

University for the Common Good

Brand identity

Practical information for maintaining consistency in the GCU brand

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Introduction

We are evolving the brand's visual identity to better reflect our core mission of being the University for the Common Good.

The logo has changed colour to a deeper blue and there are a few other changes detailed within this document.

It's still important that we adhere to one look and feel and are consistent with our messages. We will be phasing out the use of the Brighter Futures strapline and replacing with University for the Common Good. This will be used across all areas of the University.

At GCU we communicate with a lot of people, in a variety of different ways. Everything we do and say sends out a message to the people around us. These guidelines will help to ensure that whether you are speaking to students, corporate partners, business contacts or community groups, they all receive a consistent message about GCU.

The common good is at the heart of everything we do. We need to express this in an inspiring and dynamic manner, capturing the benefit for each of our audience groups. Our values are integrity, creativity, responsibility and confidence.

The guidelines will lead you through our tone of voice, use of the University for the Common Good brand proposition, colour palette and imagery: the elements that make up a brand. If we all use these, collectively and consistently, the GCU brand will be stronger and clearer. You'll also find templates and resources which will help you.

1.1 Primary logo

The full-colour brand mark is the preferred logo and is to be used whenever possible.

To ensure prominence and legibility, the full-colour logo is always surrounded by an area of clear space, which remains free of other design elements such as text and other logos.

There is an exclusion zone around the logo, equal to the cap height of the 'G' in GCU. The minimum size for the logo is 30mm wide.





1.2 One-colour logos

If you are unable to use the preferred full-colour logo, then either the one-colour white or black logo may be used. The white logo can be used on a dark or solid colour, or a dark area of an image or photograph.

The black version can be used on mono materials or where particularly bold background colours compete with the full-colour logo.

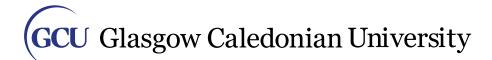




1.3 Web logo

The web version of the logo may only be used on the GCU website.

Permission to use it for other projects must be obtained from the Marketing team.



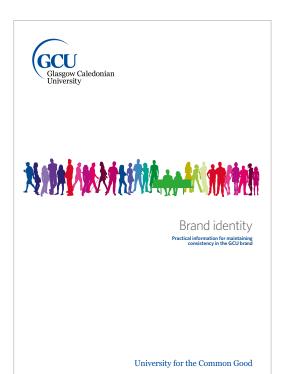
1.4 Logo with strapline

You will see across the new stationery suite that the logo has been combined with the line University for the Common Good.

Further guidelines around when and how to use the line is given on page 06 and in the examples featured.



University for the Common Good





University for the Common Good



University for the Common Good

1.5 Sub-identities

GCU has a limited number of secondary logos, these sub-identities represent the different campuses and strategically important organisational units. It is important that we don't dilute our brand mark by having too many secondary logos. A sub-identity should reflect what we deliver as an organisation to our external stakeholders.



Occasionally permission may be given for the identity of a organisational unit or service to have a dedicated logo. Please contact the Marketing team in this instance.

So as not to dilute our brand, the following logos should be used by the schools and research institutes in most instances.













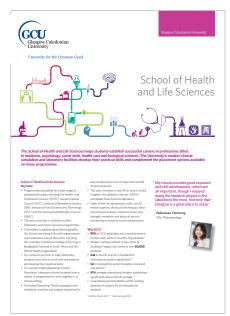
In some circumstances, it will be appropriate for the schools and research institutes to use their own GCU mark. The preference is to lead with the above example, however in some instances, such as specialist conferences or sector specific work, it may be appropriate to use the school or research institute brand marks after consultation with the Department of Marketing

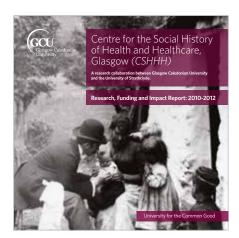
All requests for departmental or project logos must be directed to the Marketing team approval.

