

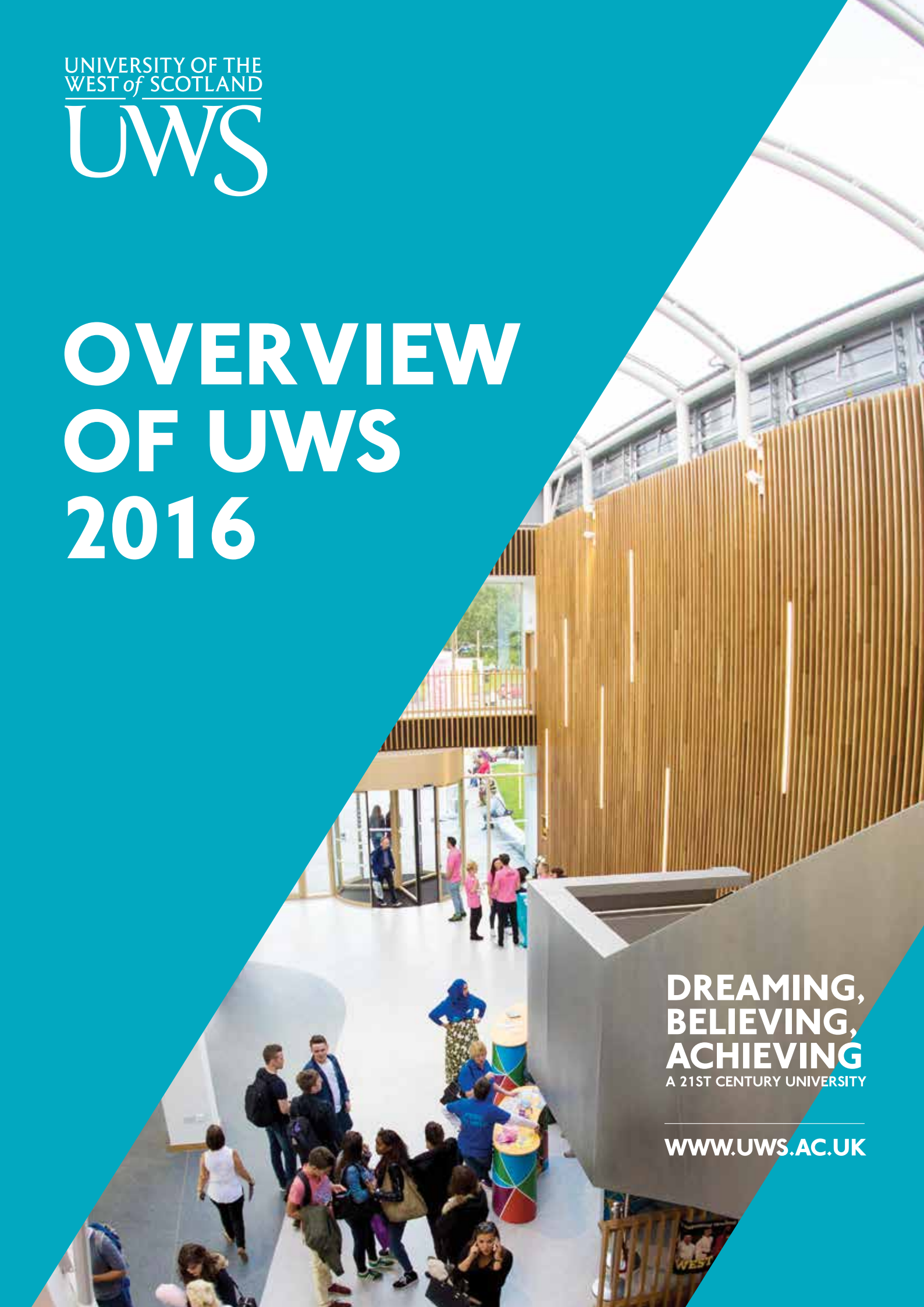
UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WEST of SCOTLAND

