A Principal's Teaching Award Scheme (PTAS) Theme Highlight: Teaching Large Classes

Every year, we invite proposals about innovation and research in higher education. Grant proposals can be for small (up to £2,500) or regular projects (£2,501 to £18,000) that will enhance student learning at the University of Edinburgh.

In the 2023/24 academic year, we would like to **highlight** the theme of **Teaching Large Classes**. This is an important consideration for the institution-wide Curriculum Transformation Project, relevant to teaching within disciplines (particularly in 1st and 2nd year undergraduate teaching) and the introduction of cross-disciplinary 'Challenge' courses likely to run with large numbers of enrolments (200-500+). This PTAS theme provides an opportunity for a closer look at how we teach in large classes.

Relevant areas of interest and questions about **Teaching Large Classes** may include (but are not limited to):

- Active learning techniques in lectures with >100 students
- Managing group and paired activities in large classes
- Adapting assessment and feedback strategies to the large class format
- Maintaining student community and sense of belonging in the large class format
- Blended or hybrid learning with large class formats
- Student agency and voice in large class formats
- Supporting tutors, demonstrators, and lecturers in the large class teaching ecosystem
- Responding to student inquiries and tracking progress in large classes
- Monitoring quality and consistency in large class formats
- Curriculum design teams and large class formats
- Creating the sense of a small class in large class formats

We encourage staff across the disciplines and service areas to come together and propose exciting and feasible projects that will expand our knowledge, expertise, and capabilities in providing engaging learning in the large class format. There is an existing wealth of knowledge and expertise in the literature on teaching large classes that we hope projects will take advantage of. We particularly invite collaborations with learning technology experts who can support the teaching of large classes with educational technology solutions and projects that focus on multi- and cross-disciplinary topics.