



BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY

Document Administration

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1. Version History

Version	Date	Changes	Reason	Author



Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2015-19

Context

Through the implementation of this strategy, by 2019, our students will be fully engaged with a range of accessible and flexible learning, teaching and assessment activity. BGU's distinctive approach to learning incorporates a personalised approach. Students will increasingly play an active part in knowledge creation, learning and teaching policy development, curriculum development, teaching quality enhancement and research-informed learning and teaching.

The Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy supports the University's commitment 'to enable all students to achieve at the highest possible standard in their chosen field of study with a commitment to 'support active and accessible learning' (BGU Five Year Strategy 2014-19).

Vision

BGU Graduates will:

- V-1. Think and challenge independently, critically and imaginatively;
- V-2. Consider themselves to be lifelong learners, having been nurtured in a research-informed atmosphere which recognises academic excellence;
- V-3. Realise their full potential through meaningful engagement with the learning process and taking responsibility for their learning;
- V-4. Be intellectually curious and accept ambiguity;
- V-5. Be globally aware and fluent in exploring a range of cultural, social and political contexts;
- V-6. Have the potential to be leaders and role models, confident and enterprising in approach and with effective transferable skills;
- V-7. Work innovatively with others and conduct themselves with integrity, addressing challenging issues that affect people and their environment;
- V-8. Be aware of the research and scholarly activity that staff undertake and how it impacts upon teaching delivery and curriculum content.

Aims:

1. Deliver excellence in learning, teaching and assessment

This will be achieved if we:

- 1.1 Deliver continuous improvements in teaching, informed and enriched by research and scholarship;
- 1.2 Develop innovative, accessible approaches to learning, teaching and assessment in partnership with students;
- 1.3 Ensure the curriculum is up-to-date and reflects developments in relevant disciplinary and professional contexts as well as international dimensions;
- 1.4 Promote the expectation that the community of staff delivering learning and teaching will work collegiately, gain appropriate qualifications and continue to develop their own practice;
- 1.5 Disseminate and build on good practice in order to enhance learning, teaching and assessment activity;
- 1.6 Offer flexible modes of delivery for our programmes tailored to the needs of different learner groups whilst making efficient use of facilities;
- 1.7 Ensure that learning resources, technology and e-learning are current, focused on learners and fit for purpose.

2. Facilitate student engagement

In order to achieve this we will:

- 2.1 Work in a dynamic way with students in the co-creation and enhancement of learning opportunities with a shared understanding of objectives;
- 2.2 Encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning;
- 2.3 Be responsive in ensuring that students are fully supported in navigating the transition into and through higher education;
- 2.4 Implement e-learning and digital literacies in partnership with students, making appropriate use of a portfolio of achievement;
- 2.5 Work with students to agree and embed a set of expectations and responsibilities in learning teaching and assessment;
- 2.6 Support and encourage the Students' Union to continue to develop its representational and engagement role on behalf of all students;

3. Embed employability and enterprise education within all BGU programmes;

In order to achieve this we will:

- 3.1 Develop transferable skills through a variety of curriculum and community activities;

- 3.2 Develop creative and vibrant partnerships locally, regionally, nationally and internationally that enhance student learning opportunities;
- 3.3 Revise, with partners, our approach to partnerships and placement learning within academic programmes;
- 3.4 Ensure learning, teaching and assessment activities support employability skills;
- 3.5 Ensure curriculum content and delivery addresses contemporary issues related to globalisation, sustainability and ethical professional practice;

Implementation

Implementation, monitoring and review will be through the following Institutional Action Plan:

- I-1. In order to progress the strategic objectives within this strategy, a cross institutional sub group of Academic Enhancement Committee (AEC) will monitor its implementation. This group, the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy Development Group will meet on a regular basis to monitor implementation and development of the strategy. The group will receive updates from the three academic schools and will in turn report to AEC. The group, which will be chaired by the Executive Dean, Learning Teaching and International, will refer any matters of significance to other relevant groups and committees. An annual report on the implementation of the Strategy will be submitted to AEC, noting particular institutional enhancements.
- I-2. It is a requirement for programmes, business plans, curriculum changes and revised Codes of Practice to demonstrate delivery of the aims in the policy.
- I-3. An introduction to the Strategy will be included in staff and student induction programmes. This is the responsibility of line managers and Academic Co-ordinators.
- I-4. Implementation and monitoring will be embedded within the annual reporting process. Each academic-related team will be required to indicate how each aim above is being addressed, through cross reference in their enhancement plan. They should also indicate in the Annual Monitoring Report progress made against the Strategy in the previous year. The Students' Union will also embed the aims of the Strategy in its enhancement plans.
- I-5. The Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy Development Group will ensure that the Strategy is closely aligned with other University Strategies and Policies, such as the Recruitment and Retention Strategy, Internationalisation Strategy, Research Strategy and also to our Access Agreement and associated widening participation activity.
- I-6. The Student Engagement Group, which is a sub-group of the Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy Development Group, will work in

partnership with students in matters relating to the development and enhancement of learning and teaching.

- I-7. The Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy Development Group will work closely with Quality Assurance and Student Data teams to ensure that provision for Learning and Teaching in the UK Quality Code is reviewed regularly.
- I-8. The Centre for Educational Development and each academic school will provide strategic support for the professional development of staff engaged in academic related activities and specific development training in order to meet the aims of the Strategy.