IATL Achievements and Impact
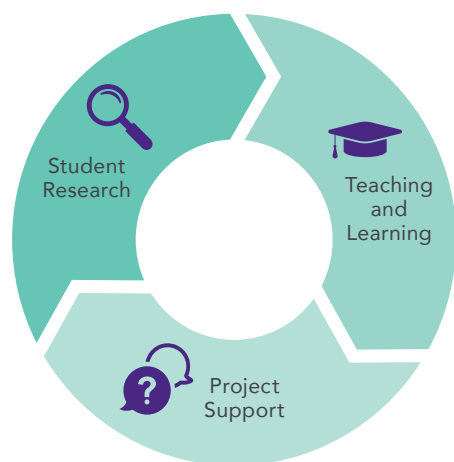
Strategy Cycle 2018 - 2023

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

INSTITUTE FOR
ADVANCED TEACHING & LEARNING

IATL is in the process of developing a new strategy, to support our core vision of innovative education into the future. Under our 2018-2023 strategy, we achieved a great deal in the areas of Teaching and Learning, Student Research, and Project Support, and this document summarises our impact across the university and beyond.

Teaching and Learning

Interdisciplinary Education

By taking an IATL module, students across the university and from all Warwick Departments can engage in a co-curated, interdisciplinary education. Our modules explore issues and challenges from a range of global topics, from wellbeing to identity, and digital futures to water. The modules allow students to engage with the great challenges of our time from a variety of perspectives. By taking an IATL module, students do not merely learn about the world, they work with peers and staff from different disciplines spanning all three Faculties to develop new ways of thinking and understanding.

"I wish more students had the opportunity to take classes with IATL. There is so much space to understand the world and ourselves within this world. My IATL module gave me a new appreciation of interdisciplinary studies that I wouldn't have otherwise."

Global Connections, 2022-23

"I used to feel pressure to pursue my initial career ambition… the modules Design Thinking and Entrepreneurship helped me to embrace the practical possibilities of my interdisciplinary training and creativity. I had an interview for a great job in user experience design. I used what I had learned in the modules to answer the interview questions. I got the job."

Design Thinking, 2022-23

349
Undergraduate Students in 2023/24

101
Postgraduate Students in 2023/24

450
Students in 2023/24
402 in 22/23
338 in 21/22

Collaborating with
22
Academic Departments

Working with
7
Professional Services Departments

22
IATL Modules this academic year

Who is involved with IATL Modules? 2023-24

Faculty of Arts
16 Contributing Staff
92 Undergraduate Students
14 Postgraduate Students

Faculty of Sciences
28 Contributing Staff
135 Undergraduate Students

Faculty of Social Sciences
7 Contributing Staff
108 Undergraduate Students

Others
16 Students from the International Office
11 Contributing Staff from Professional Services

"This [is] one of the best - if not the best - modules I have taken whilst being at Warwick. I feel like I have developed critical thinking skills and learnt things that will have a real impact on how I live. I have had a learning experience that I do not usually get from traditional modules. I would highly recommend this module to students from all disciplines."

Understanding Wellbeing, 2022-23

IATL also offers online learning opportunities to all Warwick students and beyond. These are not-for credit and are fully co-created to ensure that they can be tailored to students' needs.

Online Learning Opportunities

Understanding Wellbeing Online Module

- **7000+** Warwick students engaged since Spring 2022
- **1000+** Students gained HEAR Accreditation and points towards the Warwick Award
- Co-created approach celebrated in Times Higher Education
- **4** UK and International Universities have adopted the module

Eutopia Collaborative Online International learning Events

- **182** Warwick and Monash students engaged over the past 3 years gaining points towards the Warwick Award
- **5** European Universities involved
- Events enable students to collaborate across Europe on transdisciplinary, globally-oriented themes
- **3** European Universities have implemented the IATL Global Connections Assessment programme

Excellence in Innovative Education

By taking an IATL module, students across the university and from all Warwick Departments can engage in a co-curated, interdisciplinary education. Our modules explore issues and challenges from a range of global topics, from wellbeing to identity, and digital futures to water. The modules allow students to engage with the great challenges of our time from a variety of perspectives. By taking an IATL module, students do not merely learn about the world, they work with peers and staff from different disciplines spanning all three Faculties to develop new ways of thinking and understanding.

15+
publications in peer reviewed journals and global media outlets

8
Warwick Awards for Teaching Excellence

10+
Early Career Teaching Fellows

9
WIHEA Fellows

2
National Teaching Fellows

30+
keynote speeches and conference contributions in the past 5 years

>£800k
in Education Research grants in the past 5 years

Supporting Interdisciplinary Teaching at Warwick

IATL champions interdisciplinary teaching across Warwick, supporting staff from all Faculties to develop interdisciplinary practice within their own department and within IATL.

