

The Black Humanities Project: Harnessing the power of authentic student voices

Haytham Mohamed (he/him)

PhD STUDENT PROJECT LEAD

Andy Adam (he/him)

UEA OUTREACH PROJECT LEAD

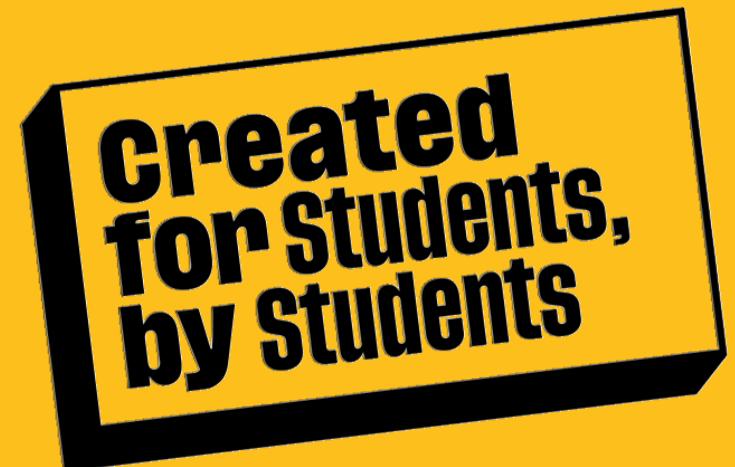
13 September 2023

Created for Students, by Students



Presentation outline

- **The Context:** Why are we partnering with students to run this project?
- **The Project:** From the perspective of the student. What is the Black Humanities Project, what happened in 2022-23, and what did we learn about working with students?
- **The Future:** What's next for the project?
- **Questions and Answers**



