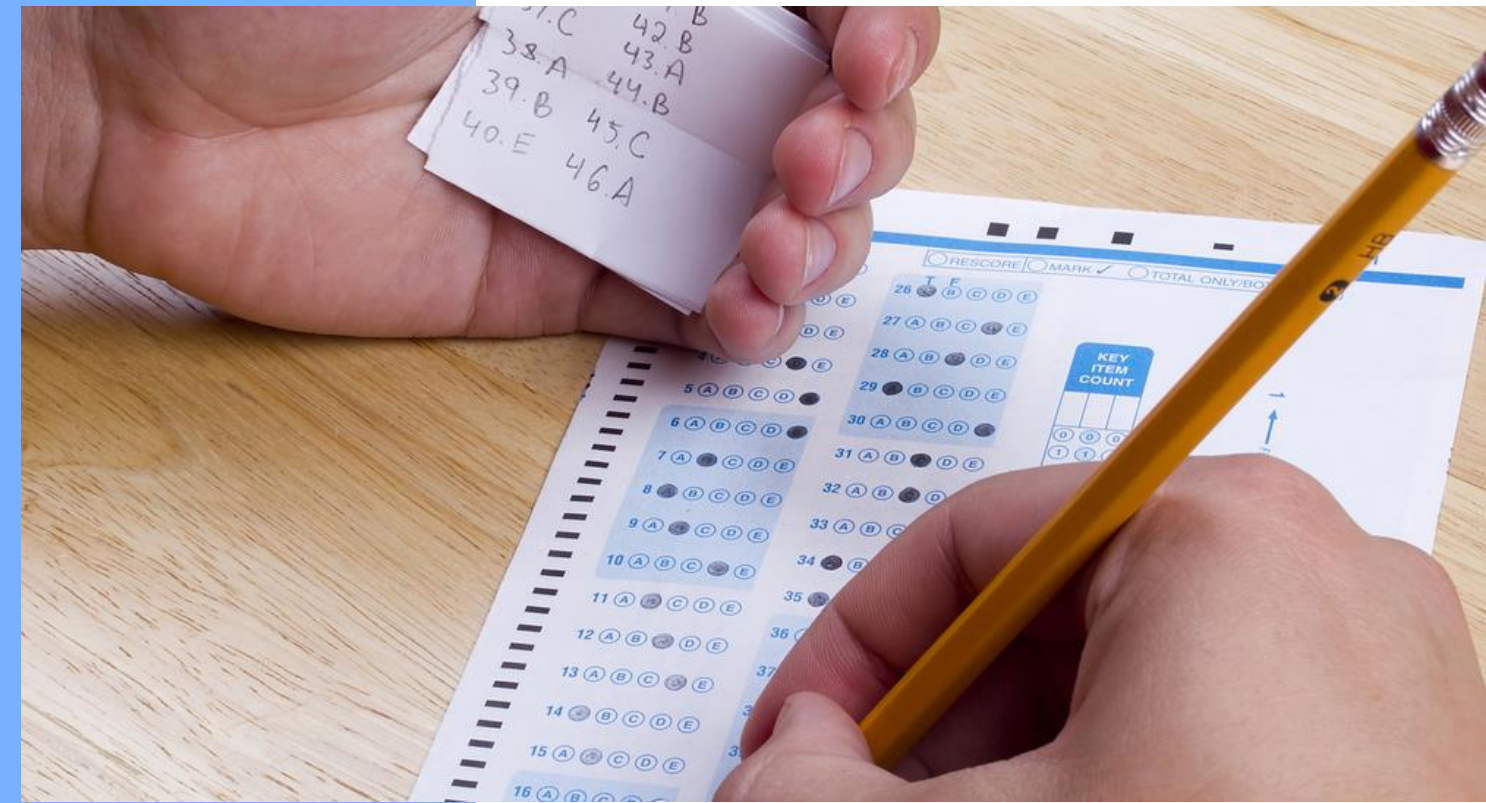


# Taking action on academic integrity



**WONKHE**  
SUs



# Taking action on academic integrity



**WONKHE**  
SUs



Academic misconduct  
presents a threat to the  
world-class reputation  
of UK higher education.

