

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

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Sustainable development pertains to a way of living which does not compromise the ability of future generations to live to the same standard. UNESCO's Decade of Education for Sustainable Development seeks "to integrate the values inherent in sustainable development into all aspects of learning to encourage changes in behaviour that allow for a more sustainable and just society for all" (UNESCO, 2006).

ESD aims to ensure everyone is able to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to shape a more sustainable future. Armed with the right knowledge and skills, University of Hull graduates can be capable of contributing to a better world. The University is committed to sending students out into the world as global citizens, who are sustainability literate and have an appreciation of social and cultural diversity.

The 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are part of the new Agenda 2030 aiming to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. The University of Hull is dedicated to working towards achieving the goals and through departmental and student collaboration, ensuring that students explore how aspects of their discipline contribute to one or more of these goals.

Education for Sustainable Development Framework:

The Environmental Department has developed a Sustainability Training resource as a support for staff coupled with bespoke advice if required, and will be looking to develop this further to include students during 2017.

With Sustainability forming one of the four pillars of the Universities Strategic Plan we are also able to assist with Departmental plans to embed this best practise into individual courses.

Initial works have included the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies, Geography, Environmental, and Energy Engineering courses and we plan on being able to expand this collaboration to all courses as part of future development over the next three years (advice/guidance is also available to individual students and staff on request as part of coursework or general interest requirements).

University of Hull as a Living Laboratory:

The University is keen to make all areas of the Estate open as a Living Lab to those wishing to take advantage of the considerable selection of differing buildings, ground types, and uses in the Estate (subject to suitability).

Currently this includes allowing students supervised access to our plant rooms, solar arrays, and CHP plants as part of their course requirements. This also allows them to not only gain practical experience but also take advantage of our own knowledge base in relation to legislation, finance, and management of projects.

In addition to our work with students we are also engaged in allowing the Innovation Centre to use the Estates offices for trials of automated gas and water shut off systems incorporating occupancy sensors and alarms.

We would however welcome any viable opportunity to further promote allowing the University properties to support any "Living Lab" opportunities; if of interest please feel free to contact the Energy Manager direct (Stewart Hugill – stewart.hugill@hull.ac.uk)