For more details and a copy of the logo request form, please visit: www.gcu.ac.uk/brand

The University has a number of different subjects, research groups and services, each requiring to produce materials externally and internally. For this, titles should be used to identify the group/service as illustrated in the following examples.

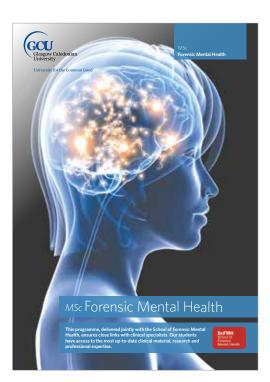






1.6 Partner Branding

We know how much work is undertaken with partner institutions. The GCU logo may be used with others in these circumstances. Weighting should be judged upon the nature of the partnership e.g. joint = 50:50 sizing ratio.



1.7 Use of the 'University for the Common Good' strapline

'University for the Common Good' is our brand proposition and will be used as a new strapline. This will be used on relevant materials and placed under the GCU logo where possible, or in the bottom right hand corner if the former is too busy/crowded. In circumstances where the main title or heading of the piece of collateral contains the 'Common Good' wording, the strapline may be placed on the bottom right on the back (where relevant) or failing that, bottom right on the front.

University for the Common Good

The strapline uses the font Georgia Regular.

The strapline should be used across all materials from those targeting key stakeholders (research activity and funders, government engagement, partnerships, business engagement and other areas of core work) as well as with each of our student groups (existing, potential and alumni).

When we use it, we use it as a sign off to the communication. Please see some examples in the following pages. For best practice and advice please contact the Marketing team.

1.8 GCU crest

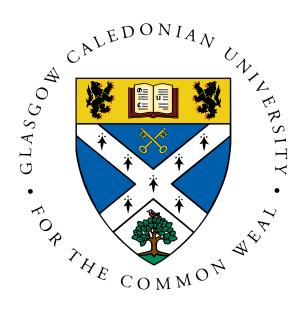
The GCU crest is only to be used on material for official occasions and ceremonies as the 'seal' of the University, as well as the official redesigned stationary. We may also on occasion also use the crest for corporate materials where appropriate.

Permission must be obtained to use the crest from the Department of Marketing.

The white version of the crest is to be used on a solid colour, or on a photograph on a dark area.

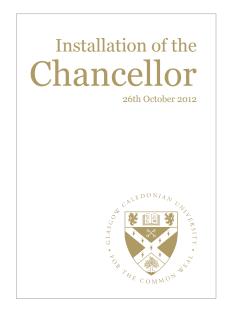
The black version can be used on mono publications on a white or pale background.

For executive, ceremonial and some corporate materials, gold or silver foil can be used for text and details.









2. Typography

2.1 Primary typeface in all marketing materials

Whitney is the primary font and should be used in all promotional and corporate material such as brochures, signage and advertising. Headlines should use Whitney Light, with body and supporting copy in Whitney Book. Any copy that requires more prominence, such as titles or headlines should use semi-bold. The default font size is 9pt. A larger font size, may be utilised for one off pieces, if requested by a member of the public for reasons of accessibility (as well as in other formats if required). The only exceptions are the GCU logo and strapline, which both utilise Georgia. In all other occasions, Whitney should be used unless prior approval has been provided by the Marketing team.

Whitney Light
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890

Whitney Light Italic
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
1234567890

Whitney Book ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 1234567890

Whitney Semibold ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 1234567890

The primary typeface may be in black, however grey or 70-80% black is preferable.

For accessibility reasons, block capital letters or underlining should not be used (including headings). Feature text e.g. subheadings, quotes or introduction text can be accented using a different weight, size and/or colour (chosen from the spectrum).

The default colour for weblinks is 100% cyan.

2.2 Internal/online typeface

Arial 11pt should be used in materials produced internally without the use of professional services, such as emails, Word documents and PowerPoint slides.

Arial Regular ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 1234567890

Arial Italic

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

1234567890

Arial Bold ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 1234567890

Body copy text may be black or grey. If a colour theme has been chosen for the headers, web address etc, these can be highlighted in a single colour. If a colour has not been adopted the GCU blue is to be used to highlight these aspects.

