



SOAS Education Plan

Bringing the SOAS Strategy 2030 to life



We are experiencing significant global, political, economic, technological and societal shifts - our educational plan forefronts **innovation, impact and learner agency** in a rapidly changing world

SOAS remains a beacon of diversity and social justice, attracting students and staff committed to an educational experience rooted in the perspectives of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East

Our 2026 -2030 Education Plan embodies SOAS's commitment to delivering a world-class, research-informed education by:

- Empowering students to become global changemakers
- Remaining responsive to local, national and global contexts
- Delivering an outstanding, research-informed education
- We are diversifying our portfolio and educational approaches to increase accessibility and flexibility as part of our approach to life-long learning

What our students say...

Global classroom

“My year abroad in Jordan was undoubtedly the best thing I have ever done. I will cherish the friendships I made and the countless times I pushed myself to experience new things and enjoy life outside of my comfort zone.”

Gabriella Christian Linne, winner of 2024 Study Abroad One Photo competition (background picture)

Student experience

“There are a lot of support structures at the university, you will have your academic advisor, your lecturer, your classmates and the Student Hub”

Marjaan Aman, LLB student and Marketing and Student Recruitment Assistant

Teaching and Learning

“The teaching and the inspiring approach to learning have transformed the way I think and how I see the world”

Linshu Shen, MA history of Art and Archaeology student

Investing in the future

Diverse by Nature, Inclusive by Design

Professional development of our staff:

- Further expansion of Advance HE fellowship scheme and tailored CPD
- Tailored training of early career teachers and teaching-linked PhD scholarships
- Foster internal and external L&T collaboration

Pedagogy that is fit for our students and the future:

- Pedagogy that is tailored and adapts to the needs of our students
- Pedagogy that deploys AI in a responsible, sustainable and critical way, through training and support for staff and students
- Readiness for new opportunities in learning, teaching and curriculum design

Education Vision and Strategic Priorities

We are committed to delivering academically outstanding and inclusive on-campus and online education through innovative curricula and pedagogies, centred on a transformative student experience

Transformative, research-informed education

- We will create new programmes and a refreshed delivery model for online learning that supports growth in the student body
- Every programme will be appropriate for the student body, taught with world class pedagogy
- We will enhance the viability of specialist subject areas through innovation and partnerships

Exemplary student experience and success

- We are committed to an outstanding student experience and achieving an excellent TEF/NSS/PTES outcomes
- We will recognize individuality and personal experience, design for accessibility, and embed graduate employability skills

Global experience

- Every programme at SOAS will be infused with expertise from the global south
- Every student at SOAS will be given global opportunities to learn and engage with our areas of expertise
- We will embed Education for Sustainable Development in the SOAS curriculum to ensure all students gain key competencies for sustainability

The Education plan sits within the wider SOAS 2030 strategy, alongside the Research plan, College plans and Professional Service delivery plans. These plans will be interdependent, particularly around delivery of global experience priorities.

Our programme of work

The following initiatives have been identified short- and medium-term priority actions under the Education plan

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Transformative, research-informed education		Assessment & Feedback review				
		Curriculum and Pedagogy review				
		Graduate attribute alignment				
	Regulation+ Ecosystem + Innovation		AI for Learning & Teaching			
Exemplary student experience and success			Continuous review: Student experience			
		Academic + Pastoral Support				
		Awarding Gap				
		Timetabling, attendance and engagement				
Global experience			Exposure to the World			
		Global Partnership				
			Global Ranking and Reputation			
			SOAS Online + Exec-ED + CPD – diversifying our portfolio			
			ESD Toolkit			

Programme approach

We will take an outcome-oriented, programmatic approach to oversee delivery of the priorities set out in the SOAS 2030 Strategy.

A detailed Programme Initiation Document will outline clear milestones, accountability, resource requirements and measures of success.

Prioritisation

TeLSEC will oversee the prioritisation and implementation of initiatives across four strategic categories:

1. Radical Turn-Around

Quick wins such as improving assessment turnaround and academic support.

2. Consolidation and Embedding

Strengthening curriculum design and institutional portfolio.

3. Laying Foundations

Reforming core systems and processes like timetabling and student data.

4. Evaluation and Impact Assessment

Reviewing completed actions such as semesterisation.

TeLSEC will guide prioritisation based on urgency, strategic alignment, and readiness

Guiding Principles

Our plan is underpinned by principles that ensure coherence strategic alignment and responsiveness

Consistent Across Disciplines

Ensure coherence of approach while ensuring for disciplinary diversity and specialisation

Innovative and Responsive

Encourage experimentation and flexibility to respond to emerging local, national and global challenges.

Scalable and Sustainable

Embed sustainable thinking into all initiatives without compromising quality and impact

Focused on Outcomes and Impact

Plan and measure for impact ensuring all areas of work adopt a project management approach

Evidence-Informed

Ground decisions in robust research, data, and reflective practice

Live our Graduate Attributes

Prioritise active learning, critical thinking, and real-world application in all educational programmes.

Reciprocal by Design

Build global partnerships that demonstrate tangible benefits for students, staff, and communities

Accessible, Flexible and Agile in our Approach

Adopt consistent practice to ensure equitable access for staff and students to our work



Education plan: summary

Our education plan will deliver:

World-class, research-informed teaching with innovative and flexible curricula.

An outstanding student experience that supports every learner to succeed.

Inclusive outcomes, reducing awarding gaps and promoting progression.

Global learning opportunities, embedding expertise from the Global South and sustainability.

Continuous improvement and collaboration, ensuring relevance, impact, and co-created solutions.