



CGCS

CENTRE FOR GLOBAL
CITIZENSHIP STUDIES



→ COURSE GUIDE 2026

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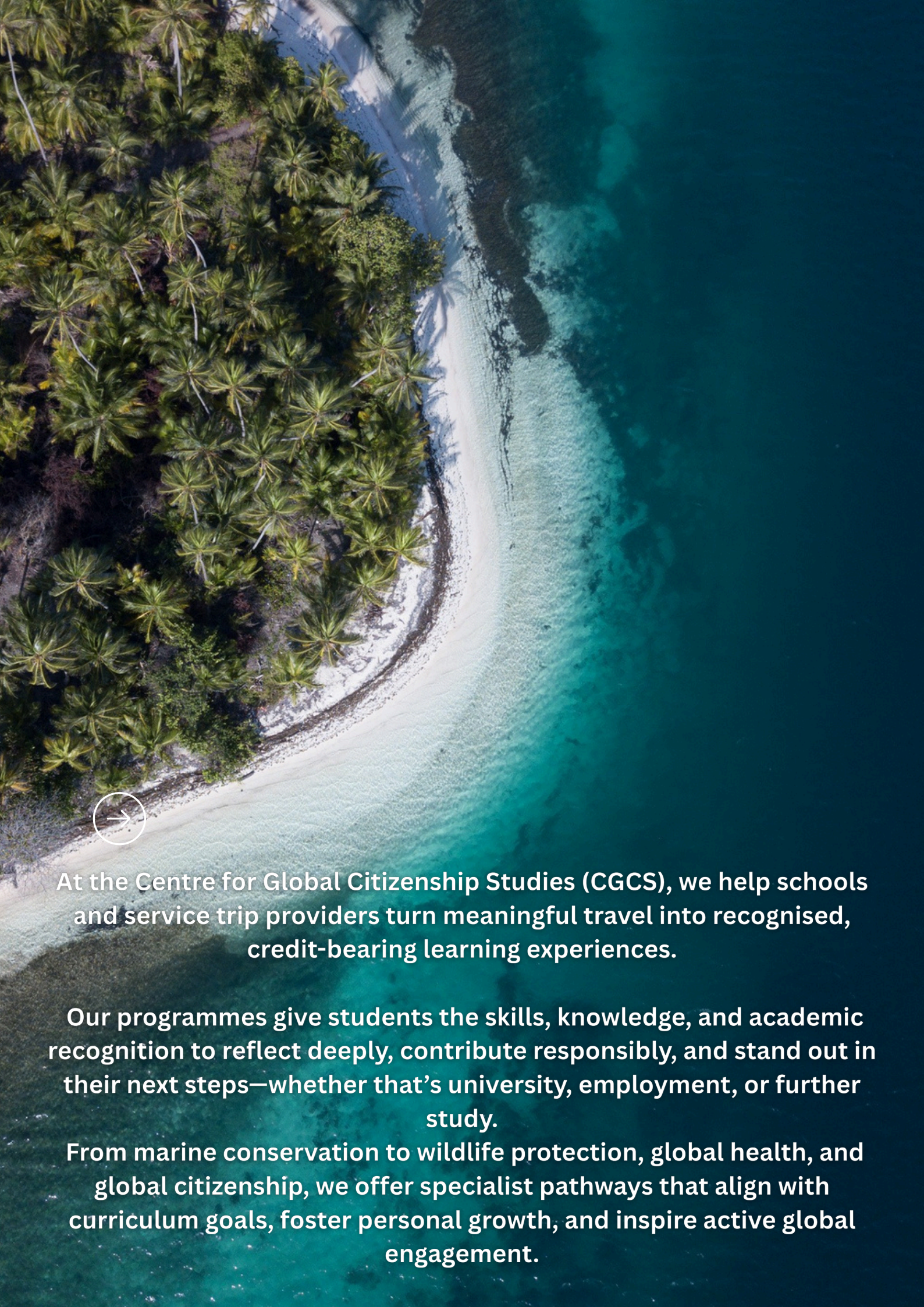
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JOIN US ON A JOURNEY OF IMPACT





At the Centre for Global Citizenship Studies (CGCS), we help schools and service trip providers turn meaningful travel into recognised, credit-bearing learning experiences.