IATL Module Convenor Community of Practice	Early Career Teaching Fellows	Postgraduate Award in Interdisciplinary Pedagogy
• 40+ IATL module convenors across the university over the past 5 years, with 20+ convenors this year; • Two Teaching and Learning Convenor Meetings per term sharing best practice; • Embedding interdisciplinary teaching and learning skills and knowledge back into home departments.	• 10+ Early Career Teaching Fellows, developing their understanding of interdisciplinary pedagogy and contributing to IATL modules; • 100% are currently employed in academic posts.	• 29 people have undertaken the course, representing 19 departments; • To achieve the Award, colleagues must evidence their practice implementing Interdisciplinary Pedagogy in a teaching and learning context in their home department; • The Award has been described as 'sector-leading in the UK, if not globally' (Prof. Angela Woods, Durham University).

"You absolutely have to study with IATL! You get to meet so many different people, from different years and departments. The content of the modules is refreshingly different and so relevant to real-world topics. On top of all that, the ethos of the department means that I really felt like I was appreciated and listened to, and all the staff have been incredibly kind and helpful"

Genetics: Science and Society, 2019-20

Student Research

IATL recognises students as key contributors to the research culture and conversation at Warwick. We offer opportunities to students to create their own original research and to share their findings through our International Conference of Undergraduate Research (ICUR) and Reinvention: an International Journal of Undergraduate Research. We also support students to join national and international research conversations through the British Conference of Undergraduate Research (BCUR) and the World Congress on Undergraduate Research (WorldCUR) and hosted both events alongside each other at Warwick in 2023. These opportunities are open to students from all disciplines and from all backgrounds, creating active, exciting and diverse research conversations.

ICUR and Reinvention

3476
ICUR presenters across 20 countries since 2013

1020
online attendees from 42 countries at ICUR 2022

222
Reinvention papers published since 2007

294
Undergraduates published in Reinvention from 16 countries

"The three ICURs I've attended now have certainly played a part in my decision to undertake a PhD. They gave me the confidence I needed when attending conferences in my field and helped me develop the skills I required."
ICUR Presenter 2018

"Getting to interact with other students doing research at a generally similar level to me. Up until now my research experience had been very isolated and individual, so getting to see what others in similar positions in their careers are doing was very helpful."
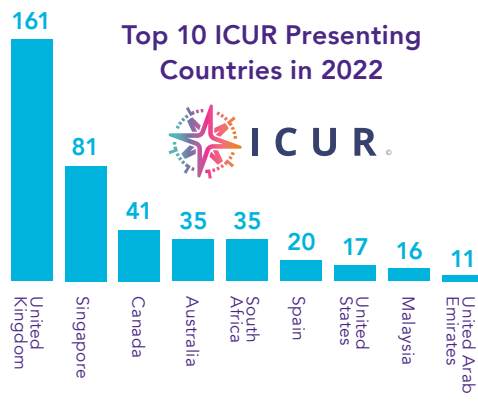ICUR Presenter 2021

"The opportunity to critically engage with your own work, by selecting the most important parts of an in-depth analysis to communicate in a time-limited setting, is extremely valuable in understanding how the research process relates to the real world."
ICUR Presenter 2019

"It was great hearing such a massive diversity of presentations during the two-day period. I often attended panels with one or two talks in mind but would leave incredibly interested in something I hadn't thought I would've been."
ICUR Presenter 2020

Top 10 ICUR Presenting Countries in 2022

ICUR

Country	Value
United Kingdom	161
Singapore	81
Canada	41
Australia	35
South Africa	35
Spain	20
United States	17
Malaysia	16
United Arab Emirates	11

