

Academic Community Representative – Role Description

Academic Community Reps are student leaders within their School, representing a defined academic community (a group of related courses). In this role, you'll help ensure student voices within your community are heard, build a strong sense of belonging, and work with the School Rep to create positive change.

Academic Community Reps aren't the same as Course Reps. They are a middle layer of student representation, supporting and working alongside Course Reps while partnering with the School Rep to lead representation efforts across the School. Together, Academic Community Reps and the School Rep form the School's Student Academic Leadership Team.

As an Academic Community Rep, you'll be supported by the Students' Union staff team, who will help you engage students, gather insights, collaborate with Course Reps, deliver community-building activities, and contribute to meaningful improvements in both the academic and wider student experience.

Alongside making a difference for your fellow students, you'll gain valuable experience in leadership, communication, networking, stakeholder engagement, and influencing change, helping you stand out to future employers and professional bodies.

This role is best suited to students who already have experience of representing, supporting, or organising their peers. Whether you've been a Course Rep, served on an Academic Society committee, or built a strong network within the School, this role offers the opportunity to bring students together, influence decision-making, and help shape change at a School level, going beyond the collection of day-to-day feedback.

What's expected from you in this role?

- Represent students in your community by attending school or community-based meetings/forums relating to academic experience and student life.
- Engage with Students' Union democratic processes and opportunities to ensure your community is represented.
- Build good working relationships with your School Leadership Team and key staff members in your school.
- Encourage students to use the Student Voice Platform to raise feedback, suggest ideas and engage with other posts.
- Collaborate with other elected representatives and community leaders – particularly the School Representative to identify shared priorities across the school.
- Build a sense of community within your area by encouraging student connection, participation, and engagement through forums, activities and events.

- Support the delivery of actions and campaigns that improve the student experience in your School.
 - Work with course reps to escalate feedback and pass on major issues/themes to the School Rep
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What's expected from the Students' Union?

- To provide an informative induction and training programme, including key skills such as effective representation and community building.
 - Ongoing support from the Students' Union staff team.
 - Opportunities to develop leadership, communication, and influencing skills.
 - Provide flexibility to ensure you have a healthy work/life/study balance.
 - Provide access to facilities and resources that help you achieve your goals.
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Key Information

This is a voluntary, unpaid role.

Hours: Flexible: Approximately 2–3 hours per week.

Training & Induction:

Those appointed to the role are expected to engage with training and induction sessions. A strong induction is essential to your success, so we ask that you engage with these sessions before starting in post.

Length of Role:

Aligned with the School Representative term (finishes on 30th June).

Eligibility:

You must be a current University of Lancashire student within the School you are representing during the time frame above. You are only eligible to run within the Academic Community your course sits within.