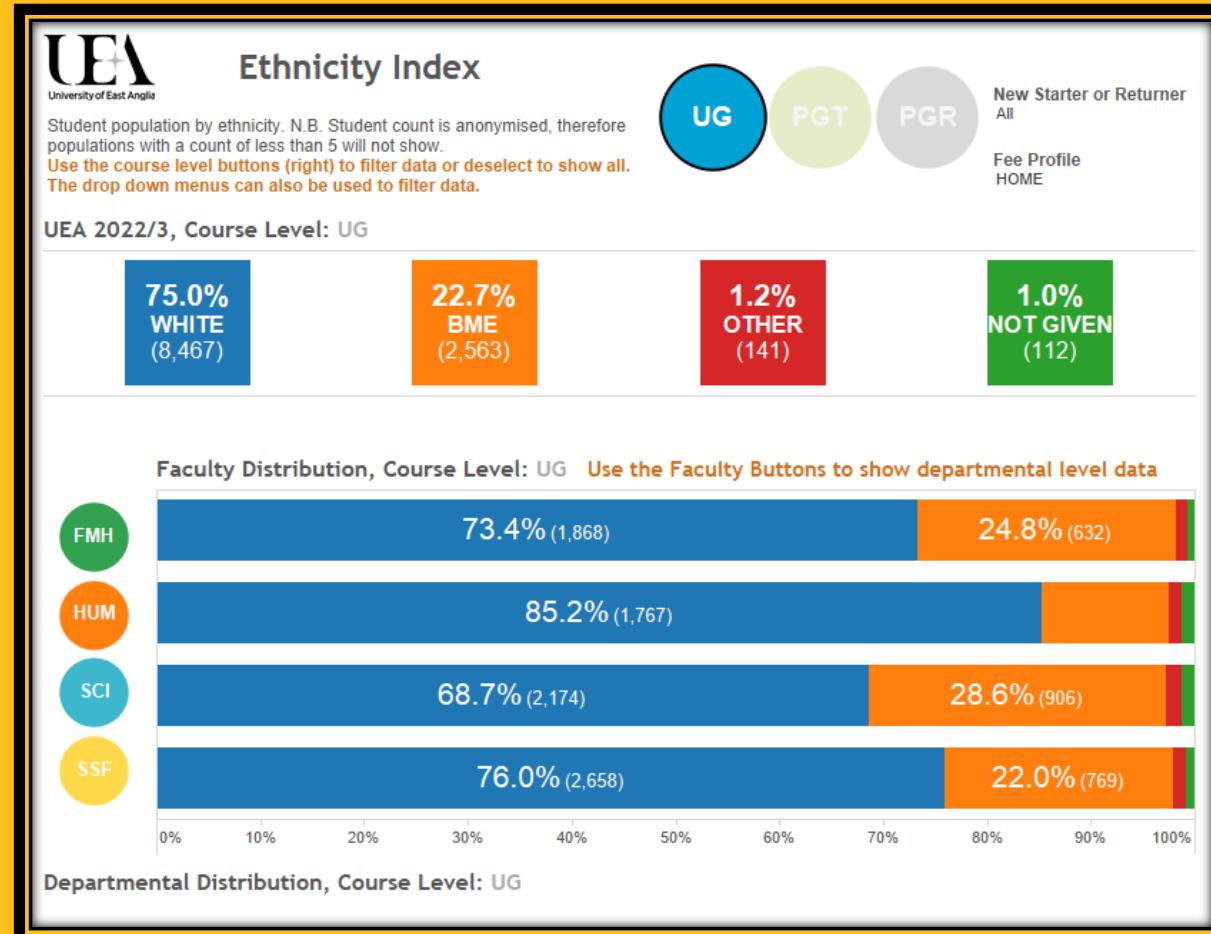
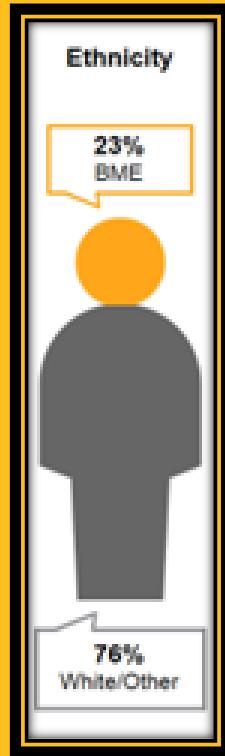
[Libertarian education] starts with the conviction that it cannot present its own program but must search for this program dialogically with the people, it serves to introduce the pedagogy of the oppressed, in the elaboration of which the oppressed must participate. (Freire, P., 1996:105)

Working with students to cross the border



UEA Student Demographics

TOTAL UG COHORT



HUMANITIES COHORT



Why are ethnically diverse students more underrepresented in arts and humanities compared to other subject areas?

The Black Humanities Project

The Black Humanities Project is a student-led project run in partnership with UEA Outreach.

The project aims to;

- **expose, explore, and empower** black humanities;
- **inspire** young ethnically diverse students to consider studying an arts and humanities subject at higher education;
- **champion a more diverse curriculum** within arts and humanities subjects and;
- **address the disparity in the degree awarding gap** between white and ethnically diverse students.

In 2023, the BHP Team created a documentary podcast exploring inspirational stories of local ethnically diverse figures, began a podcast series interviewing UEA Alumni, and hosted an on-campus event for year 9 & 10 students from local schools.



The BHP Team with Ben from Badge Café and Student Ambassadors at the BHP Event at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts (4 July 2023)

NERUPI CAPITALS

INTELLECTUAL

- Develop students' understanding by contextualising subject knowledge

SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC

- Develop students' knowledge and awareness of the benefits of higher education and graduate employment
- Develop students' capacity to navigate higher education and graduate employment sectors and make informed choices

HABITUS

- Develop students' confidence and resilience to negotiate the challenge of university life and graduate progression

**Uniting
Black
Students**

BLACK HUMANITIES PROJECT



Created by Students, for Students.