UWS

# OVERVIEW OF UWS 2016

**DREAMING,  
BELIEVING,  
ACHIEVING**  
A 21ST CENTURY UNIVERSITY

[WWW.UWS.AC.UK](http://WWW.UWS.AC.UK)





# UWS – An Overview

**At UWS, we believe in our students' future.**

**We have a proud record in delivering work-ready graduates and developing effective partnerships with business, industry and the public and voluntary sectors.**

**With our cutting-edge courses, practical knowledge, and intelligent teaching, we help our students get ahead.**

UWS, as one of Scotland's biggest modern universities with campuses in Ayr, Dumfries, Lanarkshire and Paisley, is the local university for over 30% of the population of central Scotland. It also has a growing national and international reach; its 5th UK campus opened in London in September 2015.

Through our innovative learning partnership we invest in people's potential to shape their future. Built on uniting students, professionals, industry and our communities, this partnership stretches from the West of Scotland around the world.

We believe in the transformative power of active learning and engagement. We treat our students as individuals, partners and potential leaders in their fields and professions, providing them with the globally relevant knowledge, skills and confidence to think critically and to challenge received wisdom.

Through the strengthening of our academic excellence and application of our academic expertise, we will significantly increase turnover, broaden income streams and contribute to the international development of knowledge.



We want students to come to UWS to enjoy a transformative, international learning experience that impacts fundamentally on their lives.

Find out more about UWS:  
[www.uws.ac.uk/corporatestrategy/](http://www.uws.ac.uk/corporatestrategy/)

# Creating a 21st Century Learning Environment

## NEW STUDENT FACILITIES

As part of our ongoing campus development work, 2015 saw the opening of a vibrant, technology-rich atrium area at the University's Paisley Campus. The project included a larger and more welcoming reception; new social learning and meeting spaces; and a coffee shop. Externally, new landscaping and street furniture creates a more inviting approach to the University from the town. New social spaces and touchdown points on campus in one of the main student thoroughfares, with bold, vibrant graphics and striking interior design, have also recently been completed. Additionally, work was carried out around the Library entrance to create new touchdown spaces and a vibrant, new canteen facility. Work is progressing on a new Hub model to support core student activities across the student life cycle including careers, international student support, effective learning, finance and IT.

## OUR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

A £12million investment programme in information, technology and digital services across our campuses will ensure our students and staff have access to state-of-the-art technology to facilitate learning and teaching, enhancing the overall staff and student experience.

### Ayr Campus

Our £81million state-of-the-art Ayr Campus development opened in August 2011, providing a truly innovative learning environment for students. Developed by UWS in partnership with Scotland's Rural University College it created one of the UK's most modern, environmentally friendly and sustainable Higher Education learning environments. It is a stunning space for study, featuring some of Scottish Higher Education's finest facilities with suites, studios and laboratories for performance, music, broadcasting, education and healthcare. New, on-campus student accommodation is also available.

### Dumfries Campus

Our beautiful Dumfries Campus is set in 80 acres of parkland and woods and overlooks the River Nith and the Galloway Hills. Dumfries Campus was Scotland's first multi-institutional campus with the site shared by two universities and one college (University of the West of Scotland, University of Glasgow, and Dumfries and Galloway College).

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## Lanarkshire Campus

In June 2016, University Court approved the business case for a new campus development in Lanarkshire. The new campus presents a transformational opportunity for UWS to develop a customised 21st century learning environment that will make a hugely significant contribution to the Scottish HE landscape and beyond. It will secure a much stronger presence for Higher Education in Lanarkshire, allowing the University to reprofile itself in a new location delivering an outstanding facility and HE experience. The development will provide a modern, state of the art campus that will significantly enhance the educational journey for our students, through the delivery of personalised and transformational Higher Education, as well as outstanding new opportunities for research and enterprise, outreach, university business engagement and significant economic benefit to the region. The new campus is scheduled to open in academic year 2017/18.