# Academic integrity

- Everyone and no-one
- Extent parameters and prevalence
- Egalitarian, Individualist, Authoritarian, (fatalist)
- Role of SU?
- Race and racism
- Prevention, detection



# University students turn to 'contract cheating' amid housing crisis and lack of support

Students living away from home, under family pressure or struggling with work are more likely to cheat on essays and assignments, one expert says

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Tory Shepherd

Mon 19 Sep 2022 18.30 BST



📷 Australian university students are using online cheating assignments and 'ghost writing' that won't be detected  
Bloomberg/Getty Images

## Industrial scale cheating taking over from learning in Australian universities

By [Lee Duffield](#) | 23 September 2022, 8:00am | [11 comments](#) | [📄](#)



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- > Cracked lobster Guy and the Liberals' crusade against Dan Andrews
- > Offence by another name: Suppressing anti-royal protest in Britain
- > Licences for horse activity and events on the cards in Victoria





## Best Essay Writing Services (April 2021)

Essay services are widespread on the web, offering custom written essays for students who are short on time, drowning in assignments, or just plain have too many responsibilities. When there's so many to choose from, how you can choose the one who'll deliver the best quality work? This is where these reviews come in. We've scrutinised more than 960 academic writing services that are available online, and ranked them in order of quality here. The higher they are up the list, the better they are as writers and the more likely you are to get top marks with them. With this in mind, here are more than 960 of the most well-known writing services, ranked.

UK Top Writers recommendations reviewed by Janet Reeves:

*I would highly recommend UK Top Writers for selecting the most suitable essay writing services for your specific assignment. If you are a student studying in the UK and looking for some reliable writing company, then these guys will have the best ones for you! The community of this website is life saving for both ESL and ENL students!*

**Rating: 4.9** ★★★★★

You can share your thoughts about our recommendations by leaving the comment below.

### Top 3 UK Essay Writing Services

#### 1. UK Writings – ukwritings.com

UP 1

READ REVIEW

VISIT UKWRITINGS



This writing service doesn't just employ any old pool of writers, they carefully select the writers who work for them. Doing so, they can deliver essays in almost any subject, written by an expert in that discipline. When you're looking for an essay that will really wow your professors, this service is the best one to use. The best part is that if you get on well with a writer, you can ask to work with them again. Just select them from the

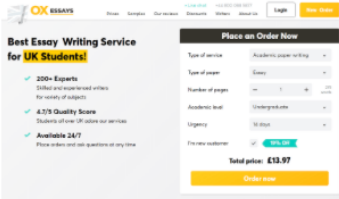
database and you'll be able to see their rating and how many orders they've completed.

#### 2. OX Essays – oxessays.com

UP 14

READ REVIEW

VISIT OXESSAYS



If you need help with your essay, Ox Essays are the writing service to turn to. We've looked into their work, and the writing quality they put out to customers is second to none. The pricing is also very accessible to students on a budget, keeping pricing low and using discounts to help you. There are guarantees in place to protect you as a customer, and ensure that you're getting the best quality writing for your money. The expert writers at Ox Essays will ensure that you get an essay you can get excellent grades with, every time you

use the service.

#### 3. State Of Writing – stateofwriting.com

UP 65

READ REVIEW

VISIT STATEOFWRITING



As a busy student you've got a lot of choice when it comes to writing services, but you should always be on the lookout for new ones. StateOfWriting.com is a new service that's currently worth looking at. Current report say that the service State Of Writing provides is some of the best around. The writing they put out is second to none, getting students the grades that they need. It's clear the writers know their stuff. Even better, the guarantees and discounts in place mean you're getting a safe, great order at a great price. You

should check them out when you need help with an essay.

# My students cheated... A lot

Matt Crump

2022-05-26 Last knit: 2022-06-01



## Preface

This story got more attention than I anticipated so I am adding this preface for context. I usually write expository prose. On the May long weekend I began writing a detective/thriller themed version of real life events that occurred in one of the classes I taught during Fall 2021. I shared the posts on twitter, and released them incrementally as I wrote them. I took poetic license in this story and embellished the presentation for effect and to create cliffhangers for some of the folks on twitter who were interested in the story. I characterized myself as a plagiarism detective and told the story around that character. I am not actually a plagiarism detective, and as an educator I value and celebrate different victories than the plagiarism detective does here. In this story, when the plagiarism detective appears gleeful, I was experiencing a lot of stress and sadness. I left out much of the reasoning process that went into the actions I took, and I consulted at great length with my colleagues and academic integrity office throughout the ordeal. And, I'm still reflecting on and discussing the approach I took with my colleagues. This story was an end-of-semester creative writing exercise I used to reflect on my experience. I thought some of my colleagues might find it interesting. There are many mistakes that I make in this story, and I would not repeat them again. The process of telling this story helped me gain new perspectives that will improve my teaching.