3. Tone of voice

Our voice

Our tone of voice is how we speak across all of our communications. It is an important element of communicating who we are, so it should reflect GCU as friendly, personable and accessible. The tone will vary with the audience and content of the copy.

Keep it simple

We are all for plain English. Sentences should be short and simple. Remember, sometimes language we think is simple and self-explanatory can often be complicated to readers with a different level of understanding. So try to simplify what you are talking about, and try not to use abbreviations or jargon.

Be direct

Try to involve your reader in what you are saying. Writing in the second person is always preferable to the third. The thrust of GCU communication is about giving the students who attend here, the people who work here and the community we are part of, a brighter future. We must be inspiring in what we say and how we say it.

Keep it human and friendly

Be friendly and conversational, but not over familiar. Please keep in mind who your audience is, for example, material for undergraduates will be the lightest tone of voice; postgraduate a more academic vocabulary and a more studious tone; and for corporate focused collateral a more business like tone should be adopted.

Keep it interesting

The subject matter should be written with the reader in mind. Keep it as relevant and interesting for the audience as possible, using language appropriate to your reader. Wherever possible, in sales and marketing materials, describe both the features and benefits, and how this will help support a promising future.

4. Colour palette

4.1 Primary colour

We have developed a colour palette for GCU. All communications, externally or internally must only use colours from this palette.



In addition to the GCU blue primary colour, we have introduced a range of secondary and tertiary colours to underpin our brighter futures proposition. These colours may be used as background colours for print materials, such as posters, and as a means of differentiating subject groups and programmes. The effect should be bright and inspiring, without clashing or being gaudy.

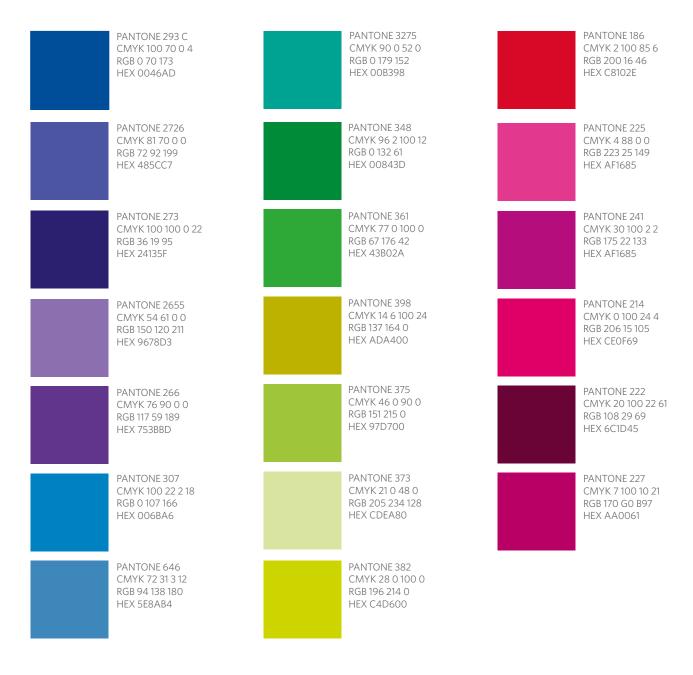
4.2 Executive colours

For executive or luxury materials, gold or silver foil can be used for text and details.

4. Colour palette

4.3 Secondary colours/colour palette

This selection of colours can be used on a range of materials including leaflets, posters, display panels and exterior materials (i.e. banners). They should be used in conjunction with the primary GCU blue (Pantone 293C) – it is vital that material is consistent in the use of colour.



5. Imagery

Photography is a powerful tool to present GCU as a modern university. Imagery should convey the message you are trying to communicate and be relevant to the audience.

Try to select imagery that symbolises or helps to demonstrate the appropriate course/subject, whilst ensuring that it is engaging, interesting and identifiable by the audience.

