

G C
A S

the Global
Center for
Advanced
Studies

E-School
Handbook



**GCAS College Dublin E-School Handbook
2023**

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[E-School Platform](#)

[GCAS College Website](#)

Please Note:

The programs, policies, course offerings, and requirements and all other matters covered in this Handbook may be changed without notice.

All readers of this publication should contact GCAS College Dublin to ensure all information covered in this Handbook is updated. GCAS College Dublin, Ltd. assumes no responsibility for any damages that may be claimed to have resulted from any changes.

All participants in the GCAS e-school operations including taking and teaching courses agree to the terms herein.



**GCAS College Dublin
E-School**

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Of Note

This handbook serves as a guide to support participants of GCAS & GCAS College E-School. This handbook will be continually updated as new programs emerge and so we encourage you to revisit this reference book for updates and revised standards.

Leadership

The GCAS E-school is run and operated by GCAS College Dublin Limited. The Chancellor directs the E-school.

GCAS History:

GCAS was founded in 2013 by over 100 leading intellectuals, writers, philosophers, and social scientists with a two-fold aim: (a) providing students with the highest quality education at the lowest costs possible (debt-free); and (b) providing a learning environment bold enough to forge new horizons of thinking and existing in the world.

What began as a dream has developed into a global network in which hundreds of seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences and hundreds of thousands of people have engaged and extended a needed and new paradigm of thinking together, collectively.

GCAS is located in Dublin, Jakarta, Kampala, Santa Barbara, and in Santiago, Chile. GCAS is pursuing in Europe and elsewhere.

In September, 2020 we launched our bold new BA program in Interdisciplinary Studies, which is a bold new program in which thinking is directly applied to problem solving within the learning environment.

We believe that learning and growing intellectually is an essential skill for a vibrant democracy and human flourishing. GCAS challenges the traditional academy to more directly apply bold new ways of thinking and practices to address and solve the most vexing challenges in our time.

Welcome to GCAS College
Sincerely,



Creston Davis, PhD
Chancellor

The GCAS E-School is owned and operated by GCAS College Dublin, Ltd (AKA, GCAS College).

Accreditation

The Global Center for Advanced Studies, GCAS College Dublin **e-school** courses are not accredited.

Although the GCAS E-school courses are not accredited it is important to inform the public that GCAS College Dublin fully seeks to rise to the quality level as designated by [Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area](#). As with all new institutions seeking the highest level of quality assurance and delivery, we are currently implementing the required policies needed to meet and exceed ESG requirements as well as [Quality & Qualifications Ireland](#) (QQI).

All participants in the GCAS e-school (including courses, seminars, certificate programmes acknowledge that said courses, seminars and certificate programmes are not accredited and that we award completion “awards” that are validated by GCAS College Dublin.

Introduction

The Global Center for Advanced Studies and GCAS College Dublin is a new institute of higher education founded by intellectuals and visionaries to recruit, teach, and equip the next generation with the tools needed to create a better future for themselves and all living things on planet Earth. GCAS has created an education environment and curricula that draws on the necessary resources to not only address the most vexing questions of our time (planetary sustainability) but to also positively

contribute to implementing a harmonious economic growth model with the aim of individual and collective flourishing. Although we are a private legal entity, we share ownership with the faculty and alumni (or graduates). All members of our Board of Governors are also expected to teach and deliver the highest quality content in a safe and supportive environment.

We operate, in part, on blockchain and function like a cooperative in that faculty and alumni co-own GCAS College Dublin.

Our model is new and advanced. We are committed to an education model that addresses and helps solve the crisis of student loan debt through a low cost, high quality education. We do this by drawing on a *blended learning* model that consists of both online open and distance courses in combination with short (2 weeks) to longer term residential seminars located in different cities and locations around the world at various times throughout the academic year.

