# CAMPUS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

## EMPOWERING STUDENTS, CREATING LEADERS, TRANSFORMING INTERFAITH RELATIONS

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Are you looking for a leadership opportunity while at university that engages with faith, dialogue, and community building?

Do you want to create a culture at your university where people stand in solidarity against discrimination and intolerance?

Are you interested in building bridges and friendships between people of different faiths?

# WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION ON CAMPUS?

Over the past two or so years, and in light of global affairs, there has been a distinct shift on campuses with much increased tensions. Places and spaces that once were comfortable are no longer. Interfaith forums now look completely different or are non-existent. In many cases trust has been broken, and student voices aren't being heard by one another.

There have been distinct increases in both antisemitism and Islamophobia on campuses nationwide. We are extremely concerned about this, and the Campus Leadership Programme seeks to address this through building bridges.

We see a clear need for rebuilding meaningful interfaith spaces. Bridges need to be built between students of different faiths so that dialogue and increased understanding can blossom. The only real way to address this is to create spaces where we can listen and learn from one another.

Despite these heightened tensions on university campuses, interest and engagement in the Campus Leadership Programme has not waned. We have continued to bring together a diverse cohort of students from multiple faith backgrounds.

"At a time when communal relations have been threatened by such violent political crossfire, it is more important than ever to foster interfaith dialogue. Only with mutual compassion and understanding will we be able to live in harmony alongside each other - interfaith initiatives are a key forum in which this understanding can be achieved."
Noah - Leeds Campus Leadership Alumni 22/23

Student testimonial

# WHAT IS THE CAMPUS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME?

The Campus Leadership Programme gives students the skills and experience needed to create brave interfaith spaces that in turn will create social change and build a culture of inclusivity at their university. The programme empowers student leaders to form relationships across faith communities.

With training and mentoring by interfaith leaders, Campus Leaders are empowered to organise their own student led initiatives which are tailored to their local context. CCJ's Campus Leaders hold student led interfaith events throughout the year. These events bring together students from all faiths and beliefs and are made possible through the advice, contacts, support, and funding that CCJ provides.

Through this, students can tackle stereotypes, issues of religious hate and intolerance, and foster understanding at their universities while also becoming interfaith ambassadors. CCJ gives students a voice to share their experience as students of faith on campus. At the end of the year Campus Leaders join our Alumni Network equipped with the skills and networks to become interfaith ambassadors in their communities beyond university.

# WHAT DO STUDENTS GAIN FROM THE PROGRAMME?

## Develop Leadership Skills

Enhance your leadership capabilities with specialist training with interfaith experts, 1 to 1 mentoring and running an interfaith initiative at your university.

"This programme taught me how to be comfortable and handle conversations with sensitivity myself" Raquel, Leeds Campus Leadership Alumni 22/23

Student testimonial

## Resourced and empowered to stand against faith-based hate at university

Safely challenged in recognising forms of faith-based hate and knowing how to support those affected and call it out.

## Confidence in interfaith dialogue

Learn how to actively listen and collaborate well with others from different faiths and cultural traditions.

## Equipped with skills and experience to be an interfaith ambassador

Access to in-person residential with workshops and support throughout the academic year.

### Workshops include:

- Relationship building with ground rules.
- Communication
- Managing Difficult conversations
- Event planning and inclusive spaces
- Introduction to Israel/Gaza conflict
- Recognising faith-based hate and calling it out

"Seeing the diversity of faith backgrounds, even within the same religion, made me shift my focus on to how much diversity and plurality there is within interfaith" - Elie, Edinburgh Campus Leader 23/24

Student testimonial

## Gain valuable experience for beyond university

The Campus Leadership Programme has enabled alumni to progress in fields of chaplaincy, the charity sector, Holocaust education, politics, and postgraduate research into antisemitism to name a few.

# WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM CAMPUS LEADERS?

**What we expect from you. While this programme works alongside your university studies there's a few things we expect from our campus leaders by completion of the programme.**

**Attend the residential training:** this will be midweek in early September before university terms and freshers' weeks start.