Colour also plays a key part in all GCU imagery. It should feature as a major theme in an image eg a large panel of colour projected into the image or general colour of objects, or conversely as accents present in the image eg water in test tubes or items of clothing. This will make the images brighter/more interesting.

















6.1 Brand flexibility

Flexibility is a key to our brand – the look and feel of material can be adapted depending on the audience it is designed for. For example, our undergraduate campaigns differ to our postgraduate – as does our engagement with business. Please see the samples below for a snippet of the versatility of the brand.

Undergraduate

Our undergraduate material is vibrant, modern and has a youthful edge to it.



Undergraduate Open Days

Wednesday 2nd September, 10am – 4pm Saturday 3rd October, 11am – 3pm

Register online at www.gcu.ac.uk/opendays



Postgraduate

For our more mature student audience we dial down the brand to reflect the more serious nature of postgraduate study.

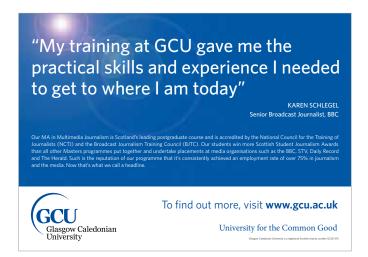
We should use the new corporate blue alongside the darker, complimentary tones of the brand palette, for example Pantone 222 or Pantone 273 across PG advertising and materials.



Subject specific

For subject specific adverts, we can adapt our style, pushing the unique selling points of the programme. For this, copy should not exceed 150 words. Please contact the Marketing team for more details.

Across all materials however, the GCU logo and strapline remain to offer a consistent overall GCU brand.





GCU offers Masters programmes for health practitioners looking to specialise and develop their leadership skills. Study for one year at an internationally recognised modern university in the UK.

We offer Masters programmes in: • Public Health

- Biomolecular and
- Biomedical Science
- Clinical Microbiology Food Bioscience
- Glasgow Caledonian University
- Clinical Nutrition and Health
- Clinical Onhthalmic Vision Research
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Diabetes Care and Management

University for the Common Good

To find out more, visit www.gcu.ac.uk/mehealth



Digital

Digital adverts can similarly use the undergraduate or postgraduate style as appropriate.

Videos may also be developed in line with our new brand style. For further details please contact the Marketing team.





6.2 Business

Our business communications are targeted at a different market and as such require a more, dare we say it, business-like approach. To achieve this look, the colour palette will be reduced to the blue tones. The GCU Business logo should be used when appropriate alongside the University strapline.







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If you are looking to develop something different to what you have seen previously used by GCU, do not hesitate to contact the Marketing team and they can advise you in the creation of a look and feel in keeping with your audience.

6.3 Brand elements

A few simple elements form the basis of layouts to provide a clean, clear and consistent approach.

Example: Approved programme flyer template

Block colour



Transparent colour boxes: The colour theme should be chosen from the colour palette to best compliment the tones in the imagery. These should not be used over an individual or on an excessively busy image but rather in a quiet area to promote an overall clean look and feel.

Subject specific imagery

High contrast between logo and background with logo always placed in a quiet area

The strapline should feature below the logo, where there is room to comfortably do so. If this is not possible, it should be placed on the bottom right or back, whichever is quieter.

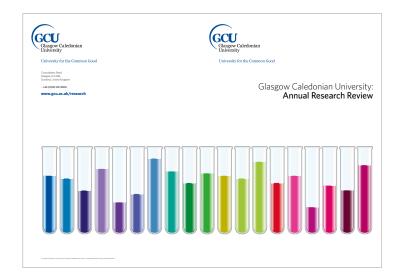


6.3 Brand elements

Photography should be bold, bright, colourful and subject related. The spectrum colours used in the design should complement the tones of the images used.

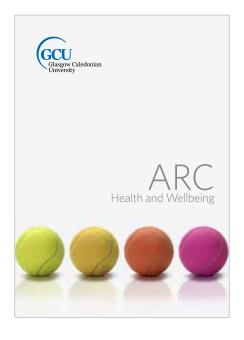
All materials should utilise the brand colours, whether through photography, block colours or through a specially designed creative device. For further guidance on this, please contact the Marketing team.