Equal Employment and Learning Opportunity Policy

It has and will continue to be the policy of GCAS College Dublin to ensure equal employment and learning opportunities without discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, citizenship, marital status or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law (hereinafter referred to as "protected characteristics"). It is a fundamental principle of this organization that all faculty, staff and students are evaluated on their skills and abilities without regard to any protected characteristic. This policy permeates all decisions, including but not limited to those involving employee compensation, application assessments, benefits, hiring, promotion, training and development, and other terms and conditions of

employment and learning and acceptance procedures. Moreover, we believe that no faculty, staff or student should ever be subjected to a learning environment that is hostile because of a protected characteristic. All members of our College should be able to enjoy a work and learning environment free from all forms of discrimination; including harassment. Thus, this organization strictly prohibits and will not tolerate any such discrimination or harassment by any of its employees, faculty committees, students, staff, contractors, customers, etc. Any College member who feels they are a victim of such discrimination must follow the policies set forth herein.

Definition of Discrimination

Discrimination is any action taken against an employee, faculty, staff member or student, which affects the terms and conditions of his or her employment and/or the learning environment because of that person's, or because that person associates with another of a certain, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, citizenship, marital status or any other characteristic protected by law. Forms of discrimination can include improper discipline, discriminatory hiring or promotion decisions, derogatory comments, harassment, as well as any other action or inaction by another which adversely affects the terms or conditions of your employment.

Student Membership

A student (or "Researcher") of GCAS's E-school will usually be enrolled in GCAS College Dublin however, anyone can take our non-accredited courses with GCAS via our online [E-School](#). Enrolling and participating in the E-School does not include being an enrolled student in GCAS College Dublin. A non-enrolled student in GCAS College Dublin can be a participant in the E-School in which seminars, courses and certificate programs are offered. An E-School participant is considered a non-enrolled participant and does not have the

rights as a “student” of an enrolled student in GCAS College Dublin.

To become a GCAS College Dublin student member the participant must be admitted and fully matriculate into our GCAS College Dublin via the official application process. It is possible to participate in GCAS courses without full matriculation, for example, by participating in our annual Summer Institute or studying in a certificate program, or even through our live seminars.

All faculty, staff, students and E-School participants must be familiar with the rules, policies, regulations and requirements in the GCAS handbook, which delineates the various levels of involvement from student membership, matriculation, certificate and degree programs as well as policies for our community.

Student Information

In addition to the student handbook information for students is provided upon request by writing to <contact@gcas.ie>. You may also schedule an appointment with us on our [website](#).

Faculty

All faculty who teach in the GCAS E-school agree to sign a contract with GCAS College Dublin Limited. Faculty are responsible for teaching the content of a designated course and agree to having this course recorded and distributed by GCAS College Dublin. Should a faculty member wish to re-distribute the lecture or content of their teaching they are encouraged to notify the Chancellor <chancellor@gcas.ie> before doing so.

Mission:

The mission of GCAS College Dublin E-School is to provide global access to online live and self-paced seminars, workshops, and certificate programs. It is available to anyone in the world with an Internet connection. There are some seminars, which require the participant to be 18 years old and older.

Calendar of School Holidays: At present there are no scheduled holidays

Certificates

A student or attendee receives a GCAS Certificate by successfully completing the specified Certificate Program as assigned on the GCAS E-school website: <https://gcascollege.ie>.

Credit

The Certificate programs offered currently do not translate into credit that qualifies within the European Qualifications Framework.

Research Paper requirement

Research is core to GCAS’ mission. At a time of powerful campaigns designed and implemented to misinform and confuse the public with “alternative facts” it is now more important than ever to support solid research findings and where possible and needed to disseminate said findings.

The GCAS E-School is committed to producing advanced research findings within the scope of resources. To that end our Eschool is a space in which to create and support these findings. Participants in the GCAS E-school are not required to complete assignments, but our intended learning outcomes are designed to enhance critical thinking, writing and communication skills and thereby to

enhance career development and skills related to work-place environments.

Research Defined

Research is the act of critically examining specific areas of interests from Critical Theory to the Social Sciences and the “hard sciences”. It requires gaining knowledge through various credible sources and presenting insights that are important to the public and other researchers in specific fields of inquiry.

Advanced research requires methodological procedures which should be carefully constructed as a way to hold research findings accountable and repeatable.

Complaints:

We understand that cause for filing a complaint may arise. In this event it is our intention to resolve all complaints internally to the GCAS. We will do our best to demonstrate fairness. Complaints can be [submitted here](#).

