

About Us



London Metropolitan University is a public, teaching-led and research-active university. The University as it is today was created in 2002 with the merging of London Guildhall University and the University of North London, the first merger between two universities in the UK. Its roots, however, lie firmly in the nineteenth century with the establishment of the Metropolitan Evening Classes for Young Men in 1848.

We are proud of our heritage and ever more ambitious for the future of our institution.

A civic university with global impact

London Met adds real social impact and value to students, staff and communities. Our staff and students collaborate with city-wide partners on high-impact research and knowledge exchange initiatives which are helping to not only keep our city great, but have a far reaching global impact.

The education that the University provides prepares students to live and work anywhere in the world, from fast-paced cities to remote rural communities. We have built valuable partnerships with educational organisations worldwide, providing opportunities for students to access the institution's high-quality provision in their own countries. Our collaborations ensure our research has global impact and enables us to support the aims of our partners.

It is central to the ethos of the University that every person in this country, and across the globe, deserves a chance to transform their life and the lives of others through higher education. Students

come to London Met when they recognise that they are not prepared to settle for the life and opportunities that were determined for them at birth. Education provides a catalyst for social equality, our provision has changed the lives of so many students and, in doing so, has helped to drive real transformation in this country and beyond.



Proud to be diverse

Our cosmopolitan diversity is what makes London Met so unique. More than 80% of our students are mature and just under 60% are from Black, Asian or minority ethnic backgrounds. Over 140 different nationalities are represented in our student body. We often refer to our students as having complex lives, many experiencing extreme economic disadvantage, and balancing their studies with caring responsibilities. Our local boroughs have some of the UK's highest deprivation levels. Our Learning and Teaching philosophy is positioned to advance social justice, enabling students to see their identities celebrated in the curriculum, enabling them to develop understanding of different perspectives and to have opportunities to learn about London's complex social challenges.

Since 2002, close to 70,000 students have graduated with London Met degrees, many of whom would otherwise have been unable to benefit from higher education. In short, we ensure our students leave university prepared for employment. Employability is at the heart of our education ethos: 96.7% of all our graduates are in work or further study within six months.

In this next phase of our journey, we will continue to foster a diverse and inclusive community, one which is research-led and creates an even greater impact within London and further afield.

Advancing Racial Justice

Addressing systemic racism is a top priority for the University's Board and Senior Leadership. Our Race Equity Strategy sets out our commitment and the action we are taking to advance racial justice. We are looking for talented individuals who reflect our students' lived experience and our values in order to position us as Sector leaders in race equity.

Learning and Teaching Space

The University recognises the importance of high-quality learning resources and has spent £58million on new and improved facilities over the last five years.

Our rejuvenated campus makes the best use of existing spaces, reflecting its urban setting and better identifying with the University's access mission, providing the opportunity to develop new programmes with equal access to better resources for all students. In 2018 the University celebrated the opening of the Roding building, a £7.8million social learning hub. The University also created a new home for the Students' Union (SU), a vibrant new space for all London Met students to enjoy.

Transforming lives in London and beyond



Our students have gone on to exciting careers, becoming human rights lawyers, business leaders, social workers, creatives, teachers, architects, politicians, scientists and more.

The University is working hard to ensure that it maintains its impressive graduate employment record, improving continuation rates and overall NSS scores. Much work is being done to reduce the degree-awarding and graduate employment gaps for all underrepresented groups of students at London Met.

Much of our success is down to our practitioners. The teaching is delivered by leading academics and industry experts. They include senior executives bringing valuable experience from blue chip companies in the finance sector and academics who have worked within the IT industry for organisations including British Telecom and The Wellcome Foundation. Our artists, architects and designers have received major awards including the Jerwood Drawing Prize and the RIBA Stirling

Prize for Architecture. Many of our staff have extensive experience of working in London schools, the probation service, the BBC and the National Health Service. By supporting social engagement and creating an active campus community, London Met has developed effective, engaged citizens who have contributed to building a better and fairer society.

Research that makes a difference

London Met's research already makes a difference to some of the most pressing problems facing London and the wider world, signalling its value to practitioners, policy makers, partners, funders and the public. Across the University our academic staff are using innovative methodologies to understand complex issues such as educational inequality, environmentally friendly urban policy, ethical business practices and changing working lives. Researchers are at the heart of urgent debates such as youth violence and crime, and the legalisation of drugs. The Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit has a long and proud history of researching and challenging violence, working with organisations such as the United Nations and the World Bank, and contributing to the UK's Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Scientists and health practitioners are helping to address major nutrition and food-related issues that affect populations at local, national and global levels. They are also developing effective interventions to address human diseases and advancing research in biomedicine.

The University is forging a stronger research community, creating a new Research Office to support staff in their ambitions and establishing a Graduate School. In moving forward, London Met shall tap into the full breadth of research funding, through new links across the University and with industrial partners, embedding impact and knowledge exchange throughout all work. **future**

Our ambition for the future

Our Mission



By 2025, London Met will be making an even greater significant contribution to our city, socially, culturally, environmentally and economically. We will be recognised locally and internationally for our commitment to lasting social change:

- **Students** will come from local communities and from across the globe. They will have an excellent experience with successful academic outcomes, and the institution will continue to celebrate that it is one of the most diverse, socially inclusive and transformative universities in the UK.
- **Graduates** will go out into the world of work as confident, values-driven and successful individuals, making a positive contribution to society and offering a constant flow of talent to support the global economy.

- **Students and staff** will be passionate about the University and recommend it as a place to study and work, and they will give back to the city and contribute to its success
- **Research** will drive real impact and change in London and beyond, and the work that we undertake with London partners and stakeholders will be at the forefront of initiatives to keep the capital great.
- **Business** will be strong and sustainable. Campuses and facilities will continue to improve, we will be delivering year-on-year surpluses to invest in assets and we will have ensured stewardship for future generations.

This is the academic vision: a University that is centred on the needs of our students. The objectives in the strategic plan are intended to achieve this while remaining sustainable.