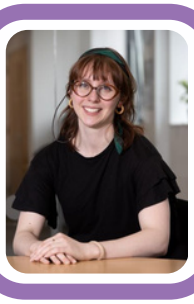
**Meet your mentor:** When accepted on the programme we will pair you with a mentor. We expect you to meet with your mentor once a term. They are there for support and for you to ask any questions about your upcoming events.

**Hold at least two interfaith events:** we expect our campus leaders to organise at least two interfaith events over the course of their programme. One in the autumn term and one in the spring term. Students are also welcome to host more than two events or a series of events!

**Write a blog/article/reflection piece:** Campus leaders will write a blog, article, thought or reflection about their event or a relevant theme. These will be shared across CCJs social media and in our regular newsletters to our members.

**Campus manager catch ups:** The campus managers will always be available for support and a chat but we will have more formal catch up calls once a term to check in on events and how the programme is going.

Beth B



Beth W

**"I loved the student training. I thought the sessions were excellent, and the schedule was great. The resources given were very useful and I feel that my confidence with interfaith has improved" - Han, Durham Campus Leader 23/24**

**Student testimonial**

# WHAT HAVE PAST CAMPUS LEADERS DONE?

We've had a huge variety of different types of events and initiatives held by our campus leaders some more educational, some social, some very specific to the climate of their campus. Here are just a few examples of events you could host on your campus:

## Interfaith Quiz

Our campus leaders in Durham celebrated interfaith week by hosting an interfaith quiz. They asked student faith societies to each send in a round of questions about their faith. Chaplains got involved acting as quizmasters a great example of collaboration.

## Interfaith Mixer

Students at Leeds hosted an interfaith mixer for staff and students. They had speakers from different faith traditions share about their faith and then moved into a social event with question prompts about faith around the room for people to in a casual and respectful environment get to know people of different faiths at the university.

## Women's Spaces

Our Cambridge campus leader saw the need for a women's interfaith space on campus and created the Women's spaces initiative. At the first meeting students engaged in speed faithing and questions around their faith and what they love about women's spaces in their individual faith traditions. Students also spoke about what they wanted the space to look like in the future so that the women's spaces initiative could continue.

## Interfaith Jenga

A creative activity we've seen student leaders host is interfaith Jenga. Campus leaders wrote questions on Jenga pieces such as 'What is your favourite thing about your faith?' and 'What is happiness to you?'. As blocks were taken from the tower students asked or answered the question on the block.

## Panel and Pudding

For interfaith week our Bristol campus leader hosted an interfaith Panel and pudding night. Members from different faith communities shared about their faith on a panel and answered questions from the audience. During the break cakes and sweet treats were shared which were made at an interfaith baking event previously in the week.

## Collaborative Meal

Campus leaders in Edinburgh hosted a collaborative weekday meal with the Catholic students union and the Jsoc. They made sure that it was an inclusive and welcoming space to meet new people and make friends from a different faith ensuring the meal was fully kosher and accessible for those attending.

# FAQS

**I'm a busy student, how will I find time to fit this in?**

The minimum expectation is for you to participate in training and run one interfaith event per term on campus during term time. There is flexibility as to when you run the event during the term to fit with your course and other commitments. Alternatively, if you have more time and would like to run more events or a series, that is also great!

**Do you have to be a Jew or a Christian to take part in the programme?**

No, this programme is open to students from all faith backgrounds.

**When does the programme run?**

The programme runs for 1 year during term time alongside your university studies.

**Who can take part in the programme?**

Undergraduate and Postgraduate students from all UK universities.

**I'm interested in interfaith but I don't know where to start**

Don't worry we provide training in how to host your own interfaith events as well as a mentor and individual support.

**I have got a different question that hasn't been answered**

We would love to answer your question, please do get in touch on Instagram- @campusleadershipccj or by emailing us on campusleadership@ccj.org.uk

# Contact us:

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Sign up to our interest form to keep up to date on all things campus leadership, including when applications for our next cohort open!