HERIOT WATT UNIVERSITY

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Introducing The Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework

Inspiring Global Changemakers

Stepping into curriculum design is a powerful opportunity to shape the knowledge, skills, and capabilities that future generations of students will develop and carry with them throughout their lives. It involves far more than selecting and ordering resources and activities; it is about creating a vision of the society we want to build, and the contribution we hope our graduates will make to shaping our collective future.

At Heriot-Watt University we support our students to develop the capabilities, curiosity, and sense of purpose that will empower them to make an impact on the global challenges of our time. This is reflected in our Graduate Attributes, our aspiration that our students become Purpose-Driven, Creative, Globally-Connected and Professional.

The Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework supports the embedding of this ambition in our taught offer. It is a tool to be used flexibly by teaching teams as they design their programmes of study, offering them practical support to turn strategic ambition into inspiring learning, and to channel broad graduate attributes into targeted curriculum design decisions.

The Curriculum Framework introduces six key dimensions to guide discussion and decisions about what and how students learn during their time at Heriot-Watt.

- Learning for Sustainable Development
- Assessment for Learning
- Discovery & Co-creation
- Research, Industry and Community Collaboration
- Inclusive Global Learning Community
- Resilience, Wellbeing and Compassion.

The Framework is underpinned by a suite of programme and course design resources to bring curriculum design to life. These support teaching teams to explore each of the six Framework dimensions and plan the learning activities and assessments that students will engage with.

This guide introduces the Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework and highlights how it can used by teaching teams developing programmes of study across Heriot-Watt's provision.

Our Graduate Attributes in Action

Our students are Global Changemakers. A Heriot-Watt education ensures they develop the capabilities, curiosity and sense of purpose to truly make an impact on the global challenges of our time.

From the climate emergency to global health crises, from technological disruption to poverty and inequality, the challenges we face as a global community are complex and interconnected. As a university, we are distinctively placed to drive positive change by creating and sharing knowledge that benefits society and by inspiring our students to shape action for a sustainable future.

This distinctiveness is encapsulated in our Graduate Attributes, the qualities, skills and capabilities our students gain through their study at Heriot-Watt. It is embedded in our core curriculum. And it is reflected across the suite of opportunities and learning experiences that enrich campus-life and connect our global community.

The Heriot-Watt Graduate Attributes

Purpose Driven
Inspired by a personal commitment to deliver positive impact within local and global communities and make a valued contribution to society.

Creative
Demonstrates curiosity, imagination and intellectual agility to drive the discovery and innovation required to meet contemporary challenges.

Globally Connected
Confidently engages with diverse communities, cultures and ideas, applying insights to action for inclusive sustainable development.

Professional
Acts with integrity, compassion and ethical consideration, collaborating and appreciating the skills of others in order to inspire and lead positive change.

Global Changemaker
Curriculum Framework

- Learning for Sustainable Development
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- Resilience, Wellbeing and Compassion

Globally Connnected
Student Experience

- Opportunities to Go Global
- Impact through Volunteering
- Sports for All
- Vibrant Clubs and Societies
- Wellbeing Support and Services
- Commitment to Student Partnership

The Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework

The Heriot-Watt Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework is a practical tool to support innovation and inspire the sharing of practice across our programmes, disciplines and Schools.

The Framework supports curriculum design by:

- Inspiring conversations on the big issues framing contemporary curriculum decisions.
- Ensuring our Heriot-Watt Graduate Attributes are practically embedded in course and programme design.
- Supporting the use of curriculum management processes and systems.
- Celebrating and sharing innovative practice in curriculum design.

Curriculum Frameworks are widely used across the university sector to aid reflection and innovation in the design of programmes. They are enabling frameworks to empower teaching teams to share, collaborate and innovate.

