

University Global Challenge

A digital competition
tackling leading
global challenges

Monday 16 October
- Friday 8 December



University of
Central Lancashire
UCLan



About the competition

The University Global Challenge is an 8-week digital competition. Connecting UCLan students from around the world in response to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Working in teams, you will generate and grow ideas, selecting the best solutions to pitch to a leading panel of experts. Each team will have a UK-based mentor who will work with you throughout the competition.

You will be expected to attend weekly workshops and masterclasses to develop your professional skills and sharpen your ideas. Your creative outputs will be judged by the expert panel, who will share the professional feedback. You will receive a certificate of achievement on completing the challenge. Selected prizes available for winning teams too!

The University Global Challenge will be delivered completely online between Monday 16 October - Friday 8 December 2023



“I learned a lot and gained many professional and life skills that helped me develop confidence.”

**Otokini Douglas,
BEng (Hons) Energy Engineering**

The team

The competition will be led by a collective of University professionals and academic staff.

The team have an extensive set of skills that will help you to challenge yourself, benefit from new experiences and advance your knowledge throughout the competition.



Dr Mark Lochrie
Creative Technologist
and Facilitator



Professor John Whitton
Lead in Environmental
and Social Science



Paresh Parmar
Lead in Creative
Thinking and
Entrepreneurialism



Ric Brame
International
Partnership Manager



Otokini Douglas
International
Partnerships
Assistant (Intern)

Take on the challenge

The University Global Challenge will allow you to acquire and hone new skills. These will be invaluable for you to enter a global market in any chosen industry.

You'll gain practical experience to test your skills in leadership, creative thinking and communication. As a result you'll increase your confidence and gain useful knowledge, enabling you to apply your skills in the modern world.

It's a great opportunity to work as part of a digital team. It will test your organisational abilities and time management. You'll also grow your professional network by working closely with your new teammates and the UK-based experts and mentors.

By completing the competition, you'll receive a certificate of achievement and a digital testimonial. You will also have the opportunity to win various prizes which will be awarded for outstanding contributions.

What to expect

You'll be expected to commit to a minimum of 3 - 4 hours of your personal time per week. Like with anything, the more you put in, the more you will gain.

Part of your time will be spent attending weekly design-led workshops, professional skills masterclasses and group time with your UK mentor.

You are also encouraged to spend time working offline in your groups or independently across the weeks to undertake research and develop ideas for the brief.

Your focus will be to work towards creating ideas that can be shared and pitched through a creative output (such as a presentation, storyboard or modelling).

We encourage all participants to join each activity with a positive and open mindset, being respectful of other people and mindful of their ideas and opinions. You will need to have the dedication to work successfully in teams and independently.

The journey

Complete registration:
September 2023

Competition:
Monday 16 October
- Friday 8 December 2023



Step 1 Competition pre-meet

You'll receive an invitation to a competition briefing and registration event. Find out everything you need to know and check out the competition.

Step 2 Kick-off

Join us at the kick off! Meet the competition organisers, check out your new virtual environment, and be introduced to the University Global Challenge.

Step 3 Design sprint

Attend weekly digital workshops and masterclasses led by our leading experts. Receive industry toolkits to help identify the problem and grow your ideas. Check in with your teammates and get help and guidance from your team mentors.

Step 4 Refine and rehearse

You'll need to decide how you're going to communicate your chosen idea. This could be through a presentation or you might wish to explore other creative ways to pitch to the experts.

Step 5 Pitching and awards

Join the competition panel of experts and pitch your solution. Receive feedback on your ideas and see which team comes out on top.

The schedule

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 16 - 20 October					Kick-off 2 hours Welcome, Meet the team, Gather Town and Team building
Week 2 23 - 27 October	Setting the challenge 2 hours	Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Design sprint 1 2 hours "Understand" Dr Mark Lochrie
Week 3 30 October - 3 November		Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Masterclass 1 1 hour <i>The art of creative thinking</i> Paresh Parmar
Week 4 6 - 10 November		Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Design sprint 2 2 hours "Create" Dr Mark Lochrie
Week 5 13 - 17 November		Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Masterclass 2 1 hour <i>Sustainability - the wider impact</i> Professor John Whitton
Week 6 20 - 24 November		Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Design sprint 3 2 hours "Select and Prototype" Dr Mark Lochrie
Week 7 27 November - 1 December		Mentor drop-in 30 mins		Mentor drop-in 30 mins	Masterclass 3 1 hour <i>Delivering the perfect pitch</i>
Week 8 4 - 8 December		Pitching rehearsal With mentors and competition team			Pitching and Awards 2 hours

The benefits

By completing the University Global Challenge, you will leave the competition with the knowledge and confidence to successfully respond to a global issue.

And once you've taken on the world there's nothing you can't do!

You'll have gained practical experience through working with industry inspired design toolkits to identify problems, generate ideas and choose the best solutions. In addition, you will have evidence of being able to apply your research to a real world challenge.

It may be your first experience of an industry pitch. Afterwards you'll be able to reflect on what it felt like and what you would do differently next time.

You'll be able to connect with your new network and find out what your teammates and mentors are doing - who knows what opportunities this may bring?

Everyone will leave the competition with a certificate of achievement and a digital testimonial from the competition team. As well as being able to celebrate your success, you'll have something impressive to talk about when you're in a future job interview or you're networking with industry professionals.



Enjoy all this
and more with
the University
Global Challenge.

How to apply

Places are limited so book your place as soon as possible.

You can sign up here

For more information please contact IPartnerships@uclan.ac.uk

To take part you must be a UCLan student or graduate aged 18 or over.