Our programmes give students the skills, knowledge, and academic recognition to reflect deeply, contribute responsibly, and stand out in their next steps—whether that’s university, employment, or further study.

From marine conservation to wildlife protection, global health, and global citizenship, we offer specialist pathways that align with curriculum goals, foster personal growth, and inspire active global engagement.

Why Choose CGCS?

At the Centre for Global Citizenship Studies (CGCS), we turn meaningful travel into recognised learning. Our qualifications add structure, reflection, and academic credit to experiences that already matter—so students don't just go; they grow, and they can prove it.



Impact with accountability:

Locally-led projects, clear learning outcomes, and assessed reflection.



Recognised qualifications:

Ofqual-regulated UK diploma with global credit pathways (US & Europe).



Built for progression:

Evidence students can use in University personal statements, college apps, recognised learning and job interviews.



Flexible by design:

Online, asynchronous modules that fit around trips, timetables, and real life.



What Our Students Say

Our students come from across the globe, united by a shared passion for making a difference. Here's what some of them have to say about their experience with our programmes:



Emily R., USA

"This program took my passion for the ocean to a whole new level. From conducting underwater surveys on coral reefs to working alongside marine biologists, the hands-on experience in the Marine Conservation specialism was incredible. Seeing the direct impact of our work on the local marine ecosystem was the highlight. I gained new skills, great friends, and a deeper understanding of marine conservation."



Marine Conservation



Sofia M., Italy

"The Wildlife Conservation specialism was a dream come true. I spent my placement in a national park, tracking endangered species and helping restore habitats. The course content was thorough, and the fieldwork was both challenging and rewarding. The best part was knowing that my efforts contributed to protecting the wildlife I care about."



Wildlife Conservation



Liam K., UK

"The Global Citizenship specialism opened my eyes to the interconnectedness of global issues like poverty and climate change. Working on projects that made a real difference in local communities was empowering. The program taught me not just about global challenges but also how to be part of the solution. It was a life-changing experience."



Global Citizenship





Introducing Our Specialist Tracks

Everyone's passion is unique, so we offer a range of specialist tracks to match different interests and career goals. Each track is designed to give you the expertise and experience to make a meaningful impact in the area that matters most to you.

Marine Conservation



Dive into a World of Adventure!

If the ocean calls to you, then our Marine Conservation specialist track is the perfect fit. You'll explore the depths of marine ecosystems, learn about the threats they face, and get hands-on experience in protecting our planet's most precious resource—its water.

Learning Outcomes

- Grasp fundamental marine conservation concepts and terminology.
- Develop practical skills for fieldwork, data analysis, and conservation strategy.
- Understand the importance of MPAs and other conservation tools in managing marine resources.
- Build effective communication skills to advocate for marine conservation.

Program Highlight

Imagine diving into the crystal-clear waters of the Great Barrier Reef, conducting research that could help save this natural wonder. With CGCS, that dream can become a reality!

What Will You Learn?

- **Marine Ecosystems:** Explore coral reefs, the Great Barrier Reef, and other marine habitats. Understand the importance of biodiversity and the delicate balance that sustains these ecosystems.
- **Conservation Techniques:** Learn the skills you need to contribute to marine conservation, from conducting scientific surveys to restoring habitats.
- **Resource Management:** Understand the conflicts over marine resources and learn how Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) can help preserve the ocean for future generations.



Wildlife Conservation

Roar with Passion for Wildlife!

Are you passionate about protecting the world's incredible wildlife? Our Wildlife Conservation specialist track will take you into the heart of nature, where you'll learn how to protect endangered species and preserve their habitats.

What Will You Learn?

