

# THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

# LearnFoundations Delivering an enhanced student learning experience online

#### The Learn Foundations project hired 10 'student helper' interns this summer.

These interns spent 35 hours a week of their summer working in Argyle House to improve the Learn experience for the entire student body moving into the 2020/21 academic year. These interns took up the bold task of improving the University's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) – they are now Learn experts, and copy-pasting wizards!

Over 80% of academic courses at Edinburgh use our VLE, Learn – that's over 4500 courses.

With such a wide array of courses, there has also been a wide array of how Learn pages have been set up. Students understandably found this frustrating! The Learn Foundations Project spent this summer working with six Schools and a Deanery to create and implement a universal Learn template to make navigating the VLE a breeze. These interns also worked on mapping out some older Learn courses, finding common opportunities for improvement in the design of Learn courses for the future, as well as doing an accessibility audit to make sure that the University is functional for all.

We, the Learn Foundations Intern team, consist of a diverse group of students, each person with a different personalities and characteristics.

Every day you will find us supporting and motivating each other to get tasks done. We have built a strong network and cannot imagine going through this fantastic experience of working for the ISG this summer without having each other!

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 Phase 1

Student

employment

starts

September 2019

Phase 2

30<sup>th</sup> August

Completion

School of Literatures,

**Languages and Cultures** 

**End August** 

School of History, Classics and Archaeology

**Early June** 

School of Literatures, **Languages and Cultures** 

Mid June



**School of History, Classics** and Archaeology

Mid June



**Business School** 

**End June** 



**End June** 



**Business School** 

School of History, Classics

**Early July** 





**School of Divinity** 

**Early July** 

**School of Divinity** 

Mid July

Deanery of

**Clinical Sciences** 

Mid July

Deanery of

# 2019 Summer Interns

# ACHIEVEMENT

**Schools and Deanery** 



**School of Divinity** 

**School of GeoSciences** 



School of History, Classics and Archaeology

**Edinburgh Medical School** 



**Business School** 







School of Literatures,



**Languages and Cultures** 

# **Transcribing interviews**

Mid August



**Centre for Open Learning** 

# Data migration to the new structure

A new template was implemented on the Learn courses of certain schools. Data was migrated to these courses and included the learning outcomes, course description and course contacts.

**Transcribing Learn Foundations interviews** 



# **Content mapping**

The content of various Learn courses from different schools was mapped on individual excel spreadsheets. Each item mapped on the spreadsheet was assigned a category from the different type of content items on Learn.



**Deanery of Clinical Sciences** 

#### Accessibility analysis of existing course content

With the introduction of new accessibility legislation, we were trained on how to review course material for accessibility compliance. We followed a specific process that we tweaked as a team to make it even better for our purposes. Over 40 separate accessibility checks were completed per course and overall 12 pieces of content were analysed per course (where applicable). Reports will be issued to Schools engaged with the project

**Clinical Sciences** 

# Mid August



Edinburgh Medical School

**Early August** 

**Centre for Open Learning** 

**Early August** 

**School of GeoSciences** 

**End July** 

**School of GeoSciences** 

**End July** 

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**Mid July** 

# **Reviews**

# Felicia

" My time working for the Learn Foundations Team has been great! I've had the opportunity to develop my digital skills and have also made some good connections."

#### Jakub

" It's been an amazing and satisfying experience to take part in the Learn Foundations Project which will soon enhance student experience with Learn!"

# Sabrina

" Working on the Learn Foundations experiences."

project has given me useful insight into how learning technologies can be developed to enhance students'

" Working with ISG and more specifically

on the Learn Foundations project has

given me a greater appreciation for all

the work that goes into keeping this

University running."

# Mellisa

Olavo

" It's been great working with a diverse group of individuals who are passionate about improving the student learning experience at the University."

" Having a full-time job in the summer

me insight about working life."

has been a good experience and given

#### Anushka " My time with the Learn Foundations Project

Group this summer has been enriching and very rewarding! I've made some great friends, and have thoroughly enjoyed getting involved with all the work we've done."

# Hannah

" Getting to be a part of the Argyle House intern community was a joy!"

# Simon

" As a student, I am glad to contribute to the Learn Foundations project to benefit myself and my fellow students. I had a great time working with other fellow interns."

# Magda

" Working to improve the Learn experience for students in the future has been very satisfying."

