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How Can a Mature Student Balance Dissertation Writing and Family at Christmas Time by Ashish Pandey

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It is a well-known fact that mature students make up a large number of those studying at UK universities, both on residential and distance learning courses. What isnâ€™t so widely known is that the balancing act of juggling family and dissertation writing can be a huge struggle for students, especially around Christmas time. Throughout the year there are family commitments and essays to cope with, but at Christmas the deadlines loom, festive parties abound and thereâ€™s Christmas shopping to squeeze in as well. It can be a nightmare for students with children.

One great way to balance work and family is to be as organised as possible. Itâ€™s so easy to leave essays to the last minute or gift shopping until the night before, but when extra work crops up or babysitters let you down you havenâ€™t left yourself any margin for error. A great idea is to get a big calendar for December, and make a list of everything you need to get through by Christmas â€“ one list for academic work, another for family responsibilities. Then use a different coloured pen for each and fit them all in to your calendar â€“ you might not think of doing your Christmas shopping on the first day of December but in fact that might be the sensible time to get it out of the way!

Planning your time like this is a great way to work out how many days you need to have to yourself, giving you plenty of warning to book babysitters in advance. Remember that they get booked up around Christmas time, so look ahead on your calendar and contact your babysitter now to confirm the dates you will need them later on. From seminars to presentations to law dissertations, big work deadlines crop up around Christmas time and it is worth making sure you have planned your childcare in advance.

The internet can also be a huge time-saver at Christmas. Order your turkey online and pick it up on Christmas Eve to save time traipsing around the shops; you can also buy gifts and stocking fillers online and have them delivered to your door to give you more time at home. Websites like Oxbridge Essays can provide great pointers and examples to help you speed up your academic work too. So, you can use the best of dissertation writing and essays services and enjoy peace of mind.

Finally, donâ€™t be afraid to ask for help. Relatives often have time off around Christmas and might be happy to step in with babysitting duty when you need a few extra hours to work. And on the other side, your university should be supportive too â€“ supervisors ought to understand if you need an extension or a few extra days to work on a project, so donâ€™t be afraid to ask. Let friends from university help with your dissertation or essays by looking over them for you and giving you their advice; peer support is a great way to improve your work quickly and easily!

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Ashish Pandey - About Author:
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