- **Biodiversity and Ecosystems:** Explore the diverse ecosystems that support wildlife, from rainforests to savannas, and understand the roles these environments play in maintaining biodiversity. **Wildlife Protection:** Learn
- about the strategies used to protect endangered species and how to implement them in the field. **Community Engagement:** Discover how to work with
- local communities to promote conservation and address the challenges of human-wildlife conflict.

Learning Outcomes

- Gain a deep understanding of wildlife habitats and the species that depend on them. Develop practical skills in habitat restoration, species monitoring, and community education.
- Understand the complexities of wildlife conservation, including the legal and ethical considerations.
- Learn to communicate effectively with diverse stakeholders to promote wildlife conservation.

Program Highlight

Picture yourself tracking lions in the African savanna, working alongside experts to ensure these majestic creatures can thrive in the wild. That's the kind of adventure CGCS offers!

A woman with dark hair and glasses, wearing a white lab coat over a yellow sari, stands and speaks to a group of people. She is gesturing with her hands. In front of her is a table covered with a patterned cloth, holding various medical supplies like syringes and containers. The background shows a rustic building with a thatched roof and a wall with some text in a local script.

Global Health

Improve Lives, One Community at a Time!

Picture yourself leading a health workshop, supporting prevention campaigns, or assisting a rural clinic—knowing your efforts are part of a global movement for healthier futures. That's the impact of the Global Health specialist track!

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the role of public health in improving quality of life.
- Analyse the social, cultural, and environmental determinants of health.
- Apply health promotion strategies in community-led initiatives.
- Evaluate the ethical considerations of volunteering in health settings.

Program Highlight

Picture yourself helping deliver a community health workshop, assisting with local prevention campaigns, or supporting a rural clinic—knowing your contribution is part of a bigger effort to create healthier futures. That's the impact of the Global Health specialist track!

What Will You Learn?

- **Global Health Priorities:** Explore key issues like infectious disease, nutrition, water and sanitation, and maternal and child health.
- **Health Systems & Access:** Understand how healthcare is delivered in different contexts and the barriers communities face in accessing care.
- **Foundations in Public Health:** Learn the basics of epidemiology, disease prevention, and community health promotion.
- **Ethics & Cultural Competence:** Build the awareness needed to work respectfully and effectively in diverse healthcare settings.

Global Citizenship

Change the World, One Step at a Time!

Do you see yourself as a global citizen, ready to tackle the world's biggest challenges? Our Global Citizenship specialist track equips you with the knowledge and skills to make a difference on a global scale, from combating climate change to promoting human rights.

What Will You Learn?

- **Global Challenges:** Explore the interconnected issues of poverty, inequality, climate change, and human rights, and understand their global impact.
- **Sustainable Development:** Dive into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and learn how to contribute to their achievement.
- **Cultural Competence:** Develop the skills to communicate and work effectively across cultures, essential for any global citizen.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand the concept of global citizenship and its importance in today's world.
- Gain insight into the SDGs and how they guide global efforts towards sustainable development.
- Develop intercultural competence and communication skills to navigate global challenges.
- Learn how to advocate for change and engage in effective civic action.

Program Highlight

Imagine working on a project that addresses climate change, knowing that your efforts are part of a global movement for a better future. That's the power of the Global Citizenship specialism!

Your Learning Journey Begins Here

Every programme follows a clear path designed to maximise impact—before, during, and after your placement. You'll gain the skills, awareness, and confidence to contribute meaningfully, wherever you choose to engage.

Your Learning Journey

Step 1 – Prepare (Before your trip)

Build your cultural awareness, understand your responsibilities, and set clear goals for your experience. Learn to plan, problem-solve, and approach your placement with confidence.