Corporate materials should be clean and fresh, incorporating lots of white space and large strong, light images. Black backgrounds should be avoided.



Individual departments/services may develop a creative solution, using the brand palette, which can be utilised within the majority of their materials – however this should not be used as an identity, in place of a logo, nor would they be limited to using this within all of their brochure ware etc. This may be helpful in building the recognition of your service, department or group. NB the device should not be used in black and white as this defeats the purpose of it's function.

Powerpoints, business cards, email signatures and letterheads **should not** feature creative devices but instead use the standard University wide template (see sections 7.1, 7.2, 7.5 and 8.1 for more details).

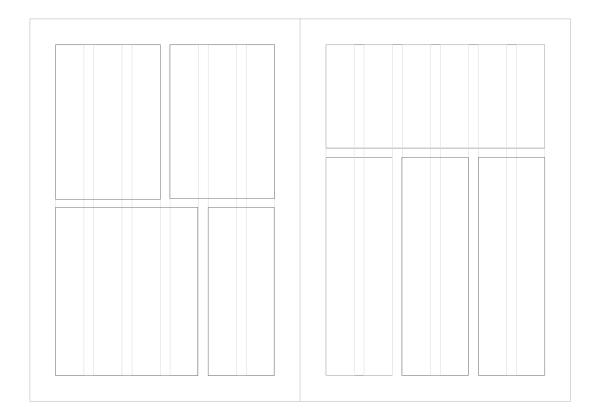






6.4 Column layout

Using a six column layout allows for flexibility in copy positioning. It is important to avoid cluttering or over-filling the page, making use of white space in a clean and bright design.



Social Sciences BA (Hons)

The social sciences programme aims to stimulate students' curiosity about the constantly changing world in which we live.

It explores how societies function and looks at the institutional frameworks which underpin them, examining issues such as crime, immigration, gender, consumer culture, human rights, and the environmen

There are opportunities for students to undertake placements and the programme has exchange agreements with seven US and three Canadian institutions. There is an exchange agreement with



(Highe/A Level/ILC-H).

FE college students: Contact us or visit www.gcu.ac.uk/study for a copy of our College Student Supplement.

International students: This programme accepts applications from international students. Please see the International Students pages for further details.

Work International Company Type of Company Type

38

Mode of study: Full or part-time (day).

International Tourism Management/ International Hospitality Management

Tourism generates £4 billion annually for the Scottish economy, whilst hospitality is the UK's fifth largest industry directly employing more than 2.4 million people.

The Moffat Centre for Travel and Tourism at GCU is one of the UK's most established University-based travel and tourism consultancy and research centres.

Students will benefit from an industyle Mading academic team and real file case studies that add significantly to the learning experience.

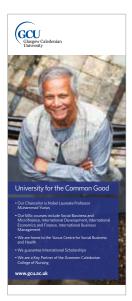
Colour flickbook corner

6.5 Pop-up banners

Banner stands are a key part of our promotional material. It is important that the content is simple, confident and makes an impression.

Keep the design simple and clean. Use one strong image or colour for the background and minimal copy.











6.6 Branding the campus

Using the campus to deliver our message is an elegant, cost effective solution that has the added benefit of making a rather grey group of buildings a platform for bright, lively, provocative messages.

The material uses one colour only from the colour palette and the Whitney typeface to create bold, graphic messages.



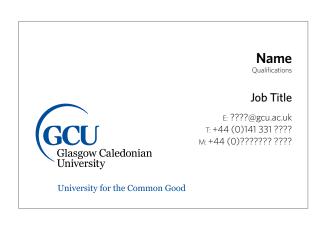
7. Stationery and emails

7.1 Letterhead

This is the standard letterhead that should be used. It should not be amended or adapted in any way. For any further guidance on this, please contact Marketing and Communications.



