Institution

University of Derby (UoD)

What we did

Institutional Context

Work was led by the Pedagogic Lead for Education for Sustainable Development, working with a member of UoD's Centre for Quality Assurance.

Following a wide-ranging consultation (elongated by the COVID pandemic), UoD launched two new overarching frameworks for its taught provision in time for the start of the 2022-23 academic year. The Learning, Teaching and Assessment Framework (LTAF) identifies five factors of success to be embedded into all programmes. The Curriculum Design Framework (CDF) focuses on four content themes for all UoD courses. Education for Sustainable Developm (stain)2.1.2 reWhBT/TT0 11.04 Tf29.60BT/TT0 11.04 Tf29.60BT/T

Enhancements carried out

Building upon the initial meetings and other ongoing institutional and College-based discussions, several enhancements are now being pursued which, as noted below, are at different stages of implementation. Typically, moves towards implementing the LTAF and CDF has been the key catalyst for change.

This student feedback survey is completed towards the end of the year by Foundation, first-and second-year undergraduate students. This now includes a question about the profile of sustainability within course content.	Completed and implemented March-April 2023.	UoD001
Reference to ESD, alongside the other three curriculum design principles, now included in the programme-level guidance notes.	Drafted	UoD002
Five criteria related to ESD, including a focus on the SDGs, sustainability competencies and ESD- related assessment exercises. These criteria will be used annually as part of the programme review process.	Drafted and being piloted. April 2023 onwards.	UoD003
This programme is for all newly appointed, permanent teaching staff at UoD who are relatively new to teaching in HE. Unit 5 (online, asynchronous content) in the first module is called 'Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in HE, and its relationship to social justice.'	Completed. Delivery began Feb 2023.	
A team from UoD working on the greater embedding of ESD into the University's iPGCE programme.	Current, began March 2023.	

Learnings and Conclusions for addressing ESD through AQ and SV

The work outlined above has highlighted several issues of relevance for wider work on ESD.

A strategic-level and visible commitment to ESD is central to progressing embedding ESD into the curricula. Even though the University's Curriculum Design Framework is still in its first year of implementation, it is already acting as a catalyst for change.

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Outcomes and Next Steps for internal activities

Building on the work outline above, short term priorities at UoD include:

Embedding ESD into the new curriculum design, review and validation processes to ensure alignment with the Curriculum Design Framework, and the piloting/evaluation of these in the 2023-24 academic year. Enhanced guidance resources to the support the above, in tandem with support workshops. Further discussions with the Union of Students on embedding ESD into the course representative process, including the core rep training.