Step 2 – Specialise (Pre-trip learning)

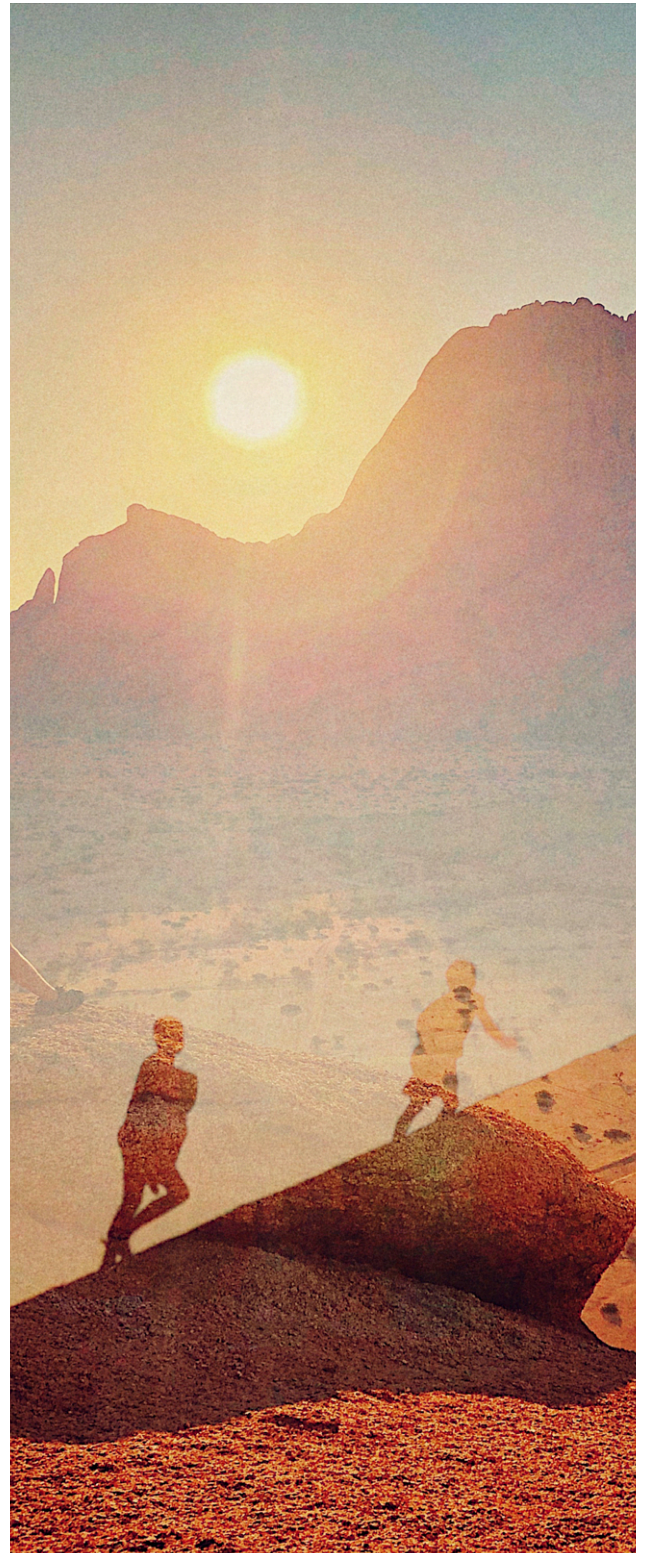
Dive into your chosen track—Marine, Wildlife, Global Citizenship, or Global Health—and develop the expertise needed to make a tangible difference in the field.

Step 3 – Participate (During your trip)

Put theory into action through hands-on, locally-led projects. Take on leadership roles, contribute to meaningful initiatives, and document your progress.

Step 4 – Reflect (After your trip)

Consolidate your learning, analyse your impact, and connect your experience to broader global issues—producing tangible outputs you can share with universities or employers.





Add Purpose, Proof & Points to Your Service Trip

A Super-Curricular Experience Backed by Academic Rigor

For schools, this is more than just another certificate—it's an **Ofqual-regulated Level 3 Diploma** designed to give students a competitive edge in university applications, interviews, and future careers.

