



# Holistic Student Development Policy

January, 2025.



## **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to promote the holistic development of Universum International College students by supporting their academic, personal, social, ethical, and professional growth. This policy aligns student development initiatives with the Mission of Universum International College and with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to cultivate responsible, globally aware graduates committed to sustainable futures.

## **2. Guiding Principles and Values**

### **2.1 Student-Centeredness**

Programs and services shall prioritize the needs, identities, and aspirations of students while supporting inclusive and equitable learning environments (SDG 4: Quality Education).

### **2.2 Integrity and Ethical Conduct**

Students are expected to uphold honesty, fairness, and responsibility. Ethical decision-making is emphasized to promote peaceful and inclusive societies (SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions).

### **2.3 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

The university promotes equal opportunities, cultural respect, and inclusion for all students, in alignment with:

SDG 5: Gender Equality

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

### **2.4 Wellbeing and Compassion**

Holistic wellbeing — mental, emotional, social, and physical — is promoted to ensure student success and resilience (SDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing).

### **2.5 Community Engagement & Sustainability**

Students shall be encouraged to participate in community-based learning, sustainable practices, and environmental responsibility in line with:

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption

SDG 13: Climate Action

## **2.6 Lifelong Learning and Innovation**

Students are prepared to be lifelong learners and innovators who contribute to societal progress (SDG 4.7 Education for sustainable development & global citizenship).

## **3. Key Development Areas**

### **3.1 Self-Awareness and Personal Growth (SDG 4.4, 4.7)**

Students shall be supported to:

Explore personal values, identity, and purpose

Develop emotional intelligence and self-regulation

Engage in reflection, mindfulness, and mentoring

### **3.2 Academic & Intellectual Development (SDG 4: Quality Education)**

Universum International College provides opportunities for:

Critical thinking, research, and inquiry

Academic integrity and excellence

Interdisciplinary learning addressing global challenges

### **3.3 Professional & Career Development (SDG 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth)**

Students will build:

Workplace readiness, leadership, and digital literacy

Entrepreneurship and innovation competencies

Career planning aligned with sustainable labor-market needs

### **3.4 Social & Interpersonal Development (SDG 16 & SDG 17)**

Students will develop:

Collaboration, communication, and teamwork skills

Respect for cultural diversity

Conflict resolution & peer support leadership

Capacity for effective partnerships

### **3.5 Physical, Mental & Emotional Wellbeing (SDG 3)**

The university shall:

Support mental health access and wellbeing programs

Promote healthy lifestyle choices

Provide safe, inclusive campus environments

### **3.6 Ethical, Civic & Global Awareness (SDG 4.7, SDG 13, SDG 16, SDG 17)**

Students are encouraged to:

Engage in community service and volunteerism

Participate in sustainability initiatives

Develop understanding of global issues and SDGs

Practice ethical citizenship

## **4. SDG Integration Across the Curriculum**

University International College is committed to embedding SDGs into teaching, learning, research, and engagement by:

Including SDG topics in curricula, projects, and assignments

Supporting faculty development on education for sustainable development (ESD)

Encouraging student research addressing SDG challenges

Promoting campus-wide sustainability practices

## **5. Institutional Responsibilities**

### **5.1 Academic**

Integrate SDGs into courses, learning outcomes, and assessments

Promote interdisciplinary teaching linked to global challenges

Provide spaces for dialogue on sustainability, ethics, and innovation

### **5.2 Career and Wellbeing Center**

Offer programs enhancing mental health, wellbeing, and resilience

Facilitate workshops on SDGs, inclusion, and civic engagement

Guide students in creating SDG-aligned personal development plans

### **5.3 University Administration**

Allocate resources for Sustainable Development Initiatives

Ensure campus infrastructure supports SDG goals (energy, equality, accessibility)

Build partnerships with communities, NGOs, and industry to advance SDGs

## **6. Student Responsibilities**

Students are expected to:

Engage in holistic development initiatives

Participate in sustainability and community programs

Demonstrate ethical behavior, integrity, and compassion

Promote SDG values on campus and beyond

## **7. Implementation Strategies (SDG-Aligned)**

### **7.1 Annual Training & Orientation**

SDG introduction for all new students

Workshops on wellbeing, responsible citizenship, and inclusion

## **7.2 Co-Curricular Framework**

Activities aligned with each SDG:

SDG 3: Wellbeing campaigns

SDG 5 & 10: Inclusion initiatives

SDG 13: Climate action projects

SDG 4.7: Global citizenship activities

## **7.3 Community & Industry Partnerships**

SDG-focused internships and volunteering

Collaboration with sustainable enterprises and NGOs

## **7.4 Digital Tools**

Tracking competencies related to personal, academic, and professional growth

## **8. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The university will evaluate this policy through the following channels:

- Student wellbeing surveys (SDG 3)
- Tracking SDG-aligned academic projects (SDG 4.7)
- Participation rates in civic and sustainability initiatives (SDG 11, 13)
- Graduate employability and career outcomes (SDG 8)
- Annual SDG Progress Report for student development

**9. Policy Review and Amendment**

This policy shall be reviewed every three years to ensure continued alignment with Universum International College Mission and the evolving global Sustainable Development Goals agenda and student needs.

**10. Approval and Endorsement**

Approved by: Dr. Isabel Salvat: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: January 2025.

Next Review Date: January, 2027.

