WELCOME TO

LEICESTER STUDENTS' UNION

COURSE REP TRAINING MASTERCLASS 3 - SKILLS, SUSTAINABILITY, SURVEYS & LIBERATION

Plan of the Session

Surveys & Data

Liberation

Skills

Sustainability

Commonly Used Terms

Student Types:
UG - Undergraduate
PGT - Postgraduate Taught
PGR - Postgraduate Research

College Acronyms:
CSE - College of Science and Engineering
CLS - College of Life Sciences
CSSAH - College of Social Sciences
CB/ULSB - College of Business

School Acronyms:
CMS - Computing and Mathematical Sciences
GGE - Geography, Geology and the Environment
AMC - School of Arts, Media and Communications
HYPIR - History, Politics and International Relations
SAAH - School of Archeology and Ancient History
ULSB - University of Leicester School of Business

Other Acronyms:
PTO - Part Time Officer
SSC - Student Staff Committee
SEC - School Education Committee
AMM - Annual Members Meeting
UoL - University of Leicester
DL - Distance Learner/Learning
CB - Campus Based
EDI - Equity Diversity and Inclusion

Never be scared to ask what an acronym means!

Surveys and Data

From the SU Data & Insights Team

And Our Survey Says...

- Impactful

- Easily allows for quick analysis

- Shows tangible meaning

- Don't ask leading questions!

Leading Questions

- Assumption-based
  - How satisfied are you with our product?
  - How bad do you think the President's new policies are?
- Interconnected Statements
  - Most students think virtual learning isn't working. Do you agree?
  - Direct Implication
- If you enjoyed this movie, would you recommend it to friends?
  - Scale-based
  - Extremely satisfied, Satisfied, Somewhat satisfied, Somewhat dissatisfied, Dissatisfied
- Coercive
  - You'll highlight your positive experience on social media, right?

⚠️ **SURVEY BIAS** ⚠️

That is the Question

Multiple Choice

Matrix

Benchmark

Rating Scale

Ranking

Linkert Scale

Slider

Ranking

Avoid, where possible, open text questions!

Quick Data Analysis

- Use visualisations

- Don't get lost in a sea of numbers!

- Focus on the insight

- Clear findings

Summary

- Know your target audience

- Be clear on the objectiveness of your questions

- Use concise, unambiguous and neutral language

- Offer a choice of answers that covers all bases

Liberation and Leicester

Skills

What will you learn and develop in your role?

What skills will you gain as a Course Rep?

Assertiveness

Organisation

Team Work

Representing Others

Negotiation

Communication

Collating Information

Chairing meetings

Understanding EDI

Understanding minutes

Sitting on committees

Transferable Skills

- Transferable skills are something you would have heard about a lot in your time at university
- These are soft skills which once learnt in one role can be easily applied (or transferred) to another application
- These include (but are not limited to):
  - Communication
  - Team Working
  - Leadership
- It looks great on a CV and when applying for jobs to have lots of examples of where you have gained these skills - this is where your role can come in

How can you use these skills?

In your degree

- Great communication skills are really useful when working with your supervisor on your final year project!
- Excelling at team work is perfect to smooth over any problems in group assessments
- Reasoned arguments, weighing pros and cons, will help you to craft even better essays and analysis!

In your career

- Learning how to navigate formal meetings, and getting your point across, will make you more adaptable in a work environment
- Active Listening is always key in whatever career you choose – hearing others' views and being flexible is really important!
- Being able to organise your thoughts, ideas and time well will come in handy at work!
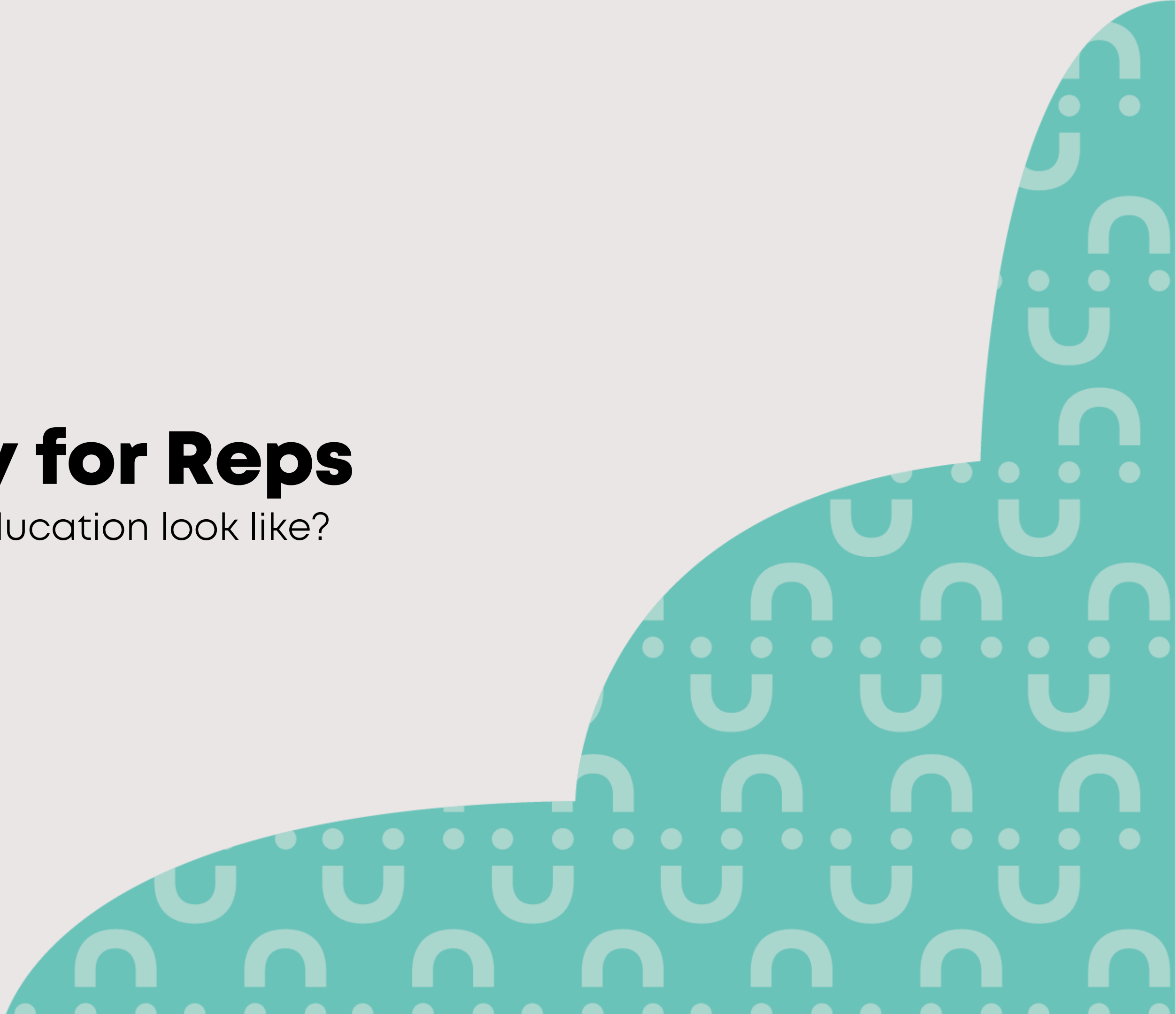
How can you use these skills?