## Paisley Campus

Located in the centre of town, the campus occupies over 20 acres and is home to teaching spaces, lecture rooms, workshops and laboratories; as well as a library, students' union, and a range of student accommodation (with investment of £17.6 million in a new student residence and refurbishment of student flats in 2011-12).

## London Campus

After significant work in preparing for the opening of our 5th UK campus, in September 2015 approval was given by UKVI (UK Visas & Immigration) for our new London Campus. Located close to the centre of the city, in Southwark, our London Campus provides a base for delivery of UWS courses to a new market. Our DBA and MBA programmes launched initially, and were soon joined by a range of options from our School of Health, Nursing & Midwifery, with additional programmes in other disciplines including English language, creative industries, and quality management offered for delivery from September 2016.





# UWS Truths

At UWS we adhere to a set of truths  
in all that we do:

- // We are here for our students
  - // Our teaching is our passion, and it reaches to the future
  - // We understand that a graduate career is important to our students
  - // We are a knowledge-rich organisation
  - // We believe in partnership with business (private, public and global)
  - // We are an international university
  - // UWS is a great place to work and study
  - // We are an inclusive organisation that welcomes and values diversity
  - // UWS is a university that dares to be different
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# Research

**Pursuing “Research Excellence with Relevance” across three thematic global and regional challenges in Health, Society and Sustainability, the University offers exceptional opportunities for ambitious academics, and a dynamic fast-track environment for research. We proactively support and encourage a multidisciplinary approach to our research and enterprise activities. Our teaching and learning is influenced by leading research in the disciplines, well-preparing our graduates to face the challenges of the 21st century.**

At UWS, we openly embrace national and international partnerships, work closely with relevant industries and strive to develop enriching collaborations with our stakeholders.

In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) all of our submissions - double the number from the 2008 exercise - were ranked as having internationally excellent or world-leading status in terms of their originality, significance and rigour.

Our research outputs were particularly highly rated, with more than half of the submissions rated as three or four star, with four star signifying ‘world-leading’. Similarly, a large number of our impact categories across the wide-ranging disciplines were classed as three and four star, underlining our significant contributions to economic, social, cultural, environmental, technological, health and public policy both internationally and within our local regions.





# Living and Working in the West of Scotland

Scotland is a great place to live and work, with a high quality of life and a range of lifestyle benefits such as excellent value house prices, straightforward commuting and easy access to beautiful countryside.

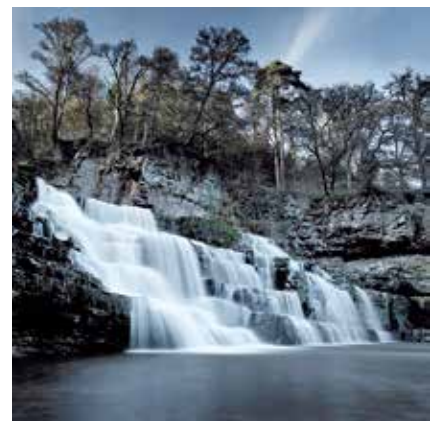
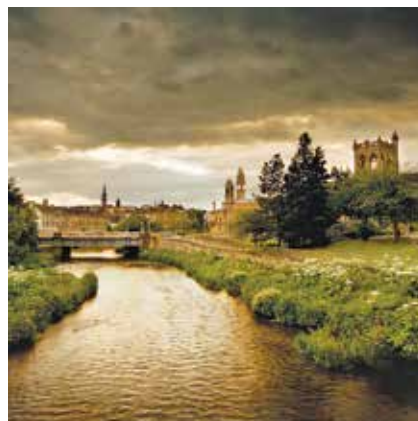
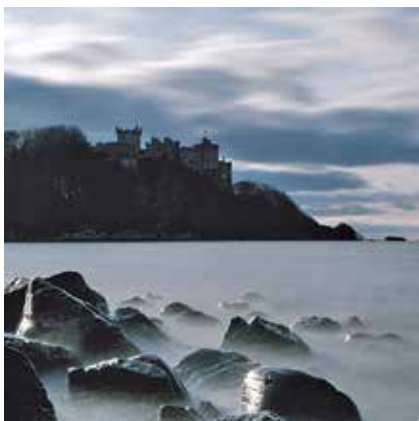
Our campuses in Ayr, Lanarkshire and Paisley are within close proximity to Scotland's largest city, Glasgow, with our Dumfries Campus a 90-minute drive south of the city. There are numerous smaller towns and villages within travelling distance of all of the campuses, so whatever style of living you prefer, you will find something to suit your needs.

