TRANSFORM YOURSELF
CHANGE THE WORLD
Global Learning and Leadership Program (GLLP) is a co-curricular program for Koç University undergraduate students to complement their academic studies with a “hands-on” approach. The comprehensive program aims to enable students to acquire global competence and to develop personal and professional skills to thrive in a 21st century world.

GLLP is a three-year immersive learning journey with an innovative curriculum that includes credit-bearing courses, workshops, talks, retreats, service-learning programs, capstone projects and internships. The program consists of three stages, where a student’s progress is measured by their active involvement.
We learn to...

• make a difference with a global perspective
• address the world’s complex challenges and take action
• collaborate and become an effective team player
• to know ourselves better and take initiative
• embrace failure as an opportunity for learning
• adapt to changing circumstances and live with uncertainty
• embark on the never-ending journey of self-development
• transform self, environment and society
• play and have fun

Most importantly, we learn to believe that we can.
Our world is going through a time of disruptive and unprecedented change. Complex and interrelated problems that our society faces in the 21st century require a new collective kind of leadership to collaborate across disciplines, departments and organizations to develop creative and systemic solutions. This collective leadership capacity should be built through the work of young change-makers, equipped with the skills to disrupt existing systems and design adaptive institutions in order to create a just and sustainable world.

Forces that are transforming our world, society, economy and organizations also have an impact on the nature of jobs and workplace. Work today is increasingly collaborative focused on solving complex problems in interdisciplinary and creative ways. Students are required to develop a new skill set to thrive in a world in flux.

The 21st century university experience should facilitate a journey, where students can learn by engaging with real world problems through thinking, doing, creating and collaborating.

GLLP exists to grow students into competent individuals, who can respond to the needs of changing work environments, as well as skillful leaders with the vision of transforming our world and society for the better.
GLLP learning journey and track program is structured through three stages.

1. **Fellow**
   - 1 Mandatory GLLP Course *
   - INTL 365: Global Civics
   - 3 GEC Skills Workshops (mandatory: Mindfulness)
   - 3 Stories of Leadership Sessions
   - 3 Off-Campus Ecosystem Events
   - 1 Capstone Project
   - 1 Project Bazaar
   - 1 GLLP Retreat
   * MGMT 210: Changemaking in Action

   The mandatory course may change in every cycle, please ask your GLLP Advisor.

2. **Changemaker**
   - ALIS 350: Transition to Professional Life
   - 2 GEC Skills Workshops (mandatory: Deep Democracy)
   - 2 Stories of Leadership Sessions
   - 2 Off-Campus Ecosystem Events
   - 1 Capstone Project (New/Existing/Student Partnered)
   - 1 Project Bazaar
   - International Learning Expedition *
   - Coaching (optional)
   - Mentoring Fellows (optional)
   * Summer Abroad Program, Semester Exchange, Internship Abroad, International Service Learning

3. **Pioneer**
   - 1 GLLP Elective Course *
   - 2 GLLP Skills Workshops
   - 2 Stories of Leadership Sessions
   - 1 International Competition
   - 1 Conference Attendance on International Topic
   - 1 Summer Internship
   - 1 Campus Event
   - Coaching (optional)
   - Mentoring Changemakers (optional)
   - Program Management Assistance
   * Elective Course should be chosen from list provided online
Components

Courses  Workshops  Leadership Sessions  Retreat  Capstone Project

Off-Campus Ecosystem Events  International Competition  Conferences on International Topic  International Learning Expedition  Summer Internship

Mentoring  Coaching  Project Bazaar
**MGMT 210: Changemaking in Action**
This course will facilitate a learning journey for students in the domains of personal, relational and systemic leadership development through introducing variety of tools, methods and practices. At the personal domain, specific reflection and mindfulness practices will help students to generate the leadership knowledge that matters most: self-knowledge (Who am I? What is the purpose of my journey?), as well as to cultivate personal awareness and attention management competencies. At the relational domain, students will practice to hone the leadership capacities of deep listening, empathy, precise observation and dialogue. Lastly at the systemic domain, students will explore their role in collective leadership for profound system-wide innovation and change through employing action learning and human-centered design methods.