When you attach the **Diploma in International Volunteering** to your existing group trip, your students gain:

- 16 UCAS points (or)
- 9 transferable US university credits
- A structured learning arc:
 - prepare
- → do → reflect → present
- Evidence of subject-linked academic exploration
- Explicit development of soft skills essential for interviews and employability
- Reflective outputs that directly feed into personal statements and EPQ projects

A Turnkey Solution for Global Programs

We work with school trip leaders, international coordinators, and group travel companies to embed this diploma into their existing programs—from Tanzania and Thailand to Costa Rica and Cambodia. It's flexible, scalable, and online—designed for:

- School-led service trips
- CAS projects
- Global citizenship programs
- Gap year cohorts
- Student travel groups



Make your global trips count with an accredited UK Diploma that supports UCAS, personal growth, and employability.

What This Diploma Offers:

- An internationally recognised qualification (UK Level 3 / US College Credit)
- 16 UCAS points (UK) or 9 US university credits (via transcript)
- Aligned with key academic subjects like Geography, Biology & Social Sciences
- Builds essential employability, leadership & teamwork skills
- Reflective assignments designed to support university applications worldwide

What Schools and Parents Want to Know

- **Is this academic?**
 - Yes. This is not just about volunteering—it's a structured, assessed qualification. Modules align with subjects like Geography, Biology, Psychology, Sociology, Environmental Science, and more.
- **Will it help with university?**
 - Absolutely. Students reflect on global issues, plan and evaluate real-world activities, and complete final presentations—skills they'll draw on in personal statements, interviews, and EPQs.
- **What skills will my child develop?**
 - Leadership, adaptability, teamwork, critical thinking, cultural intelligence, and personal resilience—all documented and assessed. Students leave with competency-based examples that answer real interview questions.
- **Does it enhance our trip?**
 - Seamlessly. We integrate with your itinerary and provide pre-trip, in-country, and post-trip modules. There's no extra burden on your staff, and we support the student every step of the way.

Credit Transfer: Making Your Learning Count



Recognizing Your Achievements

At CGCS, we value the hard work you put into your studies and experiences. Our Diploma in International Volunteering is not just a qualification—it can also be a stepping stone to further academic opportunities.

What is Credit Transfer?

- Credit transfer allows you to apply the credits you've earned in this program towards another program at a different institution, helping you advance more quickly in your academic journey.

How It Works

- **Earned Credits:** Complete our Diploma (41 UK CATS credits) and gain a qualification recognised across major credit systems as well as 16 UCAS points.
- **Global Recognition:**
 - **Europe (ECTS):** 20 – 21 ECTS credits
 - **US Semester Hours:** 9 Transferable US credits
- **Consult First:** Always check with your chosen institution's admissions office to confirm how they'll apply these credits.

Why Transfer Credits?

- **Advance Your Studies:** Enter degree programmes with advanced standing—potentially saving months or even a full year of study.
- **Broaden Your Options:** Leverage your credits for study abroad or to join international pathways.

Steps to Transfer Your Credits

1. **Complete Your Diploma:** Finish the program and earn your credits.
2. **Get Your Transcript:** Request your transcript from CGCS.
3. **Consult Your New Institution:** Discuss the credit transfer process with your new school.
4. **Submit Your Application:** Provide your transcript and other required documents.

Optional: Official US Transcript from Hartwick College

For added certainty when transferring US credits, you may order an official transcript issued by our US School of Record, Hartwick College, for USD 800. This transcript provides direct verification of your US credit equivalencies.

Support

We're Here to Help: If you need assistance with the credit transfer process, our team is ready to guide you.



Join Us on a Journey of Learning and Impact!

The world needs more than good intentions—it needs skilled, reflective, globally-aware young people who understand how to act with purpose.

At the Centre for Global Citizenship Studies (CGCS), we partner with schools and service trip providers to help students turn meaningful experiences into measurable outcomes.

Through our Diploma in International Volunteering, learners explore global issues, contribute to community-led projects, and develop the leadership, critical thinking, and intercultural skills that universities and employers value.

Whether your trip focuses on marine conservation, wildlife protection, or sustainable development, CGCS ensures students don't just participate—they engage deeply, reflect intentionally, and graduate with a qualification that recognises their journey.



www.globalcitizenshipstudies.com



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