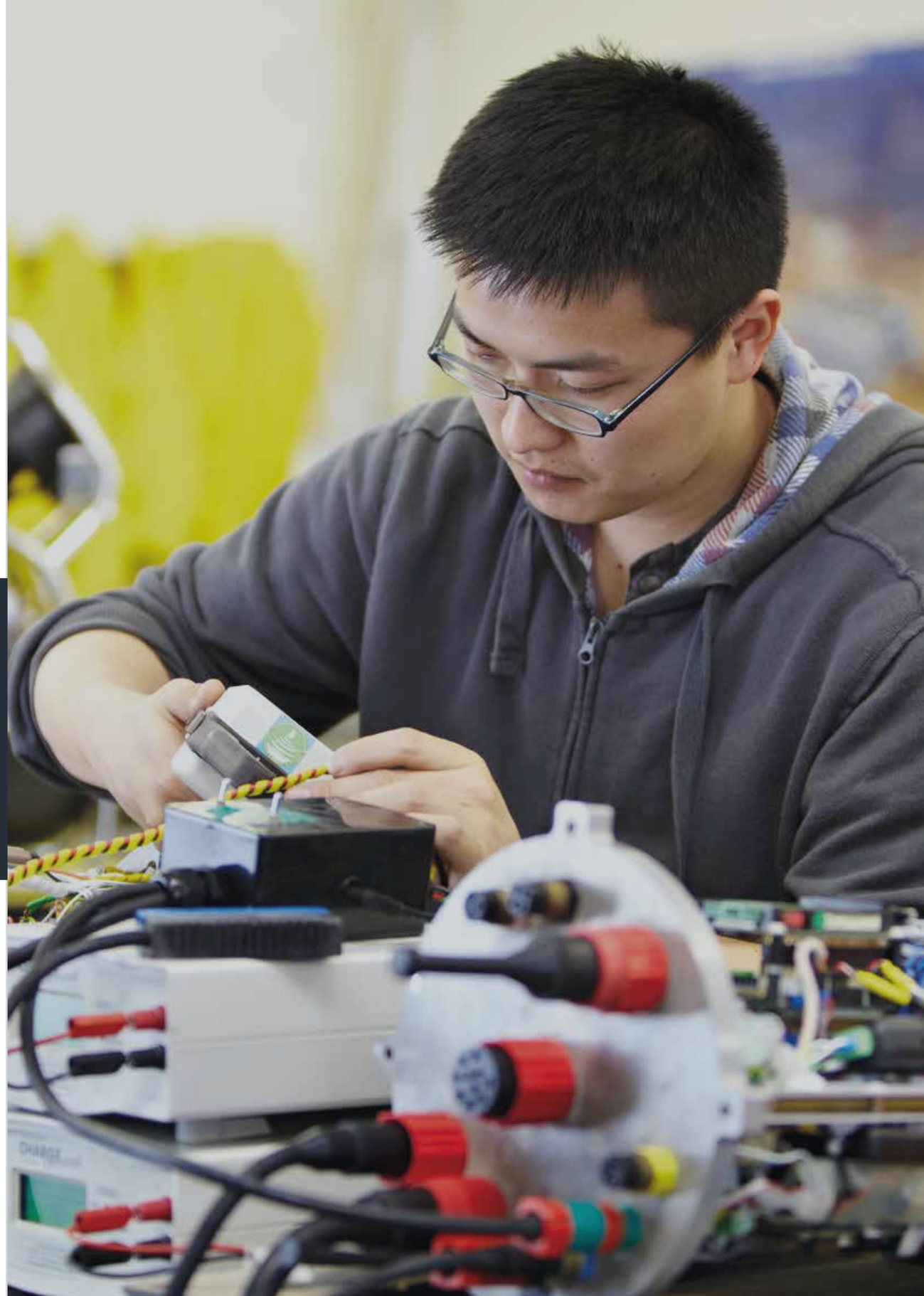
These Frameworks offer key principles or 'dimensions' which support teaching teams to make connections between subject-specific developments and the wider attributes and capabilities students gain through their studies. They are usually connected to practical curriculum design tools to support the development of programmes and courses.

> *"Curriculum frameworks explicitly linking the 'what and how' students are taught to institutional strategies for learning and teaching can encompass the core attributes or competencies expected of all graduates … A well-constructed curriculum framework can provide programme designers with a flexible model on which to design and structure their programme outcomes, whilst providing student choice."*
>
> **Advance HE 2022**

A Practical Tool to Shape Inspiring Teaching

The Global Changemaker Curriculum is framed around six key dimensions that teaching teams are encouraged to consider while developing or revising their curriculum offer. These supported conversations will help programme and course teams to share practice, celebrate successes, and collaborate to develop inspiring learning opportunities for our students.

