Embedding sustainability in teaching

Mandy Haggith
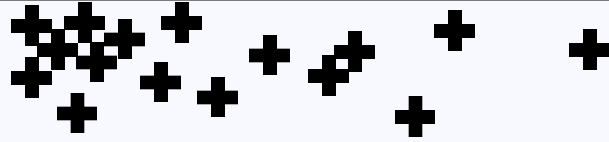
Mandy.Haggith.ic@uhi.ac.uk

What's sustainability?

Meeting our needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet theirs

- This job is all about inter-generational conversations

- Our needs are economic, social and environmental

- So sustainability is about everything (all disciplines)

- Everyone matters (all students)

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- UHI will put plans in place to become a 'One Planet' university aligning itself to actions on the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the earliest opportunity…

- We will embed SDGs in our learning and teaching….

- to provide all students with learning opportunities to develop their understanding of sustainability and equip them with the skills and resources needed to apply their learning to contribute to a less unsustainable society.

- **Target:** Embed Learning for Sustainability into *all* taught courses by 2027 at the latest.

Who got me started?

The SDG Teach In, led by Students Organising for Sustainability - SOS

+ An annual challenge to teachers

+ Give every student the chance to learn about the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals

+ Across all disciplines

+ SDG Teach In | SOS-UK

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The Global Goals for Sustainable Development

1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

English, Creative Writing & Literature?

It all comes down to story telling and creative wordplay

Some examples:

+ Level 5 Communications – pick a theme, create a character, tell their story

+ Level 7 Writing Poetry – pick a goal, write a poem about it

+ Level 9 Romantic Genius – look how these themes were relevant back then!

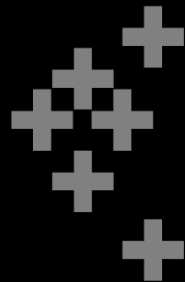+ Level 11 Creative Writing – do some deep research, then get creative

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Student responses

They love it and it is empowering

+ It puts the curriculum in a real world context

+ Linking personal and global issues

+ Sharing issues that matter to them, linking heart and head and hands, creating hope

+ Developing transferrable, employable skills like research, communication and empathy

Thank you
Tapadh leibh

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