Scotland offers a culture steeped in history, dramatic untouched scenery, bustling towns and cities and a world renowned education system. The west coast boasts some of the world's most stunning scenery and wildlife.

The town of Ayr is set among some of Scotland's most impressive scenery and looks out on the Firth of Clyde, with the peaks of Arran in the foreground and the Mull of Kintyre in the background. Packed with historical sites, Ayrshire's visitor attractions and cultural and leisure pursuits include unspoiled beaches and rolling hills, castles, a racecourse and, of course, golf courses. Burns and A' That, a major festival which takes place in June, celebrates Ayr's most famous son, Robert Burns.

Dumfries & Galloway is a region of rugged coastlines, sandy beaches and tranquil lochs; and has over 300 square miles of forest to explore, with the largest forest park in Britain; and in excess of 30 golf courses and driving ranges.

Our Lanarkshire Campus is located in Hamilton, close to a number of country parks and nature reserves such as Strathclyde Park. The cultural cities of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Stirling are nearby, and the beautiful scenery of the Clyde Valley and the Borders is within easy reach.



Paisley combines the heritage and history of the Paisley pattern shawl and the Victorian thread industry with cultural interests including the Museum and Art Gallery, the 12th century Abbey, a thriving youth theatre and the Spree Arts festival. Loch Lomond and the Trossachs are both easily accessible from the town.

Glasgow and Edinburgh are close to our campuses and offer excellent shopping, superb café culture, museums and galleries, world-famous music venues and international cuisine.

Travelling to and from our campuses is easy thanks to excellent road and rail links. Glasgow International Airport is on the outskirts of Paisley, and Prestwick International Airport is also easily accessible, being around 40 minutes away by road or rail from Paisley Campus; Prestwick is also just a 15-minute drive from Ayr Campus.



WE'RE PROUD TO HAVE RECEIVED  
NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR OUR WORK  
ACROSS A RANGE OF DIVERSE AREAS,  
INCLUDING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE,  
HEALTH, EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY AND  
THE ENVIRONMENT

- // **UWS officially recognised in the top 5% of universities worldwide** - Times Higher Education World Rankings 2016.
  - // **THE Leadership and Management Awards 2016** - shortlisted in the Outstanding Finance Team and Outstanding Departmental Administration Team (Welcome Team) categories.
  - // **Winner of the Herald Higher Education Awards 2016** in the 'Outstanding Employer Engagement' category and shortlisted in the 'Outstanding Contribution by a Student', and 'Outstanding Contribution to the Local Community' categories.
  - // **Athena SWAN Bronze Accreditation** received.
  - // **Awarded the European Commission HR Excellence Award.**
  - // **National Union of Students (NUS) Green Impact Gold Award** – won by UWS Students' Association reflecting student and staff dedication to positive environmental action over 2014-15.
  - // **THE Student Experience Survey 2015-16**  
4th most improved UK university.
  - // **The Times Good University Guide 2016**  
Education degree ranked 7th in the UK.
  - // **Scotland's Dementia Awards, 2015 shortlisting for UWS & Alzheimer Scotland**  
Shortlisted for best acute care initiative:  
Scotland's National Dementia Champions Training Team.
  - // **Destination of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) 2014/15**  
- 66% of UWS graduates in professional destinations 6 months after graduating (6th highest result in Scottish HE sector).
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UWS – for imaginative, independent thinking.

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