## On this page

[Preface](#)

[Part I: I got in](#)

[Part II: The second midterm](#)

[Part II.5: The alternative syllabus](#)

[Part III: A conversation with my class](#)

[Part IV: The Horrible Weekend](#)

[Part V: The Second Chance](#)

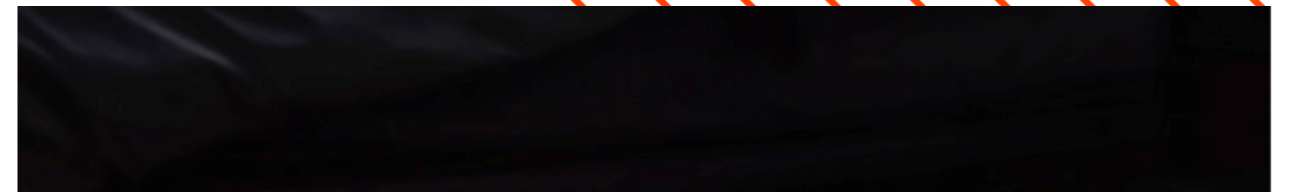
[Epilogue](#)

[Afterword](#)



# Types of assessment

- Essays, dissertations and theses – Mills, Plagiarism, Collusion and GPT-3
- Exams and timed assessments – issues around proctoring, impersonation and collusion
- Cheating is easier to attempt than ever



Photography Victoria Heath

## The rise of cheating in UK universities

**As universities continue to commodify education, increasing numbers of students are buying and selling essays**

This time two years ago, Vicky\* was curled up at her desk in her student house in Leeds, her face lit up by the blue light of her laptop, with a freshly-brewed coffee warming her hands. She had to write a 2,500-word university essay on social work, and wasted no time in putting her nose to the grindstone. Over the next few weeks, she spent hours researching, planning, writing, and proofreading. Eventually, after deleting all the comma splices and shifting the paragraphs around, she created a piece of work she was proud of.

# England/Ofs

## Condition B4: Assessment and awards

The provider must ensure that students are assessed effectively, that each assessment is valid and reliable and that academic regulations are designed to ensure that relevant awards are credible.

“academic misconduct” means any action or attempted action that may result in a student obtaining an unfair academic advantage in relation to an assessment, including but not limited to plagiarism, unauthorised collaboration and the possession of unauthorised materials during an assessment.

“assessed effectively” means assessed in a challenging and appropriately comprehensive way, by reference to the subject matter of the higher education course, and includes but is not limited to assessments being designed in a way that minimises the opportunities for academic misconduct and facilitates the detection of such misconduct where it does occur.

A provider not taking reasonable steps to detect and prevent plagiarism, students’ use of essay mills, or other forms of academic misconduct by students, would likely be of Concern.

B2: Support relating to avoiding academic misconduct includes support for essay planning and accurate referencing, and advice about the consequences of academic misconduct.



# AAA 2022

- 16% of respondents admitted to cheating in online assessments this academic year (140/900).
- The reported methods of cheating were mostly mundane, unsophisticated and show the ease with which cheating occurred.
- Only 5% of those who admitted to cheating had ever been caught.
- 52% of respondents knew people who had cheated in online assessments this academic year.
- 79% of respondents believed it was easier to cheat online than in exam halls (707/900), with 42% saying that they would be less likely to cheat in an exam hall (378/900).
- 37% of respondents reported that their university took no measures to stop cheating in online assessments (334/900).
- 33% of respondents believed cheating in online assessments was either 'not wrong' or only 'mildly wrong' (299/900), with 37% believing it was 'very wrong' (329/900).

