

# University of Gibraltar Learning and Teaching Policy

## INTRODUCTION

The University is committed to providing high quality learning opportunities through which we can develop students to be proactive learners. We firmly believe Higher Education should have a transformative impact on students and on society as a whole. At the University of Gibraltar students will be challenged to question assumptions, explore new ideas and to discover new ways of thinking. Students will learn how to interpret problems, analyse data and how to set about finding solutions to complex issues.

University of Gibraltar's academic community will achieve this by applying the following in all aspects of learning and teaching.

### Learning and teaching practice

**The University encourages a diversity of opinions, backgrounds and experiences in the student body and the classroom and ensures that there are appropriate support structures in place to respond to the current needs of the student body.**

#### Achieved by:

- Widening participation is encouraged throughout University-wide enrolment and recruitment practices where possible.
- Ensuring regular University-wide reviews of the provision, relevance, scope and uptake of student support facilities.
- Signposting student support clearly to students through the appropriate channels.



## Student experience

**Students are provided with a learning experience which is designed to optimise their academic and personal potential.**

### Achieved by:

- Designing academic programmes to provide an inclusive learning environment, using a variety of learning, teaching and assessment tools, resulting in learning opportunities which are varied, relevant and accessible.
- Delivering learning opportunities through class sizes which enable students' individual voices to be heard and allowing teaching staff to provide tailored support when needed.
- Facilitating self-directed, independent study which is built in to the programme design, as a recurring theme.
- Equipping students with the required study skills and knowledge of good academic practice to enable them to succeed in their academic learning.
- Sourcing programme content from a range of relevant sources, including academic text books, published journal articles and professional resources.
- Having formative and summative assessments that directly support students' learning, allowing them to reflect on the application of their knowledge and skills.
- Ensuring feedback on assessment is timely and aimed at providing students with the opportunity to improve on their knowledge for upcoming assessments.

**Students are encouraged to be active partners in the student learning experience. Their collective opinions and feedback are valued and widely used by the University as part of our Quality Enhancement practices and procedures.**

### Achieved by:

- Having at least one elected student representative on all programmes, trained by the University in their role.
- Actively encouraging students to feedback throughout their student journey through the inclusion of feedback surveys and student staff dialogue.
- Providing regular opportunities for programme feedback, and actions taken as a result, to be discussed through SSLC, programme meetings and outcomes which are part of the evaluation and monitoring processes for modules and programmes.



## Relevant learning experience

**Lecturers have industry experience and are committed to providing participatory and active learning opportunities which contribute to learning which is relevant and impactful.**

### Achieved by:

- Recruiting lecturers with an emphasis on relevant industry experience where appropriate.
- Supplementing teaching with the inclusion of industry experts through guest lectures, giving students the opportunity to learn and hear from diverse experiences and fields relevant to their studies.
- Ensuring lecturers are committed to their professional development and continuous growth in their teaching and practice.
- Encouraging students to raise questions and queries, draw on their own experiences and engage in group exercises during timetabled sessions.

**Students have opportunities to develop practical and employability skills through relevant placements, projects, study abroad or work experience appropriate to their programme.**

### Achieved by:

- Ensuring all programmes have pertinent and relevant projects or placements, depending on the subject area and level of study.
- Enabling students to develop relevant practical, employability and career development skills within their subject areas through teaching and learning.

**Learning and teaching practices provide every student with an equal and effective opportunity to achieve the intended learning outcomes.**

### Achieved by:

- Ensuring all programmes clearly set out intended learning outcomes which are communicated to students through programme and module handbooks, as well as through student induction.
- Mapping learning and teaching content, resources and assessments against the intended learning outcomes.
- Ensuring programmes make appropriate use of Canvas, which is accessible to all students 24/7.
- Enabling students to have the opportunity to raise any issues with educators through a variety of means (face to face, email, Canvas, Engage).
- Monitoring and recording student attendance in order to identify students who are experiencing attendance-related challenges which may impact on the achieved level and extent of their learning. Affected students will be additionally supported in developing a specifically designated Action Plan to address their particular challenges.