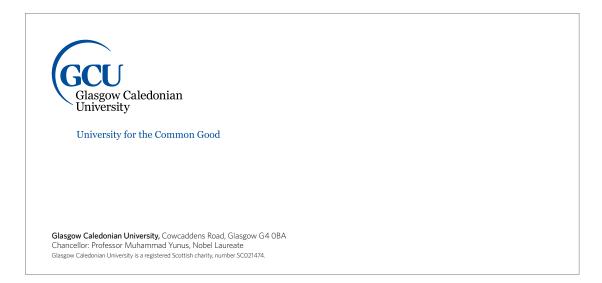
7.2 Business card





7. Stationery and emails

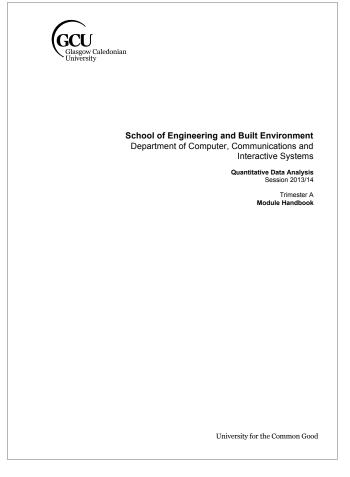
7.3 Compliment slip



7.4 Report and Module Handbook templates

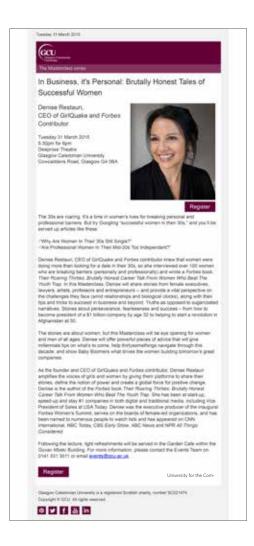
Templates are available for staff to download and use for reports, signage and module handbook covers. As the latter tends to be photocopied in bulk, we have also provided a black and white version, so as not to unnecessarily increase costs. For more details, please visit: www.gcu.ac.uk/brand

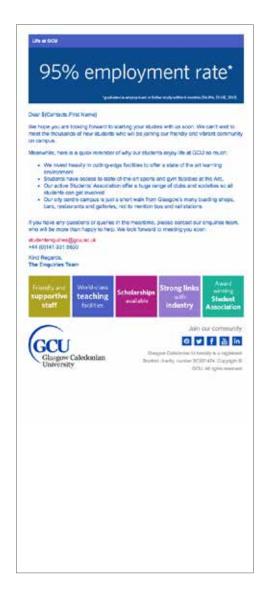




7. Stationery and emails

7.5 Email templates





7.6 Email signature

Instructions on how to download this email signature template can be found here www.gcu.ac.uk/brand

Name Qualification Job Title | Department / School

T: +44 (0)141 331 #### | F: +44 (0)141 331 #### | E: name.name@gcu.ac.uk Glasgow Caledonian University, Cowcaddens Road, Glasgow, G4 0BA, Scotland, United Kingdom

W: My research/website profile



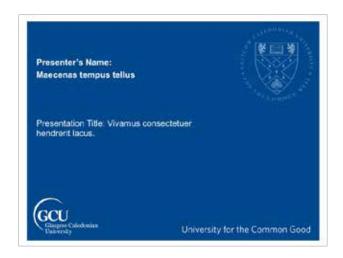
University for the Common Good

8. PowerPoint guidelines

8.1 PowerPoint

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We have introduced a clean, bright and modern look to PowerPoint presentations. The presentation typeface is Arial as it is available on almost all computers. Below we have shown several examples of layouts that may be used or adapted to work with your presentations. It is possible to introduce secondary colours to create more variety if neccessary. Our PowerPoint template is available at: www.gcu.ac.uk/brand (we have two templates available, one with the 'University for the Common Good' strapline and one without).





Section title - Duis autem vel eum iriure Section subtitle - qui blandit praesent luptatum zzril Section paragraph - Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Stet clita kasd gubergren, no sea takimata sanctus est Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet.

