Jisc **Digital Student exemplars**
Enhancing the digital experience of students

Digital English for international students

This exemplar is relevant to Digital Student challenges:

Prepare and support students to study successfully with digital technologies
Ensure an inclusive student experience, using technology to overcome disadvantage

Last year, international students on a pre-sessional English Language course at the University of Glasgow Language Centre were offered a blended learning option – Digital English – instead of the traditional course. The purpose was still to help international students make a transition into academic study and writing in English, but an important subsidiary aim was to develop their digital literacy. Students acquired both language and digital skills through collaborative tasks focused on their identity, whether they chose to explore that through their family relationships, or through their academic or professional careers.

Telling their digital stories required a range of skills: reflective blogging, collaborative writing using Googledocs, commenting on other students' work, accurate referencing, sourcing copyright-free images, and projecting digital identities. Students were continually invited to draw links between these digital skills and other graduate attributes, especially independent and critical thinking, creativity, communication and collaboration. In addition, they gained confidence using academic English an a variety of spoken, written and hybrid contexts.

How does this meet the challenge?
- The course prepared international students for study in a convenient, accessible, mutually supportive environment.
- Language learning, digital skills development and academic development were addressed organically.
- Students undertake personal projects but linked to academic practices such as data analysis, referencing, peer review.

Find out more
- [Course home page](#)
- [University of Glasgow Graduate Attributes](#)

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