**COMMON GOOD CURRICULUM**

**What is the Common Good Curriculum?**

The ‘Common Good Curriculum’ supports the University’s mission for the Common Good and is underpinned by our Core Values of integrity, creativity, responsibility and confidence.

The Common Good Curriculum represents a distinct approach to learning and teaching that develops graduates capable of tackling real-world issues and putting problem-solving ideas into action. It touches on every aspect of the student learning experience, both formally within the taught curriculum and informally through co- and extra-curricular activities.

The aim of the Common Good Curriculum is to support our students to develop GCU’s Common Good Attributes: **active and global citizenship**, **an entrepreneurial mind set**, **responsible leadership** and **confidence**.

The Common Good Curriculum forms a key part of the GCU [Strategy for Learning](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/gaq/strategyforlearning2015-2020/), supporting the achievement of its goals. It supports the University’s goal of engaging our students in a learning experience which is challenging, active, collaborative and authentic.

The Common Good Curriculum is also linked to GCU’s accreditation by Ashoka U as a Changemaker Campus for our commitment to social innovation through teaching and research. [Find out more](http://ashokau.org/changemakercampus/)

**What is involved in embedding the Common Good Attributes within programmes?**

Embedding the Common Good Attributes within programmes involves three main areas:

1. Curriculum content and design: What we teach
2. Learning and teaching activities: How we teach
3. Assessment practices: How we measure

The process forms part of the programme approval/re-approval process within the GCU Quality Enhancement and Assurance framework. The outcomes of the process should be summarised, and made explicit to students, staff and external audiences through programme handbooks and other appropriate forms of communication. For more information see Section 2 of the [Quality Enhancement and Assurance Handbook](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/gaq/qualityenhancementandassurance/qualityenhancementandassurancehandbook/).

**What is the Common Good Curriculum mapping template and process?**

A Common Good Curriculum programme mapping template has been designed to support programme teams in developing or reviewing their programmes to highlight the ways in which development of the Common Good Attributes are embedded within programmes. It will also help to build on existing good practice and identify areas for enhancement.

The curriculum mapping process aims to identify and critically evaluate how students, through learning on the programme, are enabled to develop the Common Good Attributes and to build on learning from previous experiences, enhancing it progressively throughout their studies

The completed [Common Good Curriculum programme mapping template](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/gaq/qualityenhancementandassurance/qualityenhancementandassurancehandbook/) should be included in programme approval and review documentation.

**Do the ‘Common Good Attributes’ replace the ‘GCU 21st Century Graduate Attributes’?**

Yes. The Common Good Curriculum supports the development of four Common Good Attributes: active and global citizenship, an entrepreneurial mind-set, responsible leadership and confidence. These new attributes replace the previous GCU Graduate Attributes and are underpinned by the GCU core values of Integrity, Creativity, Responsibility and Confidence.

**How will students be supported to develop the Common Good Attributes?**

All GCU students will develop Common Good Attributes through the formal taught curriculum. In addition, the Common Good Curriculum will provide opportunities for students to enhance and develop these attributes further through engaging in co- and extra-curricular activities aligned to the Common Good, for example, social innovation, community engagement and volunteering. Examples of such opportunities include Enactus; Student mentoring and Student Leadership programmes. Some opportunities are tailored to students on particular programmes of study; others are open to all students across the University. These opportunities will be signposted to students through the [Common Good Opportunities web pages](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/theuniversity/commongood/commongoodopportunities/)

The [Common Good Opportunities web pages](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/theuniversity/commongood/commongoodopportunities/) provide examples of activities that GCU students can participate in, with details of how students can get involved. http://www.gcu.ac.uk/theuniversity/commongood/commongoodopportunities/

For up to date opportunities for part-time student employment on campus, please visit the [GCU Work Experience Hub](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/workexperience). http://www.gcu.ac.uk/careers/studentsgraduates/gettingworkexperience/theworkexperiencehub/

Information on all other work experience opportunities can be accessed through the [Careers Service](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/careers/studentsgraduates/graduatejobsandemployerevents/jobsevents).

<http://www.gcu.ac.uk/careers/studentsgraduates/graduatejobsandemployerevents/jobsevents/>

For more information, visit the [Common Good Curriculum webpages](http://www.gcu.ac.uk/theuniversity/commongood/commongoodcurriculum/).

**What support is available to help staff embed the Common Good Attributes within the curriculum?**

* School Common Good Curriculum Leads can advise and support staff in embedding the Common Good Attributes within the curriculum as well as sharing good practice in curricular and co- and extra-curricular opportunities aligned to the Common Good.
* A Common Good Curriculum CPD resource provide staff with guidance on the curriculum mapping process as well as examples of current practice across Schools across different discipline areas:

<http://edshare.gcu.ac.uk/2593/>

http://edshare.gcu.ac.uk/2595/

<http://edshare.gcu.ac.uk/2597/>

http://edshare.gcu.ac.uk/2598/

http://edshare.gcu.ac.uk/2599/

* A programme of activity is also underway, in partnership with the Students Association and wider student body, to develop student awareness and engagement in the Common Good Curriculum, including the development of the Common Good Award (see below).

**How can students be encouraged to develop Common Good Attributes outside the taught curriculum?**

There are plans to introduce a GCU Common Good Award to encourage and support students to develop Common Good attributes by engaging in co- and extra-curricular activities alongside their studies.

An award scheme provides a mechanism through which to promote, recognise and reward the informal learning gained by participating in activities linked to achievement of the Common Good Attributes.  The Common Good Award will be piloted in session 2017/18.  During the pilot stage, the Award will be open to all Year 3 students, including direct entry students in? Year 3, Year 4 and PG Taught students.  Following a successful pilot, the aim is to make the award accessible to every student, regardless of programme of study, level of study or point of access.

For more information about the Common Good Curriculum development, please contact:

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