

# Reimagining Higher Education: journeys of decolonising

Wednesday 8 November 2023  
De Montfort University, Leicester UK

## Call for contributions

Many Universities are engaged in decolonising activities or are beginning to embark on this work, whether that be decolonising the curriculum, specific disciplines or taking a more holistic approach of decolonising whole institutions.

Decolonising DMU are inviting peers from across the sector to a free one-day conference to enable those engaged in this work and those embarking on it to reflect on our collective progress to date and to explore the direction we need to travel next.

We invite proposals from students and staff across the sector to contribute to a programme of sessions in various formats across the day.

We recognise that there is still much more work to be done and so will end the day with the development of a community pledge of decolonising, highlighting a continued commitment to embodying anti-racist principles.

We would like the widest possible range of contributions from individuals or groups, students and staff, professional services and academic colleagues. We are looking for contributions that broadly align with the following four themes:

1. Equity in Education and Research

Examples may include decolonising teaching, learning and research practices; decolonising student support; enhancing access; addressing awarding gaps; student experience; employability & careers; Trans-national education.

2. Progression, Talent and Representation

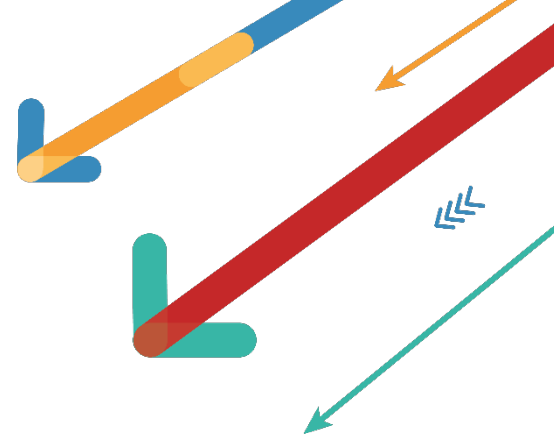
Examples may include decolonising career progression and development, increasing transparency and representation in staff and PGR recruitment.

3. Raising Awareness, Changing Culture and Behaviour

Examples may include creating an environment where conversations about race and racism are supported and progressed; developing an understanding of racism; developing skills to challenge racism; enabling inclusive cultures and inclusive spaces/places.

4. Governance and Accountability

Examples may include applying an anti-racist lens to policy review and governance structures; establishing corporate processes and systems to enable lived experience to be expressed and influence decision making.



If you'd like to contribute to the event, please send a summary (no more than 300 words) of what you'd like to do and the format your work will take (presentation/workshop/poster). Alternatively, you may send a 2-minute video to [decolonisingdmu@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:decolonisingdmu@dmu.ac.uk) by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.

If you'd like to discuss anything before sending us your ideas, please email via the email address above and we'll be happy to talk to you.

The event will be in person, but we will be recording sessions for people unable to attend. The event is free, although registration is required. Details of how to register will be made available in due course.

**Please circulate this invitation to your colleagues, staff or students. We'd like as many voices to be heard as possible.**

This event is hosted by Decolonising DMU which is De Montfort University's response to racial inequality within Higher Education. The project has been running since 2019 and takes a holistic approach to tackling racial disparity, working with professional services, academic staff and students. This conference will enable us to share our work to support others on their decolonising journey but it will also enable us to learn from other good practice across the sector so allowing us to further enhance our goal of becoming an anti-racist university.

Decolonising DMU is the framework through which all race equity work is undertaken at DMU and has enabled DMU to be the first University to be awarded a Silver for the Race Equality Charter in April 2023.

