

# **Teaching and Learning**

**Strategy** 

2021 - 2025

## Introduction

Our core educational purpose is to deliver quality programs characterized by rigorous disciplinary depth and breadth, with a high level of direct interaction between faculty and students. In addition, we aim to contribute to a sustainable society and the local community by addressing their educational, cultural, social, and economic interests. We seek to create a secure, interactive, and prosperous environment where students are able to build and develop their knowledge, personality, leadership skills, and cultivate expertise in their field, foster a commitment to continuous learning, and build positive connections with individuals both within and beyond the academic community. This strategy aims to guide the university in creating an effective and supportive learning environment that fosters student success, engagement, and the attainment of our educational goals.

## **Strategic Priorities**

Our core values are the internal catalysts recognized by students, staff, and faculty as crucial motivators shaping our priorities. Collaboration, Diversity, Excellence, Integrity, and Sustainability are the foundations for us to address external challenges adeptly as well as to create a dynamic and inclusive learning environment that caters to the diverse needs of our community. The following are the main priorities for the current strategy of AAU:

- Implement a curriculum that allows for flexibility, enabling students to choose from a
  variety of courses and learning paths based on their different individual interests and
  career goals.
- Tailor teaching methods to address students' diverse academic backgrounds and abilities,
   providing additional support and challenges as needed.
- Establish a culture of **continuous improvement** by regularly evaluating the effectiveness of teaching methods, curriculum, and assessment strategies from different angles.
- Create a **supportive environment** where the students, staff, and faculty understand the value of honesty and integrity in their academic work.

 Provide students, staff, and faculty with ongoing training and support in leveraging technology for learning and teaching. This ensures that our community can proficiently use the latest tools and integrate them seamlessly into a sustainable learning experience.

# **Strategy Framework**

At the core of our mission lies a dynamic framework for learning and teaching aimed at creating an environment of academic excellence, student involvement, and continuous improvement. This comprehensive strategy is based on a dedication to student-centered learning, where active engagement and diverse learning approaches are embraced. We incorporate technology to enhance the experience, providing students with a flexible and contemporary learning environment. Collaboration and interdisciplinary approaches also define our approach, fostering an atmosphere that prepares students for the world's complexities. This framework, guided by a commitment to inclusive practices, ensures that our educational efforts align with our institution's overarching goals and mission, contributing to our students' development and our academic community's long-term success. The framework consists mainly of three strands:

## (1) Student-Centered Approach:

One of the principles guiding our approach is our commitment to placing students at the forefront. We recognize that when students are actively involved in their learning they have an opportunity to excel. That's why we prioritize techniques such as learning and active participation within our classrooms. Our goal is to establish an environment that fosters discussions, collaborative projects, and hands-on experiences that encourage thinking and independent exploration. We tailor our methods to each student's learning style and preferences promoting inclusivity and providing support throughout their journey. In doing this, we empower them to take ownership of their education leading not to academic achievement but also the cultivation of essential life skills.

## (2) Technology Integration:

Embracing the transformative power of technology is a fundamental element of our learning and teaching strategy. We are dedicated to utilizing innovative tools and platforms to enhance the

educational experience. Through the integration of technology, we provide students with access to a rich array of online resources, multimedia content, and collaborative tools. Blending traditional face-to-face instruction with digital platforms creates a dynamic learning environment accommodating diverse learning styles. This prepares students for the demands of the digital age and allows for greater flexibility in delivering content, engaging students, and fostering a global perspective within the academic community.

## (3) Collaboration and Interdisciplinary Approaches:

Our commitment to collaboration and interdisciplinary approaches is at the forefront of our educational philosophy. By promoting collaboration among students and between departments and disciplines, we aim to enrich the learning experience. Our strategy fosters the development of interdisciplinary projects and courses, fostering a holistic understanding of complex issues. Through collaborative endeavors, students are exposed to diverse perspectives and problem-solving techniques. This not only enhances their academic experience but also prepares them for the interconnected and collaborative nature of the professional world. Our emphasis on collaboration serves as a foundation for cultivating well-rounded individuals equipped to address the multifaceted challenges of the future.