# Academic integrity

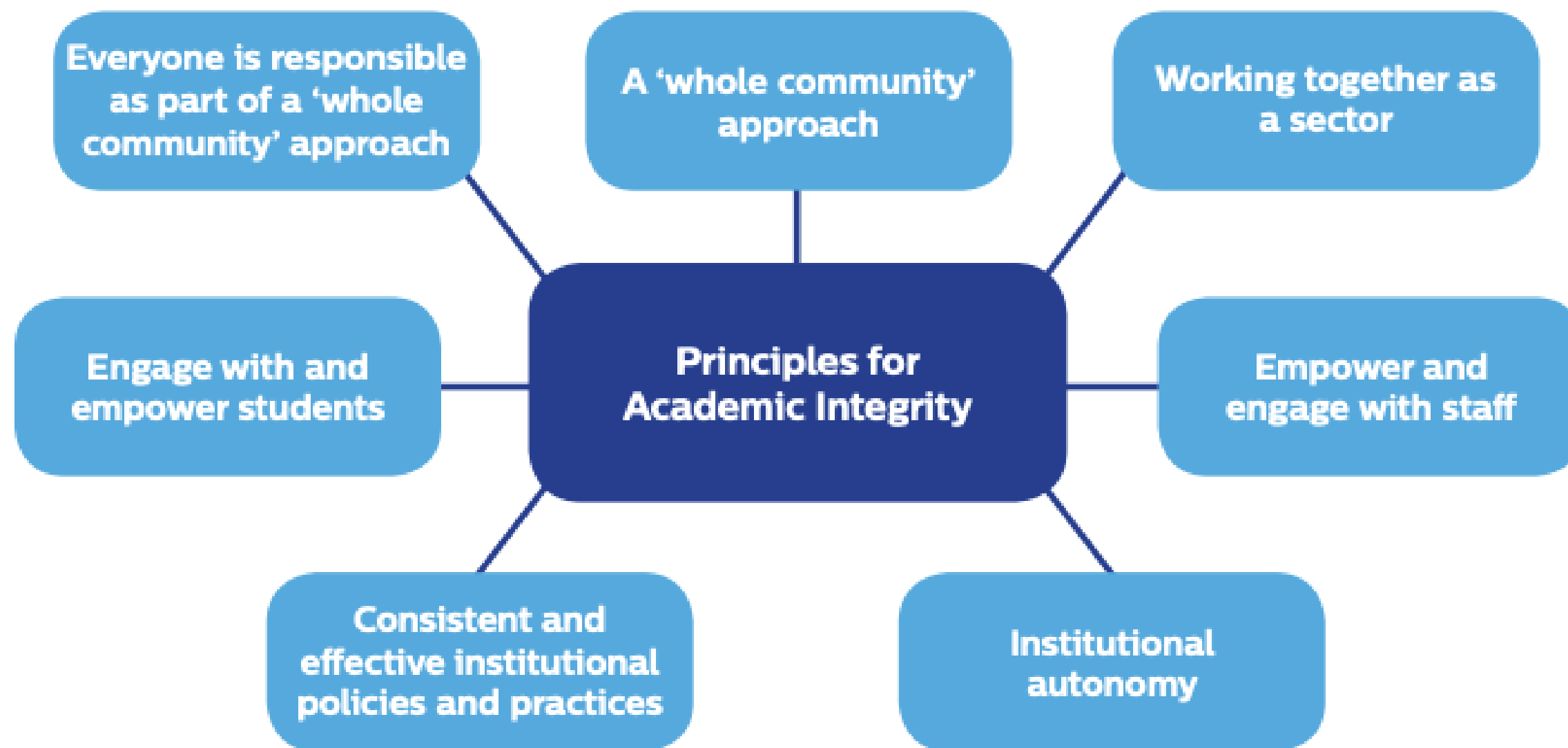
- Crime v causes of crime
- International students over-represented in casework and prevalence research – EFL?
- Unwitting assessment offences?
- Essay Mill scams
- Mills now illegal in England
- Online proctoring (controversial)



# Academic integrity

- Formative v summative and purpose of punishments
- Allegations and disciplinary issues (and lasting damage)
- 24 hour “collaboration”
- Student access to originality reports
- “Judgement care”, opportunity, likelihood of being caught, perception of social cost of being caught (home) exclusion (international)

# QAA Academic Integrity Charter for UK Higher Education





#BetterByU is a collaboration between Education Officers at...