WorldCUR-BCUR 2023

700+
attendees at WorldCUR-BCUR 2023

575
undergraduate student presenters

33
countries represented by at least one student presenter

496
spoken, performance, exhibition and poster presentations

"I was very privileged to have been able to meet various students from all over the world, from Columbia, to the United States and even Kenya. I also learned a lot from the research that each participant presented, reminding me that diversity is what makes interdisciplinary research so beautiful."
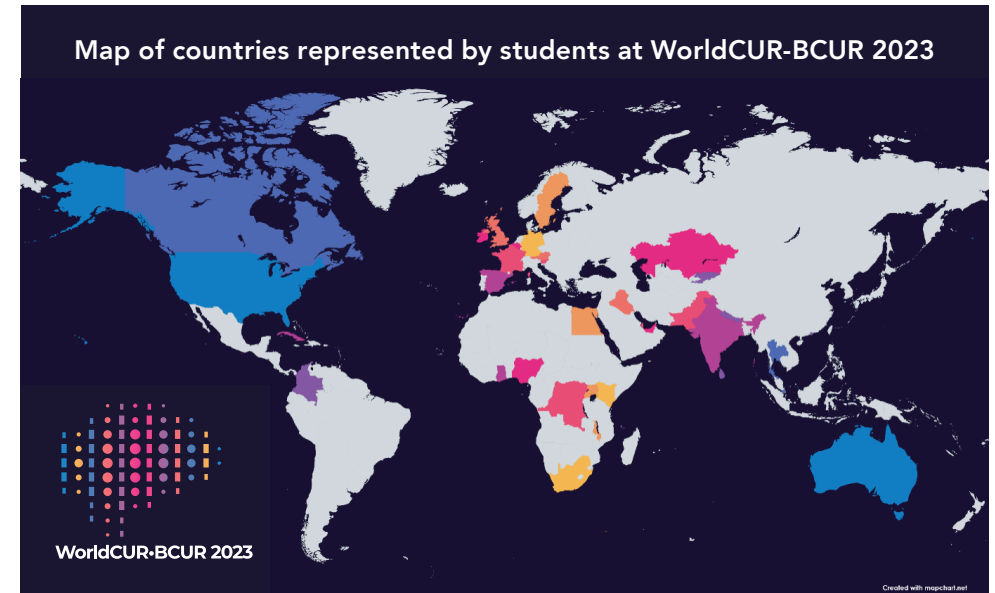WorldCUR-BCUR Student Director 2023

"My studies in Germany are more about learning than doing and the conference allowed me to experience academic practice."
WorldCUR-BCUR Presenter 2023

"This experience has made me so confident in my research, public speaking skills, and has made me feel more connected with others."
WorldCUR-BCUR Presenter 2023

Map of countries represented by students at WorldCUR-BCUR 2023

WorldCUR·BCUR 2023

Created with mapchart.net

"...contributors were welcomed from all over the world, given the stage and the microphone to share their diverse research projects on an international platform, all equally valid and esteemed. In that sense, Warwick was not inviting people to our space on our terms, but truly sharing our space with students invited to share on their terms."
WorldCUR-BCUR Student Director 2023

Project Support

Since IATL's inception in 2010, we have awarded project funding to staff and students. We provide funding and practical support to promote innovation at all levels, including strategic projects that support Warwick's Education Strategy and priorities. Our scheme emphasises student/staff co-creation and sharing learning with the university community. Anyone at Warwick can apply, including students at all levels, and every year we receive applications from across the three Faculties.

44 projects funded in 2021-23

27 projects in 2021/22

15	Staff-led projects
11	Student-led projects
1	Co-led projects

10	Undergraduate students funded
2	Postgraduate students funded

11	Arts	**7**	Sciences
8	Social Sciences	**1**	Professional Services

17 projects in 2022/23

8	Staff-led projects
6	Student-led projects
3	Co-led projects

5	Undergraduate students funded
4	Postgraduate students funded

7	Arts	**3**	Sciences
7	Social Sciences	**1**	Professional Services

IATL Project Highlights

- **School Tasking**
  We funded the pilot of this outreach project that brings law into primary schools. The project now runs nationwide, and Warwick recently awarded an Honorary Doctorate to comedian Alex Horne to recognise his contributions to Widening Participation.

- **Policy and Practice for Disabled Students**
  This project, co-created with disabled students, provided content for the University's new Code of Practice for Disabled students, which summarises policies and guidance to support disabled students in their academic learning experience.

- **Student as Researcher**
  We supported the Library to pilot this programme to support undergraduates in developing research skills throughout their course. The project still informs how the Library works with students, enhancing their undergraduate experience at Warwick.

- **Humanitarian Engineering**
  The development of the Warwick-based MSc in Humanitarian Engineering was incubated and supported by IATL. We initially supported it as a strategic funded project and then co-developed and hosted the programme when it was launched in 2018/19. The programme offers interdisciplinary education and training to address complex societal challenges.

- **Maskulinities Project**
  This initiative brings together the Community Values Education Programme, Report and Support, and Warwick Students' Union to tackle issues of sexism and sexual misconduct within the student community. Piloted with IATL's support, the project has just won an Excellence in Gender Equality Award.

- **ITLR Co-Creation Officers**
  This project supported the Co-Creation Officer project within the 2023 Institutional Teaching and Learning Review, in partnership with Education Policy and Quality. EPQ worked with us to develop co-creation, using IATL's practice as a template. The two student ITLR Co-Creation Officers were integral to developing and disseminating ITLR student roles, resources, and support.

IATL Contribution to TEF Gold 2023

TEF 2023 Gold

Warwick was recently awarded Gold in all categories of the government's latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) rankings.

This result recognises the innovation, collaboration and determination of our teachers, and the University's commitment to putting student learning and success at the heart of what we do.

