

Attainment Gap – Case Study

Arts Students' Union

Over the past year, Arts SU has focused on the curriculum aspect of tackling the attainment gap at UAL. We've launched a library campaign, as well as series of events on co-creation in the curriculum between students and staff.

Our vision

Our intention was to get the university to take a more critical and partnership approach to creating an inclusive curriculum (i.e., listening to students, being challenged, and students being wholeheartedly involved in curriculum creation). We also wanted to get students (especially course reps) more engaged in the campaign, and equip them with the tools they need to challenge their courses and tutors.

What we've done

So far we have launched a campaign in the libraries where we had bookmarks around all the libraries across UAL, and students could write in a book they felt like were missing from their reading list/curriculum, the library then invested over £3000 to buy the books that came up.

We also ran a series of events on co-creation in the curriculum, students and staff as partners, we heard some case studies from various students and course reps at UAL who have successfully changed things on their courses.

A key aspect of this has been workshops for course reps on liberating/decolonising the curriculum.

Read more about the project [here](#)!

This coming year we'll be producing a guide on decolonising the curriculum aimed at both staff and students, and will be continuing the bookmarks campaign as well as the series of events on co-creation in the curriculum (and a conference on an Intersectional curriculum in the arts).

Key external stakeholders in this process have been the Learning & Teaching Exchange at UAL, and Shades of Noir.

<https://www.arts-su.com/>