**MGMT 360: Introduction to Social Entrepreneurship**
This course introduces students to the concepts, practices, opportunities, and challenges of social entrepreneurship, engages them in an active learning process, involving interaction with other students, and experts in the field of social entrepreneurship. Throughout the course, students will apply their knowledge and skills, regardless of their field of study of specific career path to, “be the change they wish to see in the world.”

**INTL 365: Global Civics**
This course offers a foundation for thinking and acting on the global challenges that will require leadership and citizenship from the rising generation. A well-rounded university experience in the 21st century has to include a conversation about our responsibilities towards the whole of humanity, and the corresponding rights we all have.

**ALIS 350: Transition to Professional Life**
The objective of this course is to assist students in discovering their potentials, and to provide them with the following advanced skills that are needed in academic and professional life: advanced relationship management, teamwork, conflict resolution, creative thinking and problem solving, personal and professional life balance.
GLLP Skills Workshops are specially curated learning experiences for GLLP students to achieve specific program learning outcomes. Workshop topics vary from mindfulness to conflict resolution, storytelling to entrepreneurial literacy. Workshops might be a half-day, full-day or two-days long. Every semester three workshops are offered to GLLP students.

Stories of Leadership Sessions host exceptional individuals who work to create change and impact in the world and society. Seasoned business and civil society leaders, entrepreneurs, designers and academicians are invited to talk about their personal journeys in an interactive storytelling session. During the sessions, students work in teams to harvest and reflect on key learnings from the stories told. Every semester three sessions are offered to GLLP students.

GLLP Retreat is a two or three day immersive learning experience for GLLP students which takes place at a location outside of Istanbul. The retreat plays a crucial role for students’ GLLP journey, since it creates a strong container for students to practice deep self-reflection and build lasting relationships to become a community of peers and learners. GLLP Retreat is organized once every year.
Every GLLP student is required to be part of a team and carry-out a hands-on prototype initiative that connects the personal, relational, and systemic dimensions of change. Learning-by-doing is at the heart of Capstone Projects and design thinking is used as a core problem-solving methodology. Through the projects, students apply the knowledge, skills, methods and tools that they learned during the GLLP program on real life social or environmental challenges.

Project topics vary from reducing package waste across the campus to developing language learning programs for refugees. Project teams are constantly mentored throughout the process and are required to achieve clear project outcomes and deliverables at the end of every semester. Success of the projects is assessed through mentorship meetings and end-of-semester presentations.

This is an on campus networking event for GLLP students to present their projects to Koç University community, Civil Society Organizations and Companies to increase impact through collaborative action. Project Bazaar is organized once every year.
At the beginning of every month, students receive a newsletter informing them about selected events that are organized by organizations and individuals from the fields of education, sustainability, social impact, entrepreneurship, design and technology, etc. Students are expected to participate in these events to connect with a network of like-minded individuals and organizations in the topics that they are interested in.

In order to complete the 3 stages of the GLLP program, students are required to apply for an international competition, such as Global Social Venture Competition, Hult Prize, Dalai Lama Fellows or Clinton Global Initiative.

Students are required to attend at least one conference on international topic to complete program. International conference opportunities and limited number of small grants are announced to GLLP students regularly. Students are also expected to fundraise their own costs to attend international conferences.
GLLP students at their second-stage of the program are required to attend at least one of International Learning Expedition activity such as GLLP organized Summer Program, Summer Abroad Program, Semester Exchange, Internship Abroad and International Service Learning Project/Program.