These are just examples of how the skills you'll learn in the role will help you going forward – there will almost certainly be more ways the role will prepare you for whatever you do next, whether that be the end of your degree, further study, or employment!

Sustainability for Reps

What does sustainability education look like?

Top SDGs in Teaching

Reduced Inequalities

Peace Justice & Strong Institutions

Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure

Good Health & Wellbeing

What Do Students Want?
NUS sustainability skills survey 2022

- Universities should actively incorporate and promote sustainable development - 87%
- Sustainable development should be actively incorporated and promoted:
  - Within courses - 77%
  - Through placements or work experience - 85%
  - In coursework, projects or dissertations - 82%

How To Achieve This?

- Listen to student feedback, what do they want to get from their studies?

- Work with staff, how can they meet the needs of the students in this area?

- What support is needed from the University?

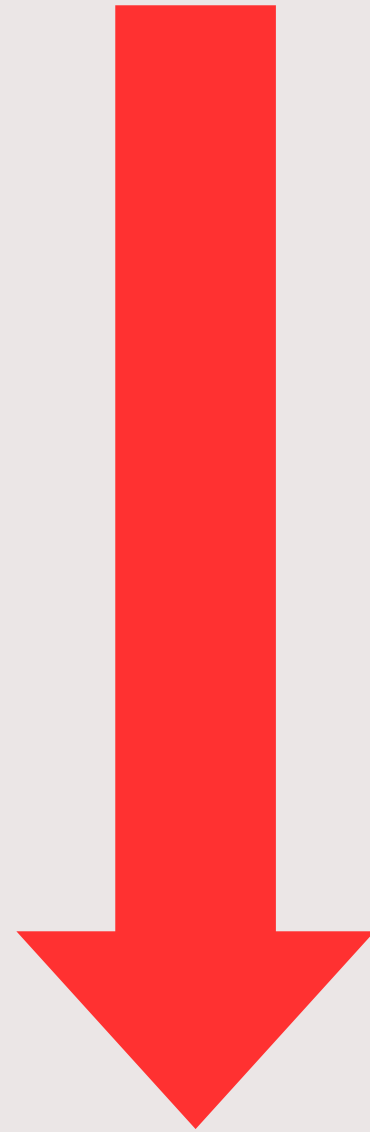- **You have an opportunity to highlight the need for more sustainable teaching**

TARGET **4·7**

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

What Does Sustainability Mean at UoL?

Reducing negative impact

- Carbon footprint
- Waste
- Water
- Sustainable procurement
- Emissions

Maximizing positive impact

- Socially responsible graduates
- Research impact
- Ethical investment
- Socially responsible employer
- Alignment to the SDGs

Sustainability Priorities for all Areas of the University

- Reduce unnecessary purchasing and resource consumption

- Energy demand reduction (saves carbon and money)

- Reduce travel emissions (commuting, business travel, field trips)

- Provide climate anxiety support for students and staff

- Increase biodiversity on campus and in Leicester

What can Schools do to Support Sustainability?

- Most departments have an Environmental Action Coordinator (EAC) to champion sustainability in their area
- EACs coordinate a Local Environmental Action Plan (LEAP) for their area across 5 themes
  - Energy
  - Travel
  - Purchasing & Resource Consumption
  - Curriculum & Research
  - Advocacy

Schools should be considering sustainability within decision making across teaching, research & operations

Carbon Literacy Training

- 8 hours worth of accredited learning

- Offers participants the knowledge and motivation to enable meaningful action on the climate crisis in their personal lives, at work and in the community

- Achieve a nationally-recognized certificate for your CV

- Sign up here:

Sustainability Network

- Student sustainability group working to mobilise sustainable change at the University and within the local community

- Join if you want to meet like-minded people
    - Email Reed James (Community and Wellbeing Officer) for more info

- Regular meetings both in-person and online

SEED Fund

- Funding for extra-curricular student sustainability projects

- Open to any student or society/group

- Operates via the sustainability network

- Applications close Friday 13th December

- Scan here to register your interest: