

Introduction To Academic Skills

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Project Overview

The project is aimed at **Level 4** students and will consist of a voluntary set of **online exercises** together with suggested 'model' approaches to be offered to students, in an easily accessible format, from the point at which they become 'Unconditional Firm' in the Admissions process.

Aims:

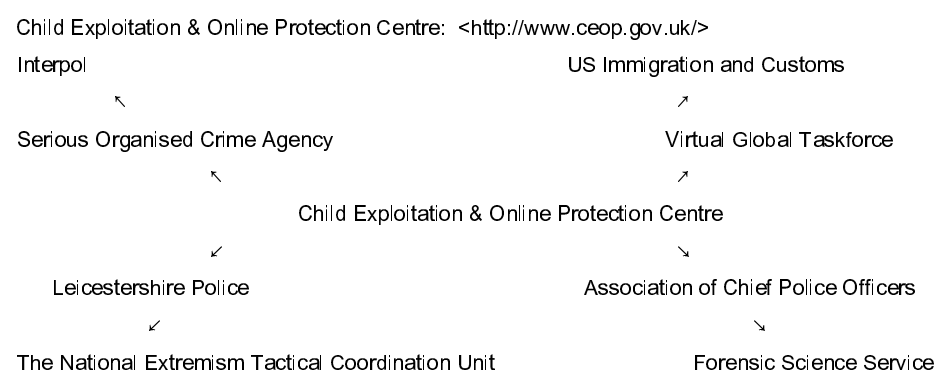
- ◆ To **build confidence** and expose students to the academic skills they will then pursue further in their undergraduate course
- ◆ To **enhance awareness** of the nature of higher education (HE)
- ◆ To **foster** the potential for **autonomous learning**

Project Outputs

The project will involve the creation of a set of materials - comprising:

- ◆ A **questionnaire** relating to students expectations of HE
- ◆ A **Critical Thinking Exercise**
- ◆ A **Blackboard-based exercise** in bibliographic referencing and academic writing
- ◆ An **exercise in Web-based research skills** (see example below)

Example - Mapping the Internet with Spider Diagrams:



<http://www.ceop.gov.uk/> / <http://www.soca.gov.uk/> / <http://www.interpol.int/> / <http://www.virtualglobaltaskforce.com/>
<http://www.ice.gov/> / <http://www.leics.police.uk/> / <http://www.netcu.org.uk/default.jsp> / <http://www.acpo.police.uk/> /
<http://www.forensic.gov.uk/>

Progress

The team has made significant progress towards the achievement of the project's aims and objectives. The **Mapping the Internet with Spider Diagrams** and **Blackboard-based Referencing Exercise** are almost complete. The **Critical Thinking Exercises** are approximately half-completed.

Support Needs

- ◆ Further training on the Blackboard 'test manager' facility.

Future Plans

- ◆ Complete and refine the online exercises.
- ◆ Build on and integrate into the Critical Thinking Exercises ongoing Doctoral work on critical thinking in law students.

Project Team Contact Details

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