Media design credit to University of Nottingham SU

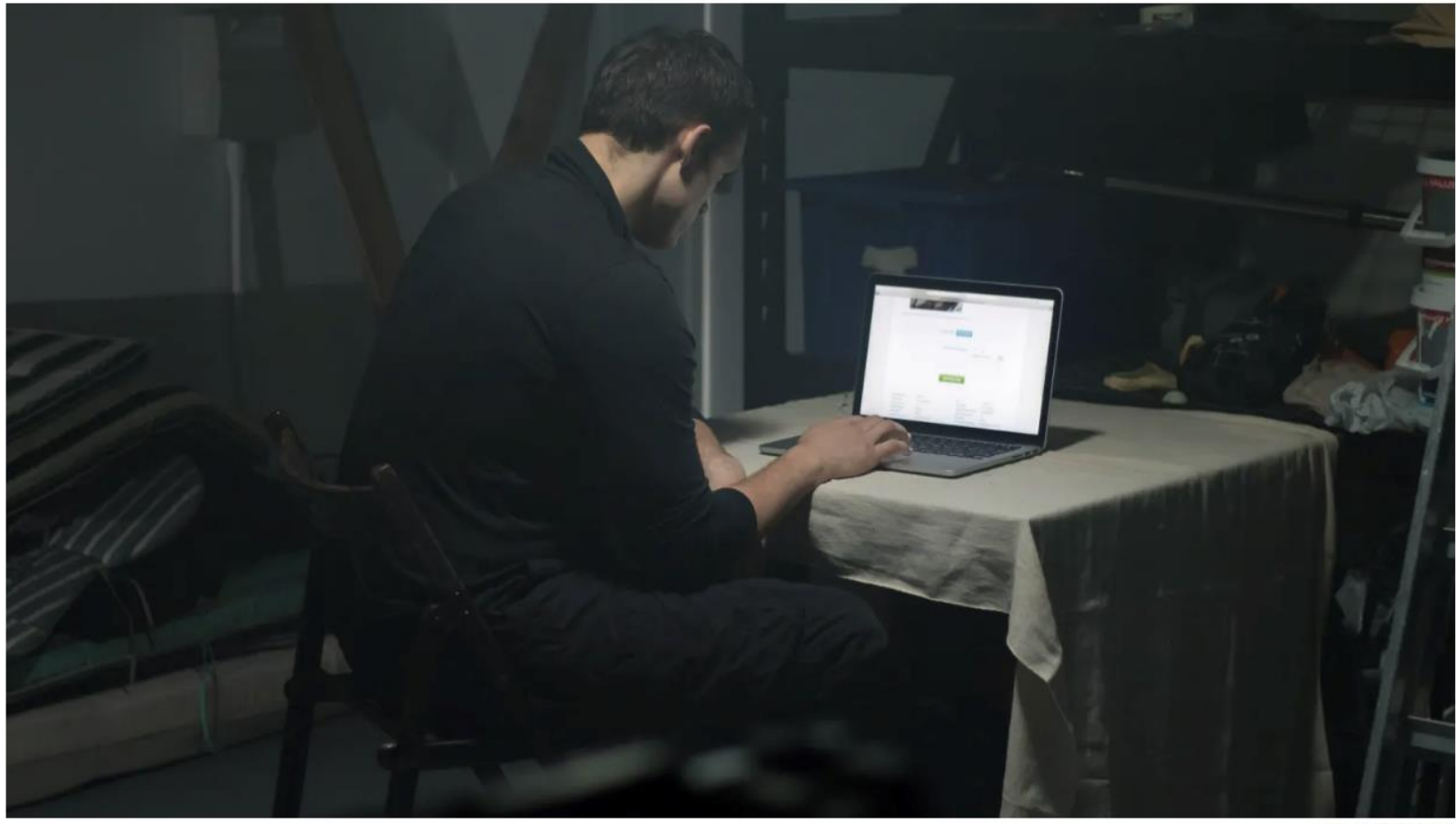


Image: Shutterstock

**Steph Lomas**  
Steph Lomas is VP Education at UCLan SU

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**Harry South**  
Harry South is VP Education at Worcester Students' Union

Students are wonderful. They are bright and they are eager to dive into the pool of knowledge that is the higher education sector.

