

GRADUATE AND RESEARCHER COLLEGE/ GLOBAL SKILLS AWARD PROGRAMME 2020-21

*Designed to enhance global awareness
and improve your employability*





INTRODUCTION

The Global Skills Award is a unique programme designed to enhance global awareness and improve your employability in a competitive job market, while you study for your Master's Degree.

Studying for a taught Master's Degree will improve your detailed knowledge of your academic subject; it may also provide preparation for a professional career. A postgraduate degree is highly likely to improve your employment prospects, and the Global Skills Award Programme gives you the opportunity to take your career one step further.

The Global Skills Award Programme is designed to broaden your understanding of global issues and current affairs, as well as develop personal skills to enhance your employability. The Programme runs from October to May and is free of charge. All students registered for a taught Master's Degree are eligible to enrol. Once enrolled on to the programme you will undertake a personal development assessment, which will help you to reflect on your skills and identify any areas in need of development.

You will attend a lecture series delivered by leading academics and specialists. This will give you the opportunity to participate in discussions about issues of global importance, such as the environment, culture, social changes, world politics and gender. A series of skills training workshops will offer you the chance to develop your career opportunities, as well as acquire the skills you need to succeed in the workplace, such as team working, networking and leadership.

The Global Skills Award Programme will give you the opportunity to broaden your experience and gain important skills whilst you are studying. It will also provide a fantastic opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduate students from a wide variety of backgrounds and disciplines.



LECTURES AND EVENTS

At the heart of the Global Skills Award Programme is the series of lectures and events. These lectures are an ideal opportunity to network with other postgraduate students and discuss topics of interest from outside your own discipline.

Lectures and events on the Global Skills Award Programme take place from October to April, and are bookable through our training portal at: <https://grctraining.targetconnect.net>

Due to the unprecedented circumstances of COVID-19, we intend to run the majority of events online and a small proportion face-to-face, to enhance accessibility for all students. Where lectures are held in person, they will take place at 18.00 on the Canterbury campus.

To be eligible for an award you will need to attend at least three lectures/events.

The lecture series will begin with an online introductory lecture hosted by Professor Paul Allain, Dean of the Graduate and Researcher College. This will run as part of the Virtual Employability Festival in October.

The lecture series will feature a variety of topics such as: Culture; Global Citizenship; Gender and Politics.

As part of the lecture and event series, we will hold a networking event, where you will have the opportunity to practice your networking skills.

Examples of previously held lectures:

- Banks: their role in the crisis and recovery
- Brexit: where are we?
- Cancer research and treatment; past, present and future
- Exploring global cultures
- Flexible working
- Rocks from space and the holes they make
- The Anthropocene
- The Wisdom of Psychopaths
- Walking, Talking Solidarity: An end to indefinite detention



WORKSHOPS

The programme offers a variety of workshop topics in both an online and face-to-face capacity. Some examples of those offered are below:

Workshop topics
1:1 CV review
Advanced spreadsheets
Application forms
Careers management
Commercial awareness
Cover letters
Cross cultural communication
Interview skills
Leadership
Linkedin
Microsoft Word training
Mock Assessment Centre
Myers Briggs Type Indicator
Negotiation skills
Networking
Presentation skills
Team working
Time management
Writing skills

Special requirements

Should you require any assistance from our team to enable you to engage with workshops or events please contact skills@kent.ac.uk and we will do our best to accommodate.

“The global skills award brought with it such a diverse breadth of knowledge. Everything I attended left me wanting to find out more about that subject.”

Politics and International Relations postgraduate

“The Global Skills Award gave me the chance to attend lectures on topics I was not familiar with at all and which I would not have necessarily been aware of otherwise. I have learnt a lot and I truly enjoyed the great diversity of topics offered.”

School of Anthropology and Conservation postgraduate

“The GSA programme was a great opportunity to learn and develop my skills and extend them far beyond my Master's degree. I am confident that in an increasingly competitive job market the GSA will help me to stand out from the crowd.”

School of Biosciences postgraduate

HOW TO ENROL

The Global Skills Award Programme is administered and run by the Graduate and Researcher College. You can enrol onto the Global Skills Award programme via the online booking system from welcome week.

To register with the online booking system you will need to know your Kent user ID (the first part of your Kent email address) and your Kent password. You can then register via the following link, which will also be emailed to you at the start of term:

- <https://grctraining.targetconnect.net>

How do I obtain the Award?

- 1 Complete a Personal Development Assessment
- 2 Attend lectures from the lecture series
- 3 Attend workshops from the workshop series
- 4 Once you have attended all the workshops and lectures you wish to, complete a final Global Skills Award evaluation form

Award levels

The table below shows the number of lectures and workshops you need to attend in order to gain a specific level of award.

The minimum requirement is to attend three lectures and workshops for a Bronze Award.

	Lectures	Workshops
Gold Award	8	8
Silver Award	6	6
Bronze Award	3	3



REWARD CEREMONY

Those who successfully obtain the Award will be invited to the reward ceremony in summer 2021.



CONTACT

Should you have any further queries about the Global Skills Award Programme, or our booking system, please contact:

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