

Faculty of Humanities Social Responsibility in the Curriculum Funding

The Vice-Dean for Social Responsibility and the Humanities Social Responsibility Committee invite proposals for initiatives under the theme of 'Social Responsibility in the Curriculum'. Initiatives will be delivered in academic year 2025-26.

Criteria

Any course unit leader or programme director of an undergraduate or postgraduate taught course can submit a proposal, including those who have received an award once previously. In all cases the proposal must be for the enhancement of an existing module or programme or the incorporation of explicit social responsibility emphasis in a new module.

For 2025-26 the emphasis of this call is on the [five strategic themes](#) for Social Responsibility: Social Inclusion; Prosperous Communities; Better Health; Environmental Sustainability; Cultural Engagement. Further to this, to support the Faculty's Environmental Sustainability strategy we aim to fund at least one project focused on this theme. We also encourage pilot initiatives that integrate service learning in the curriculum.

Applications need to include a specific focus on at least one of these themes and we particularly welcome suggestions that also include a challenge to students around issues of building public engagement and consent, i.e., how we increase understanding and support for our teaching, learning and research activity amongst Greater Manchester communities with traditionally fewer connections to the University.

Examples of proposals are not restricted to, but may include the following:

- incorporation of external visits or short placements in the curriculum (to cultural venues, small businesses, local charities, public sector bodies, schools, voluntary sector, campaigning organisations);
- visits of relevant individuals or representatives of outside agencies to the module;
- development of innovative assessment processes that orientate students to the outside world (e.g., challenging students to communicate research findings to more diverse audiences);
- creation of course materials that promote students' work to non-university audiences (e.g. posters that present module content to a community group or student written blogs for public dissemination);
- incorporation of student projects or commissions that challenge them to explore the relevance of their subject/discipline area to contemporary events (e.g. how might the module topic be used as part of Black History month);
- innovative uses of technology where this enables new forms of communication, dissemination and engagement with external audiences (e.g. creating a web site, blog site or YouTube channel as response to module content).

The aim is for students to be encouraged to think how their enthusiasm for their subject can communicate, connect or be relevant beyond the immediate demands of their course. Proposals that develop a programme with this emphasis are welcomed, as are proposals that only orientate one aspect of a course towards social responsibility.

Costs can include:

- Student travel;
- External visitor/speaker expenses up to a maximum of £250 per speaker
In exceptional circumstances higher speaker fees may be considered if the speaker would be of interest to a wider audience and an open event is organised alongside any module specific input. For example the inclusion of a public lecture in the activity;
- Course materials;
- Assessment material (e.g. posters, video);
- Payment for additional support to help create new resources or course materials.

Costs out of scope:

- IT equipment or other items, which would normally be requested through your school equipment and resources budget;
- Food/refreshment costs;
- Payments to internal staff, outside of specific expenses;
- International travel expenses;
- External website costs.

The maximum award that can be applied for is **£1,000 per module**, although colleagues may ask for additional funds (**up to £3,000**) if the activity involves multiple modules from the same programme or engages students across multiple programmes. **Funding must be spent by 31 July 2026.**

Consideration should be given within the proposal as to whether this will be a one-off project or funding for resources that could be used again (e.g. films, website development, etc.) Funded projects need to consider how to make the intervention sustainable for future iterations.

Note that priority for funding will be given to applications that meet one or more of the following:

- Demonstrate a clear need - e.g. responding to student feedback
- Have demonstrable outputs and outcomes that can be measured in some form
- Have a legacy and embed the outputs into teaching into future iterations of the module(s)
- Demonstrate clear links to what the students do with the learning intervention e.g. link to assessment, produce reflective pieces for discussion
- Are inclusive to all students

Further information

If you would like to discuss any ideas or have any queries, please contact your School SR Director. For queries relating to the application process, contact roz.webster@manchester.ac.uk, Social Responsibility and Environmental Sustainability Manager.



The University of Manchester

Application process

Please complete the online application form here by **Monday 23 June at 5pm.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/7dxc3y7mwt>

We strongly encourage applicants to liaise with their School SR Director prior to completing an application.

AMBS: Javed Siddiqui

SALC: Thea Cameron-Faulkner

SEED: Niki Banks

SOSS: Phil Drake



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