Refund Policy:

GCAS does not charge an application fee for our E-School. After tuition and fees are paid by the applicant, participants may request them back in full upon request, if that request is made in writing or verbally within three business days after paying tuition. All refunds will be returned within thirty (30) days. There may be an administrative fee in some cases.

Refund policy: “All tuition and fees paid by the applicant shall be refunded if the applicant is rejected by the school before enrollment. There is no application fee. All tuition and fees paid by the applicant shall be refunded if requested within three

business days after signing a contract with the school. All refunds shall be returned within 30 days.”

Refund Request Form: [\[LINK\]](#)

Refund policy additional information:

After three (3) days, a student that requests a full refund must do so in writing (via email) to the Chancellor via <contact@gcas.ie>. The Chancellor will take the student’s request into consideration. Any request that is made within three (3) days of paying tuition will be reimbursed.

Grievance Policy

GCAS College and the Global Center for Advanced Studies (GCAS) seeks to ensure equitable treatment of every person and to make every attempt to resolve grievances in a fair manner. Please submit a written grievance to: Chancellor Creston Davis <chancellor@gcas.ie>.

Tuition & Fees

Tuition and Fees vary from course to course and program to program.

Joining Our Online Platform

If you are a student enrolled in a class you should consult the syllabus on how to join our Internet learning platform as well as our [E-School platform](#) on which course and or seminar information and resources are provided to participants.

GCAS College Dublin has created a high-quality space in which collaborative learning and research

can flourish world-wide. To this end, GCAS College Dublin does not condone any illegal activity or behavior from anyone participating in our programs, seminars and events. Within the E-School, it is crucial for the enrolled participant to acknowledge that any issues pertaining to harassment or discrimination must be reported immediately to <Contact@gcas.ie>. The participant agrees that any such illegal behavior does not reflect on GCAS College Dublin but on the perpetrator and will not hold GCAS College Dublin, Ltd. responsible for said behavior.

A person who enrolls in our E-School is considered a “Participant” and does not have the rights of an officially enrolled Student in GCAS College Dublin

A student or participant in the E-School may be dismissed for violating the law or student conduct policies within the scope of the law.

Rules of student conduct and conditions for probation or dismissal

A GCAS student or participant must conduct themselves within the parameters of decency and respect. If a student or participant violates the law they may be dismissed. Under some conditions if a student’s or participant’s conduct is thought to be out of order they may be placed on probation, or dismissed at the discretion of GCAS.

As a participant in our E-school, you understand that if your behavior negatively affects other students or the instructor, the instructor has the authority of removing you from the course.

Risks & Liabilities of a Participant in GCAS College Dublin E-School

A student agrees to participate in GCAS’s E-school at their own risk and acknowledges that some academic content may to some be perceived to be offensive as the nature of learning by definition can challenge foundational assumptions about our world and how it functions. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact us at <contact@gcas.ie>

Authorization of Use of the Recording

Participants in the live online course, by virtue of enrolling, give their permission to be recorded in the live lecture (on GCAS’s Zoom platform) and authorize GCAS College Dublin, Ltd. to distribute the live lecture at the discretion of GCAS College. The participant’s image, chats, or voice may be recorded in the live lecture or event, which the participant by the act of participating gives GCAS College Dublin the right to distribute. GCAS College Dublin will not use the participants’ image, voice, chats in the live recording for reasons other than to distribute educational content, i.e., the live lecture or event recording. Should a participant not want to be recorded they are responsible for muting their audio microphones and shutting off their cameras. Their chats within the Zoom platform may also be documented so the participant should sign into the GCAS Zoom platform under a name different from their own to protect their identity.

Subscribers and Researchers

If you are a subscriber or researcher to GCAS’ E-School you may take 1 live seminar at a time. A subscriber or researcher may be allowed access to GCAS’s MA and/or PhD level seminars at the discretion of the Chancellor or Instructor. A

subscriber or researcher does not have the right to take MA and PhD level seminars/courses without permission.

certificate programs. However, they will not be awarded the certificate until they fulfill the requirements for a specific certificate program.

A subscriber or researcher may take courses/seminars that fulfill the requirements for