



Warwick International Student Experience (WISE)

Project Aims

- Test the WISE workshop model, scaling a School of Life Sciences and Warwick Medical School pilot into an institution-wide Masterclass to improve the international student experience, grounded in data and student voice.
- Foster inclusive practice and reduce awarding gaps affecting international students, with sustainable impact through a train-the-trainer masterclass and staff toolkit.
- Amplify international student voice through a panel and support departments in creating action plans.



“
 This is a fantastic project to be part of, and one with a big future also. Working across academic and professional service departments has meant we could bring the best of all our experiences to the Masterclass. We are especially grateful to the International Student Ambassadors for their input on this important work.
 ”

Project Rationale

- International students face distinct barriers, including academic acculturation, language, visa stress, and social integration, that shape engagement and confidence, with staff awareness varying across departments.
- Institutional data shows a persistent awarding gap between home and international students at undergraduate and postgraduate taught level, highlighting the need for evidence-informed, department-level action.

Current Progress and Reflections

- Delivered the first institution-wide Masterclass in Term 2, combining institutional data, student panel discussion, and case-based learning.
- Co-produced the WISE Staff Toolkit, covering common challenges and practical strategies for inclusive teaching, viewed over 1,000 times since launch. **Click here to access the toolkit:**
<https://warwick.ac.uk/services/studentexperience/isse/wise/>
- Feedback was strongly positive, with participants reporting greater awareness of international student diversity and concrete changes to practice.
- Future sessions would benefit from more discussion time and a simplified case-study task.

Next Steps

- Approach Directors of Student Experience to run the training within their own departments, building on secured departmental support.
- Explore further funding to extend the Masterclass's reach and open up related research opportunities.
- Continue collaborating with the Internationalisation Learning Circle, and build on the recent WIHEA podcast episode on WISE and the international student experience.



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Project Team:

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Staff

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Students