Every student who wants to complete three-years certificate has to complete a summer internship at a national or international organization or start-up that works on the fields of sustainability, green energy, social innovation, human-centered technology and design, etc. Students are expected to arrange their own internships and funding; however GLLP also offers a number of internship opportunities to students from their partner organizations.

Students work with disadvantaged communities to design and implement an impact project around a specific sustainability challenge.
Our focus lays on the real world problems, while we constantly strive to combine theory and practice. Each GLLP learning experience has a relevance to real world context.

Communicating with people and listening to their stories is crucial to understand real problems, which constitutes the basis of social impact. Problems exist in relation to people, and for this reason human centered research and design must be a part of the solution process.

Nothing exists in isolation. The complex structure of the problems must be considered when addressing a social challenge. Experiences and perspectives of the stakeholders should be considered during the process.
Being action oriented is vital in the process of moving from idea to manifestation. Effective tools such as observation and research cannot have any impact on problems unless their outputs are transformed into action and practice. Therefore, GLLP curriculum help students to combine head, heart and hand throughout their work in the program.

The complex challenges of the 21st century requires a new kind of leadership approach which is more authentic and participatory. GLLP holistic leadership approach combines personal, relational and systemic dimensions of leadership development.

21st century social issues are multidimensional which makes it impossible for an individual to create change on their own. There is a rise in the need to collaborate. The contribution of an individual is significant only when it is combined with others.
Core Competencies

### GLLP Foundational Literacies

- Global Civics Literacy
- Sustainability Literacy
- Entrepreneurial Literacy
- ICT Literacy

### Innovation Skills

- Creative Thinking
- Critical Thinking
- Effective Communication
- Effective Collaboration

### Personal Qualities

- Metacognition
- Cognitive Flexibility and Adaptability
- Personal Power
- Leadership
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Persistence and Grit
- Social and Cultural Awareness
GLLP Foundational Literacies

Global Civics Literacy
Ability to recognize individual’s responsibility towards humanity and the knowledge of interconnected global challenges

Sustainability Literacy
The knowledge, skills and mindsets that help compel an individual to become deeply committed to building a sustainable future and allow him or her to make informed and effective decisions to this end.

Entrepreneurial Literacy
Ability to seek and recognize business opportunities and understand how a business is created and managed at a basic level.

ICT Literacy
Ability to use and create technology-based content, including finding and sharing information, answering questions, interacting with other people and computer programming.
Core Competencies

Innovation Skills

Creative Thinking
Ability to imagine and devise new, innovative ways of addressing problems, answering questions or expressing meaning through the application, synthesis or repurposing of knowledge

Critical Thinking
Ability to identify, analyse and evaluate situations, ideas and information to formulate responses and solutions

Effective Communication
Ability to listen to, understand, convey and contextualize information through verbal, nonverbal, visual and written means

Effective Collaboration
Ability to work in a team towards a common goal, including the ability to prevent and manage conflict
Core Competencies

**Personal Qualities**

**Metacognition**
Ability to be aware of and understand one’s own thought processes

**Cognitive Flexibility and Adaptability**
Ability to adapt the cognitive processing strategies to face new and unexpected conditions in the environment and to hold ambiguity and paradoxes

**Personal Power**
Ability to use energy and drive to manifest wise actions in the world for the greater good

**Leadership**
Ability to effectively direct, guide and inspire others to accomplish a common goal

**Initiative and Self-direction**
Ability and desire to take a proactive approach and showing persistence in overcoming obstacles that might arise

**Persistence and Grit**
Ability to sustain interest and perseverance of effort over a long period in order to accomplish a task or a goal

**Social and Cultural Awareness**
Ability to interact with other people in a socially, culturally and ethically appropriate way
Every GLLP student, who completes the requirements of the GLLP Fellow stage, will join a coaching process facilitated by assigned GLLP coaches. GLLP Coaching will provide a support for students to discover and realize their personal and professional goals. Coaching meetings will be organized monthly.
After each GLLP experience students are required to submit a reflection piece highlighting their key learnings.

