



THE WARWICK STUDENT COMMUNITY STATEMENT

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

The University of Warwick exists as a community of students and staff who share common goals in promoting world leading education and research. Warwick is an independent, international and cosmopolitan body that is committed to seeking solutions to major global problems and serving both the local and global community. Core Warwick values include commitments to equality, diversity, excellence in all areas of research and learning, an ambitious and entrepreneurial attitude, an openness to rational inquiry with intellectual integrity, and accessibility to students from all backgrounds at all stages of their learning. Ours is a highly cosmopolitan and diverse community in which different perspectives are essential to the generation of ideas. It is an environment in which the ability to voice those ideas is a core value and in which staff and students should operate with mutual respect and with the confidence that equality of opportunity is accessed by all.

Warwick, as an institution and with the full involvement of the Warwick Students' Union (SU), aspires to involve students in the best possible experience they could have whilst studying at Warwick. This Student Community Statement sets out the mutual aspirations and expectations of members of the University in fostering this high quality experience and enhancing the vibrant, welcoming, and yet challenging, Warwick community to which we all belong.



Professor Nigel Thrift
Vice-Chancellor and President



Nick Swain
President, Warwick Students' Union

Learning and Teaching

A Warwick degree course should excite and stimulate, as well as equip students for a challenging and fast-changing world. Learning is a dynamic process with outcomes that are a product of the unique contributions of all participants. Students are expected to be proactive in their learning, rather than passive recipients of knowledge; staff are expected to challenge and inspire those they teach.

All members of the community are expected to reflect on their own development and to engage in constructive dialogue leading to improvements in the experience of current and future students. In so doing, staff and students commit to enhancing each other's experience within a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment.

We aim to provide:

- » An induction programme which introduces you to your Department and the University.
- » A supportive learning experience that enables and encourages both your academic and your personal development.
- » A range of teaching and learning methods, appropriate to your discipline, to full and part-time study, and to undergraduate and postgraduate study, that will vary both in style and volume and that will engage and challenge you.
- » A Personal Tutor or Mentor to support and advise you in your academic and personal development, including referral to appropriate support services where needed.
- » Appropriate learning spaces, resources and technology to support you in your studies.
- » Transparent and up-to-date information

- on your course(s) of study, modules, and on University policies and procedures that relate to you.
- » Curricula that are progressive and informed by current research, that equip you to undertake independent study and enable you to contribute to the research process.
 - » A range of assessment methods, with fair and transparent criteria, that provide you with opportunities to demonstrate the knowledge and skills you have acquired.
 - » Relevant and meaningful feedback on your work in a variety of formats that will help your academic development within a reasonable timescale previously communicated to you, within the University's guidance of four weeks or less, and within a timeframe that allows you to learn for subsequent assessment.
 - » Opportunities for you to offer feedback on your experiences, to be engaged in the on-going development of teaching and learning at Warwick through a range of mechanisms, and to be kept informed of the ways in which the University is responding to your feedback, including the reinvestment of resources.
 - » Encouragement and advice on taking a period of study abroad, both within Europe and beyond, or taking up work placements, during which you will receive support, as appropriate.

As a student you should aim to:

- » Be open to engaging with a range of learning methods and teaching styles.
- » Participate actively in your own, and other people's learning by attending scheduled classes and lectures; preparing for and engaging in class discussions and undertaking independent study.
- » Contribute to improving the student learning experience by engaging in opportunities to provide feedback on your experiences at Warwick.
- » Reflect on your academic progress, supported by feedback given by staff and dialogue with peers, and apply the

advice given to develop your academic and transferable skills.

- » Explore opportunities to enhance your personal development through placements and study abroad, both within Europe and beyond.
- » Adhere to the standards others in the University community expect of you in terms of intellectual integrity and ethical behaviours, following regulations relevant to your academic work including those concerned with research ethics and plagiarism.
- » Attend regular meetings with your Personal Tutor.
- » Be aware of the University's and your Department's expectations as expressed in departmental handbooks, regulations and guidelines.

Student Experience

Your Warwick experience should be distinctive, reflecting your potential needs and expectations beyond your academic life. It will be supported by a culture of innovation, world-class cultural and sporting facilities and a vibrant Warwick community of students and staff.

We aim to provide:

- » An environment in which staff and other students within Warwick treat you with respect and dignity at all times, to follow University policies and procedures, and adhere to the standards the University expects in terms of intellectual integrity and ethical behaviour.
- » A research community fostered by staff and students across disciplines and levels of study, not only through academic activities but also through social events and community projects.
- » The opportunity to be an active member of your departmental community and to have your views heard.
- » Independent advice and support on personal as well as academic matters from the Students' Union and the University

- Support Services, throughout your studies, regardless of the level or mode of study.
- » Encouragement to access the advice and guidance available on future career opportunities and the development of your personal skills.
 - » Opportunities to engage in the social and cultural community of the University and the local region, which might include work placements outside of your course of study, volunteering, society membership or sports.
 - » Democratic structures, including the Student-Staff Liaison Committees, through the Students' Union, to be in place that allow students and their views to be represented in decision-making, at all levels which the University will accommodate and respect within its own structures.
 - » The opportunity to be involved beyond your period of study as part of the extended global community of Warwick alumni.

As a student you should aim to:

- » Treat staff and other students within the University with respect and dignity at all times.

- » Develop your personal skills through extra-curricular activities as well as through your academic studies.
- » Access the advice and guidance available on careers opportunities and reflect on the development of your personal skills.
- » Keep staff informed, in a timely manner, if you have any personal problems that may affect your work and to seek out support and advice where appropriate.
- » Take advantage of the opportunities available to you to participate in the social and cultural communities of the University, sharing mutual interests with your peers and being open to developing connections across levels of study, nationalities and cultures.

Within the Warwick Community you have the opportunity to use your skills and knowledge to contribute to the continuum of student innovation, political enquiry, cultural diversity and vibrancy, to shape the experience of current and future students and to enhance the Warwick reputation of which we are all justifiably proud.

This Statement is not intended to duplicate policies and procedures set out elsewhere within the University with which staff and students are expected to be familiar and to which they are expected to adhere. Further information on sources of support and requirements relating to specific courses of study can be found in departmental handbooks and on the following webpages:

- » Warwick Students' Union: www.warwicksu.com/
- » Student Support: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/student-support-services
- » Centre for Student Careers and Skills: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/scs
- » International Office (support for international students): www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/international/
- » Graduate School (for postgraduate students): www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/gsp
- » Student Staff Liaison Committees: www2.warwick.ac.uk/sunion/sslc/
- » Harassment Guidelines for Students: www2.warwick.ac.uk/insite/topic/healthsafety/welfare/harassment/
- » University Regulations: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/calendar/section2/regulationsnewtoc
- » Complaints: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/gov/complaintsandfeedback/
- » Course Regulations: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/quality/coursereg/
- » Assessment Conventions: www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/academicoffice/quality/categories/examinations