The Framework is underpinned by practical resources to support the design of programmes and courses. This includes workshops, guides and curriculum design storyboards to help teaching teams plan the learning activities, resources and assessments that shape a course or programme of study. The Framework materials also offer direct links to the Global Curriculum Management system and curriculum approval processes, ensuring a streamlined package of support.



Exploring the Dimensions

The six Global Changemaker Curriculum Dimensions support teaching teams to be bold and creative as they design programmes of study, helping them innovate in pedagogic practice and inspire student learning.

Teaching teams are encouraged to discuss each dimension and explore how these are meaningfully embedded in programmes of study. Learning activities, assessments and co-curricular opportunities can be shaped to amplify these dimensions and create a student experience that inspires purposeful action and a commitment to sustainable global development.

Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework

Exploring the Dimensions

- Learning for Sustainable Development
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Dimension 1

Learning for Sustainable Development

Students embrace purposeful, challenge-based learning to connect their studies, their communities, and action for sustainable development.

- Are students given opportunities to develop their understanding of key sustainability issues?
- What opportunities do students have to explore and apply learning in the context of global challenges?
- Do students have opportunities to engage in multi-disciplinary teams to explore and solve challenges?

Dimension 2

Assessment for Learning

Students engage in authentic assessment and are able to apply learning in diverse contexts and impact on real-world challenges.

- Is the assessment coordinated and coherent across the programme, to ensure that courses work together to support students' progress?
- Do assessments include opportunities to engage in meaningful activities that resemble real-world tasks?
- Are students supported and encouraged to engage actively with feedback?
- How are students supported to develop and demonstrate academic values of honesty and integrity?

Dimension 3

Discovery and Co-creation

Students direct their own learning journeys, embrace opportunities for co-creation, and develop their sense of purpose and impact.

- Can students define and develop their own interests through projects, assessments, or topics of study during their programme?
- Are there opportunities for student-led seminars, workshops, group work, or other self-directed learning experiences?
- In what ways are students involved in the design of courses and programmes?
- How are students supported to develop their sense of purpose and impact?

Dimension 4

Research, Industry and Community Collaboration

Students build entrepreneurial capabilities and gain professionally relevant insight, experience and skills.

- In what ways do students engage with employers and / or alumni to gain professionally relevant skills and experiences?
- How do students connect with the Heriot-Watt research community, to benefit from pioneering research insights?
- How are students supported to collaborate with communities beyond the university?
- How does the programme support development of future-ready digital and information literacy capabilities?

Dimension 5

Inclusive Global Learning Community

Students flourish within a supportive and inclusive global learning community, connecting across boundaries and shaping collaborative action for change.

- What opportunities do students have to engage with diverse ideas, perspectives and contexts through their learning?
- In what ways are students encouraged to engage in collaborative activities and connect across our global learning community?
- How is a sense of community and belonging fostered through the programme of study?
- How is equity embedded within the programme?

Dimension 6

Resilience, Wellbeing and Compassion

Students are empowered to become resilient learners, prepared for change and challenge, with the skills, commitment and compassion to impact on the world around them.

- How are students supported to develop their study skills, respond to feedback and develop their confidence as learners and professionals?
- How are students supported to become resilient, to embrace challenge-based learning and take action?
- In what ways does the programme design help promote student and staff wellbeing and a culture of compassion?

Making the Most of the Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework

The Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework provides a shared focus for thinking and action on curriculum design across the university.

To make the most of the Framework, teaching teams are encouraged to:

- Engage with the practical resources available in the Curriculum and Assessment Design Toolkit.
- Explore the thematic briefing papers and case study resources available on each of the GCCF Dimensions.
- Arrange a curriculum design workshop (self-guided or facilitated) and request consultancy support.
- Share effective practice and novel approaches across the thematic areas. Create space to share with programme teams, across your School, and to network with colleagues across the university.
- Join a Special Interest Group linked to the thematic Dimensions that particularly spark your interest.
- Develop scholarship and enhancement projects linked to the Global Changemaker Curriculum Framework dimensions. This will open opportunities to extend practice and make connections across the university and wider sector.

Further Support

The Learning and Teaching Academy offer workshops on programme and course design, writing learning outcomes and reviewing assessment design.

To explore the Curriculum and Assessment Design Toolkit, or to join a training session or a curriculum Special Interest Group, contact the LTA team.

www.lta.hw.ac.uk

Sharepoint: The Heriot-Watt Curriculum & Assessment Design Toolkit

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