

U3A links with UK Universities

Areas of existing/ potential collaboration with universities include

- a) **Collaboration on research:** In projects led by universities and other third-party organisations, U3A members may volunteer to participate either as subjects of research or as research assistants. Shared Learning Projects (SLPs) enable U3As to collaborate as research partners according to an agreed format.
For more up-to-date information on research projects conducted with universities, please consult the U3A Research Database <http://u3aresearch.org.uk/>
- b) **Lectures, seminars, study days:** Attending or participating in lectures, seminars, study days, exhibitions, field trips and other events can provide interesting learning opportunities for Third Agers.
U3A members can reciprocate by providing a forum for academic staff and students wishing to present dissertations, research ideas and findings for discussion and constructive comment.
- c) **Student support:** U3A members may provide mature counselling or other support to students, including those from abroad who may need assistance in learning the language, culture and local geography to help them with their studies and settle into life in the UK. Such international exchanges and intergenerational activities are also beneficial to U3A members.

Examples

Bournemouth

Open lectures, research subjects, SLP on various aspects of technology

Bradford

Archaeology and geophysics investigations with Wigtown U3A

Brighton

Community Partnership Programme, research subjects and assistants

Brunel

Partner in SLP on contemporary writing and 2-day conference

Canterbury Christchurch

U3A members trained as research assistants and have participated in many projects with various departments; Memorandum of Understanding

Durham

Participatory Research Hub allows collaboration with local organisations

Edinburgh

U3A works with Neuroscience Research Team and sits on Standards Board

Exeter

Collaborate on research projects, lectures and events. Lay members on university committees

Glasgow

Archaeology with Wigtown U3A, and U3A took part in Scottish Family Health Study

Kent

Partnership event to showcase research and training of U3A members as research assistants

Kingston

SLP to research history of campus; also participation as research subjects

Lancaster

Strong links over many years – U3A members as research subjects

Lincoln

SLP with Psychology Dept. on sleep quality

London, Birkbeck

Participation as research subjects and assistance with project design.

London, Goldsmiths

Classes, speakers, premises, research subjects, Focus Group to assist with project design

London, Imperial College

Research subjects in Chariot Register, long-term project on dementia prevention research

London, Kings

Several SLPs and participation as research subjects

London, Royal Holloway

U3A is a partner in the Citizens 800 project 2016-2019 www.citizens800.org/u3a

London, University College

Participation as research subjects with various departments; also Joint Science Events and Focus Group to assist with project design

Manchester

Research subjects in various departments. Cottonopolis is a large SLP based on Manchester, the world's first industrial city.

Manchester Metropolitan

Research subjects in various departments

Newcastle

U3A Concordat with VoiceNorth community arm of university. RITA competition for research ideas. Research subjects, use of premises, Energy Conference

Northumbria

Research subjects in study of older people's experience of technology

Oxford

Research subjects in various departments

Plymouth

Partnership since 2000 – projects, use of premises, research subjects, mentoring

Portsmouth

SLP on Battle of Jutland

Roehampton

Restoration Hearth Tax SLPs in London and Birmingham; Mysteries of Memory study day; Romantic Illustration Network/House of Illustration workshops; research subjects.

Sheffield

Volunteers for student research in return for speakers. SLPs on theatre; memories of growing up in the Sixties

Suffolk

History groups work with History Dept on SLPs

Sunderland

Lectures and seminars, links with Student Union

Sussex

Research subjects in various departments

Swansea

Longstanding links, use of premises. Memorandum of Understanding

Warwick

Research subjects in various departments

Westminster

Research subjects, advisory panel for research projects