Engage with internationalisation

What it is
- Having a global outlook in the classroom
- Introducing diverse perspectives
- Collaborating in research and sharing knowledge

Why do it
- To engage both UK and international students
- To prepare students for a globalised marketplace
- To enhance international understanding

How to start
- Explore resources on internationalisation
- Identify opportunities in the curriculum
- Incorporate examples with an international outlook
How to engage with internationalisation

**What it is**
Internationalisation means adopting a global outlook in everything we do. It will vary depending on discipline, research focus, and topic. In order to retain the best students and staff, universities must establish themselves as ‘global players’ within an increasingly interconnected world. Adopting internationalised forms of learning, teaching and research encourages diversity and enhances engagement with local and international students.

Among the most important features of internationalisation for the University are: 1) an internationalised curriculum, embedding a broader view of knowledge into learning, teaching and research; 2) the global interconnectedness of the University, which opens up both staff and students to different experiences; and 3) a culture which fosters diversity, creating a welcoming atmosphere for exchanging knowledge.

**Why do it**
The University makes itself more attractive to students and staff from all over the world, drawing on a larger pool of candidates. It also contributes to excellence through collaboration with the best researchers, no matter where they are based.

Students are better prepared for future career paths. Intercultural communication skills, experience of working within multinational teams, and understanding of different perspectives are all highly valued skills for virtually any type of employment.

Teachers are faced with highly diverse groups of students who come from very different cultural backgrounds which can impact on their understanding and ability to succeed. Internationalisation meets the challenge of engaging students and making teaching more effective and enjoyable.

**How to start**
In order to internationalise it is not necessary to overhaul all your practices. You can build on existing approaches to the curriculum initially by incorporating an international outlook in classes.

Start by engaging key colleagues (and students where appropriate) in a discussion about what internationalisation means, and should mean, in your discipline. Think about where your department, module, section or programme is already internationalised and how you can further build on these aspects.

Contact Learning and Development (e-mail ‘ldev’) for more information about resources, workshops, and what colleagues are doing.

**Tip:** Subjects can be internationalised in different ways. In the social sciences it may focus on including more international perspectives, whereas in the ‘hard sciences’ it may focus on how the subject content is taught and discussed.

**Tip:** Internationalisation is a broad and complex issue. What elements already exist in your discipline? How can these be developed?

**Tip:** Different people will have different views and priorities. Incorporate some mediation between colleagues to ensure that everyone is on the same page.

Look out for more postcards in the series, e-mail Learning and Development (‘ldev’) or visit the website (’/ldev/resources’).