Students can write a 300 word reflection piece on their experiences. Only written reflections can be submitted for the following experiences:

- Courses
- GLLP Retreat
- Capstone Project
- International Learning Expedition
- Summer Internship

Students are welcomed to submit two-minute videos for the following experiences as well as written reflections:

- GLLP Skills Workshops
- GLLP Stories of Leadership Session
- Off-Campus Ecosystem Events
- International Competitions
- Conferences on International Topic

After the reflection is submitted, it is evaluated by the GLLP administration team.

If the reflection piece is not considered satisfactory, students might be asked to re-submit their reflection pieces. To be evaluated, reflections should be submitted within 15 days following the experience. Late reflections will not be accepted.
Eligibility

All students of the university are eligible to apply for the GLLP program. Senior students who have less than two semesters to complete their graduation are not eligible to apply. ELC students are not eligible to apply.

Application Process

Every year, GLLP applications begin and run in October. Students apply for GLLP by completing the application form available on the GLLP website: glp.ku.edu.tr Students should submit their CVs during their applications. Shortlisted students are invited for an interview round during November. Selected students are notified at the end of the month.

Application Form

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- Why do you want to be a part of the GLLP?
- Why do you think you will be a good fit?
- What do you want to get out of the GLLP?

SHORT QUESTIONS

1. Who is a global leader, public personality, or role model that inspires you most, and why?
2. In your opinion, what is the greatest opportunity or challenge facing the planet? Propose an idea, innovation, or intervention that you would apply to addressing this opportunity or challenge – be creative and provide details.
3. Beyond the knowledge you gain in the classroom, what are the other skills, experiences, values that you would like to acquire in order to prepare yourself for life ahead? Be specific, and provide examples.
Rules

There is no attendance policy for participating in the GLLP program. A student’s progress in the program depends on their active involvement in the GLLP experiences. Every student is responsible for keeping the track of their progress in the program.

Students admitted to the first GLLP stage are expected to complete the required experiences in four academic semesters. Students, who do not complete the first GLLP stage in four academic semesters, will be negotiated to leave the program.

Students who complete the necessary requirements for any GLLP stage should negotiate with the GLLP program coordinator to receive their certificates. Semester-long study abroad experiences can be counted as half of the program requirements for any GLLP stage, if students work to deepen their study experiences by focusing on a specific environmental or social sustainability challenge (green energy, urban sustainability, migration, human rights, etc.) and involving key ecosystem actors (meetings, attending to events, networking, volunteering, etc.). Students should meet with the GLLP program coordinator in order to plan and design a study abroad experience based on GLLP values and principles.

Governance

GLLP is designed and coordinated by the Office of International Programs. The GLLP program coordinator at OIP is responsible for program administration and coordination. GLLP has an executive board who meets bimonthly for coordination and administration decisions. Executive board includes members from different Dean of Students units. GLLP advisory board include faculty members who have been involved in the GLLP program design since the beginning and meet once a year to oversee the program development.
GLLP helped me to gain global awareness and knowledge through the lessons I took, and helped me to gain self-awareness through speakers, workshops and retreats.

Şevval Karadağ
Medicine
Sophomore

GLLP is a total experience of discovering yourself and the world. It is a ticket to the bright side of the world where communities are trying to achieve the mutual best for all people.

Erhan Kaan Bilgin
Industrial Engineering
Sophomore

If you want to become a part of change and if you want to lead changing dynamics of the 21st century, this program is well-suited for you.

Mehmet Yalçın Aydın
Mechanical Engineering
Senior
One of the best part of GLLP is the amazing people you met and the peer-learning environment. I can surely say that GLLP has a huge effect on me and my thoughts!

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Ege Su Acar  
**Industrial Engineering**  
Senior

The customizable curriculum nudged my curiosity to learn and eagerness to practice with its action based approach while embracing failure, all while having fun...