

Faculty of Humanities

Teaching Sustainability Project 2025/26 Languages Subgroup

Remit and Scope of the Subgroup

The Faculty of Humanities is undertaking a review of its extensive and complex teaching portfolio to benefit the staff and student experience. The Teaching Sustainability Project Taskforce has recognised that the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC) holds a substantial volume of languages programmes and pathways with either zero or small numbers of students registered and has therefore agreed to review these through a separate subgroup.

The approach that is being applied to the overall Faculty would not be suitable for the languages portfolio, so this Subgroup has been created to review the portfolio in an alternative way to achieve the aims of the Teaching Sustainability Project Taskforce. The Faculty values Modern Languages and Cultures and wants to actively work with the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures to review the portfolio within the remit of the Teaching Sustainability Project.

The Subgroup will also use this opportunity to consider and review programme structures and the delivery of languages across the sector.

Terms of Reference

The aim of this Subgroup is to review the student numbers on undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate taught (PGT) course units, programmes and pathways in the SALC Languages teaching portfolio. The Subgroup will report back to the Teaching Sustainability Project Taskforce on a regular basis, to contribute to the Taskforce's development of a set of recommendations relating to the sustainable size and shape of our teaching portfolio.

Process

The Subgroup's approach will mirror that of the Taskforce and approach the review through phases, each focusing on different aspects of the standard programme portfolio. Recommendations made by the Subgroup at each phase of the review will be considered by the Project Taskforce and then approved by the Faculty Executive.

Scoping and data gathering activities to include:

- Data gathering and audit on current course units, programmes and pathways across languages;
- Research from the HE sector, including competitor practice and student insight;
- Engagement with key stakeholders and expertise from across the University, and where appropriate across the HE sector.

Timescales and Reporting

It is expected that the project will run for at least three years, starting in 2023/24.

The first Subgroup meeting of 2025/26 will take place on Thursday 18 September, with meetings taking place every 6 weeks, between meetings of the Teaching Sustainability Taskforce. The group will report to the Taskforce every 6 weeks with recommendations, which are anticipated to impact from 2025/26 onwards.

Membership

Chair: Vice-President and Dean of Humanities	Fiona Devine
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Vice Dean for Teaching, Learning and Students	Fiona Smyth
Deputy Executive Director of Faculty Operations	Emma Rose
Head of School (SALC)	Thomas Schmidt
Director of School Operations (SALC)	Jayne Hindle
Director of Teaching, Learning and Students (SALC)	Camden Reeves
Head of Teaching, Learning and Student Experience (SALC)	Emma Wilson
Teaching and Learning Manager (SALC)	Gemma Gaffney
Head of Department of Modern Languages and Cultures	Julia Dobson
Admissions Lead (SALC)	Huw Twiston-Davies
People Partner	Christina Collier
Head of Marketing, Communications and Recruitment	Kathryn Howard
Communications and Content Manager	Ben Cawley
Student Marketing and Recruitment Manager	Elizabeth McCullough
Student Representative	Isobel Morgan
Project Manager	Lexy Cummins
Secretary	Helen Dunning/Hannah Jordan

Lexy Cummins

Project and Business Change Manager

Updated November 2025