But in this pandemic, students' confidence has taken a hit – and contract cheating vendors see the opportunity in this vulnerability to monetise the student desperation.

Right now there are around 1000 contract cheating vendors advertised online. This “industry” creates so much revenue that it has a comparison website. But it doesn't just wait for students to seek its services – it actively engages with students where they are.

Through social media advertising, private messaging a student who puts a status up saying they are struggling, and even finding ways to access institutional emails and **hacking university websites**, students are pressured by these companies.

Many students have been contacted by these vendors, some have been asked to pay for their services, and some have been asked to provide their university details.

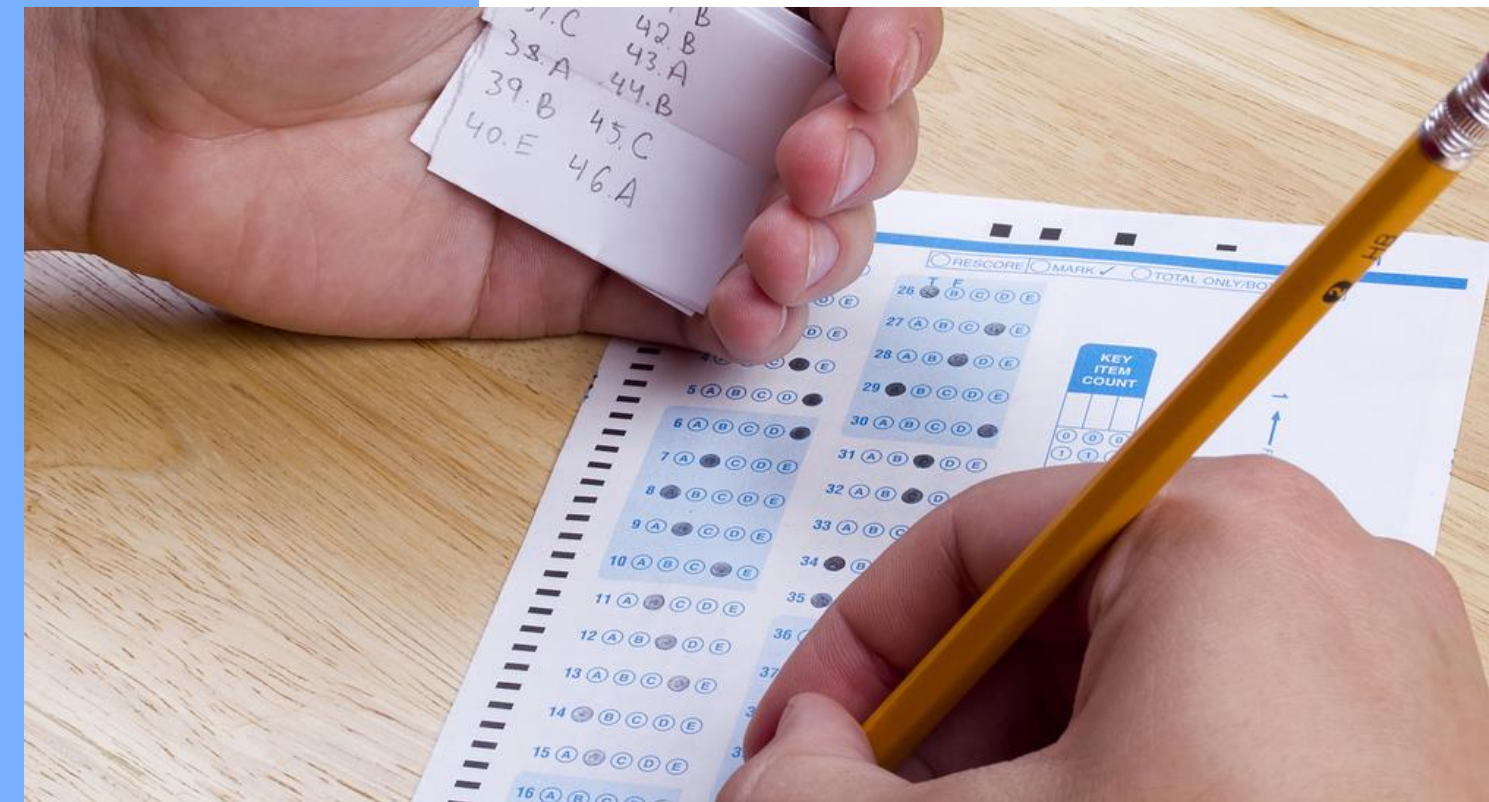
WONKHE

**BELONG FROM THE BEGINNING**

Building connections, confidence and inclusion at university



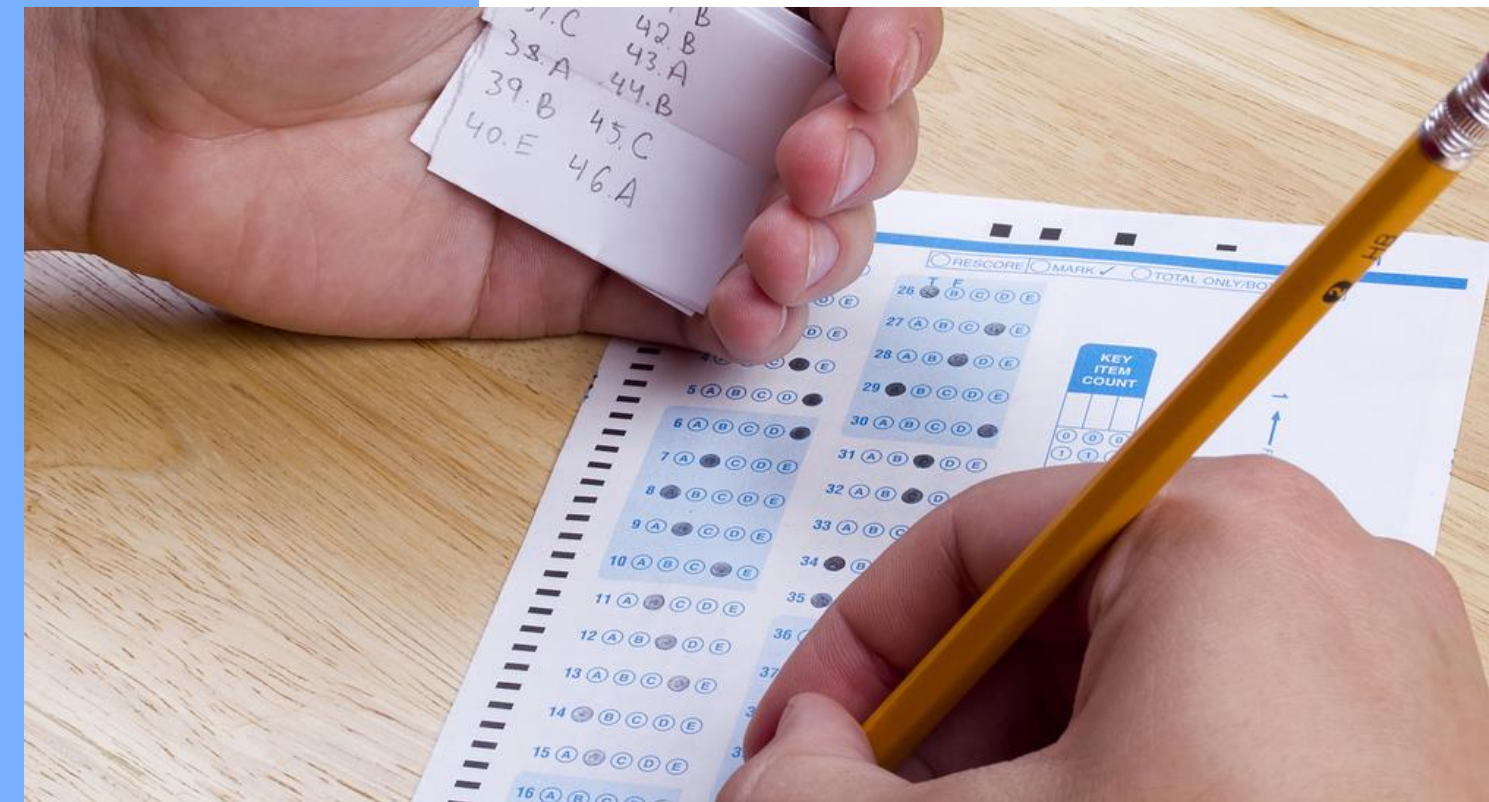
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