IATL plays a key role in this, supporting innovative, inclusive, and co-created education.

IATL champions inclusive and co-created education, through the engagement of several student co-creation officers in the department. (Referenced in points 2 and 23).

IATL is a leader in interdisciplinary education beyond boundaries, with 450 students taking 15 IATL modules in 2023/24, bringing together excellence from across 29 departments. (Referenced in points 5 and 24).

Our signature Student Devised Assessments support an inclusive and transparent assessment culture, building knowledge, skills, and behaviours for students. (Referenced in points 19 and 20).

We champion international student research, with our flagship programmes ICUR and Reinvention engaging students and institutions across the globe. 3000 students from 22 institutions have presented at ICUR and Reinvention has published 222 high-quality student research papers across five continents. (Referenced in points 27 and 33).

IATL stands as a champion, both within the University and globally, of Warwick's 2018-2024 Education Strategy, supporting students to learn beyond boundaries. We are a sector leader in interdisciplinarity and student research, and foster an inclusive, empowering, and caring environment in which students and staff thrive.

IATL and TEF Gold 2023 Case Studies

Despite being a small department, IATL played a key role in supporting the University develop innovative, inclusive, and co-created education practices that proved to be instrumental in the University achieving its TEF Gold ambitions. Indeed, many of the case studies featured on the TEF Gold webpages started out as IATL projects.

The case study on inclusive education stemmed from an IATL funded project where Leigh Mencarini analysed student feedback to create a charter of recommendations to improve the student experience of mature students. Leigh now works in the Dean of Students supporting strategic activity around inclusion and student success.

"I've earned the degree that I always felt I missed out on before, something of which I'm deeply proud."

Leigh Mencarini discusses her experiences of studying later in life and shares her work on expanding support available for mature and Widening Participation students during her time as a History of Art student and now in her career within Higher Education.

The case study on co-creation features Nikita Asnani who studied the IATL Design Thinking module as an Undergraduate and was one of our Student Voice representatives. She then became a student on the MSc in Humanitarian Engineering (developed from an IATL funded project) before going on to play a key role as a student ambassador for the ITLR (using co-creation principles developed within IATL).

"Student co-creation allows us to develop strategies together and collaborate on what they're going to look like."

Nikita Asnani played a key role as student ambassador in the Institutional Teaching and Learning Review (ITLR). Nikita discusses the key role of student co-creator in the institution wide initiative, how the role has helped to shape her and the learning she has taken from this work.

The Excellence in Academic Practice case study features Bo Kelestyn who started her academic teaching career with IATL as a co-convenor on the Design Thinking and Entrepreneurship modules. She also worked with members of the IATL team in developing the Warwick Secret Challenge methodology.

"All parts of the University come together to tackle big innovation challenges that we have within the community."

Dr Bo Kelestyn shares her journey from student through to academic at the University of Warwick. Bo shares her creation of the secret challenge methodology and her work with Jess Humphreys on 'Designing Together', both of which have had impact and utilisation internally and now reach beyond Warwick.

The Campus and Study Spaces features case studies that developed from IATL funded projects and/or modules. Robert O'Toole is a co-convenor on IATL's Design Thinking module and has worked with IATL for many years on innovative teaching technologies including VR. IATL has also worked with the AV team for many years to use sophisticated conference technology to support our virtual undergraduate research conference.

"The students have amazing ideas and enthusiasm, and they have ambitions to use what we're introducing them to, to make the world a better place."

Dr Rob O'Toole talks us through the exciting new teaching and learning spaces available in the Faculty of Arts Building, taking us to the Mobile Design Studio and the Digital Arts and Humanities Lab. Rob discusses the innovation these educational spaces open up and the work taking place with our students here.

The Student Research case studies feature students who have worked either as editors on IATL's Reinvention Journal or who have been Student Directors at ICUR. There is also a case study featuring a student who worked on IATL's Support the Supporter project, which has the aim of supporting staff who support students undertaking student research.

"I wanted to be involved in something instrumental in sparking important change."

Elle Pearson shares her experience as a recent graduate of Warwick Medical School, and how it shaped her career plans as a clinical academic. Elle discusses her time as Editor of Reinvention, Warwick's journal of undergraduate research, during her final year, the opportunities she took up and advice for future undergraduates.

The Innovation and Enterprise case studies feature a student who studied on IATL's Public Engagement module and then went on to become a Student Director with the Warwick Institute of Engagement (WIE).

"Working with Warwick Institute of Engagement has completely changed the course of my future."

Katie Laister-Smith discusses how the flexibility of her degree, the practical aspects of her education, and her time as Student Director of Warwick Institute of Engagement (WIE) shaped her public engagement career ambitions as an undergraduate at the university.

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