TAKE
YOUR
PLACE

The BHP Team from left to right:
Zahrah, Daniel, Sami, Tayla, Yashika, Apara.
(June 2023)





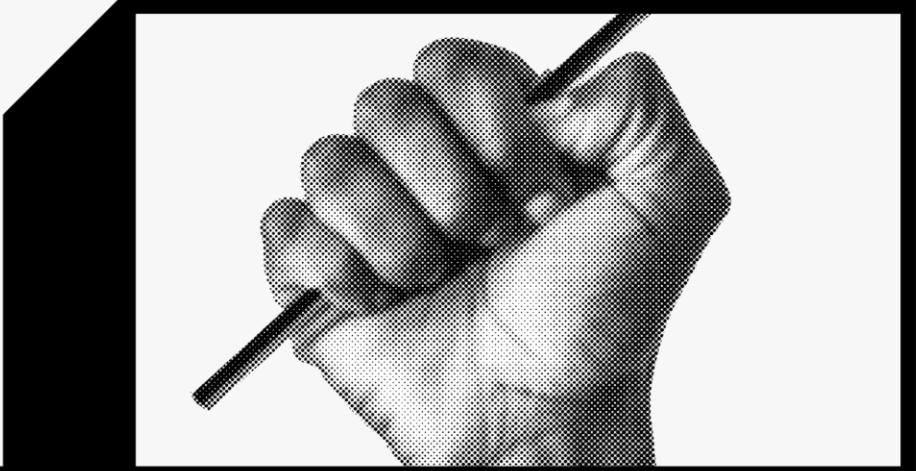


BHP.

What did I learn?

Through the process of working the Black Humanities Project. I have developed:

- My knowledge about the disparity between white students and students of colour in Higher Education
- My multitasking skills
- My communications skills
- Adapting to each student's needs

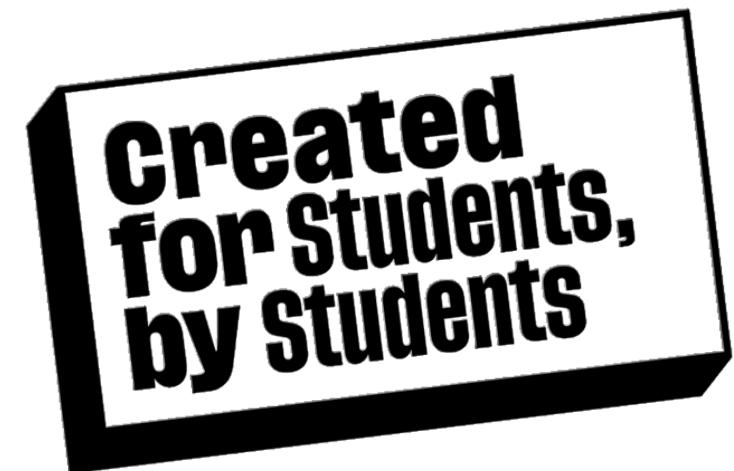


FIND Your Future

What was unique about the experience?

The significant impact the project had on the students and their teachers. Throughout the process, students developed skills such as:

- Finding the best ways to conduct research, and developing critical thinking
- Being part of an event and multitasking during the event
- Executing ideas
- Good Communication
- Understanding the importance of time management and meeting deadlines
- Exploring new areas within the field of arts and humanities
- Developing presentation skills. For example, Apara worked on developing the workshop and successfully delivered it to the students



**What have we learned
about working with
students as partners?**



**Empowering
Young Black Students**

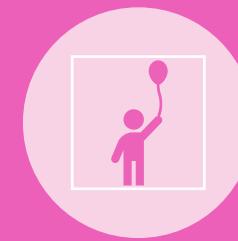
Creating effective working partnerships with students



DIALOGUE &
COMMUNICATION



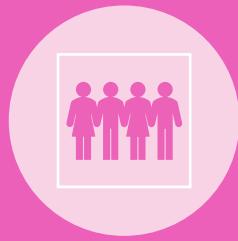
HONESTY &
INTEGRITY



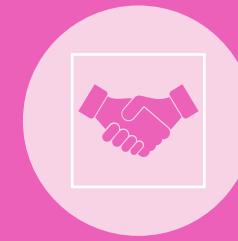
OWNERSHIP



ACCOUNTABILITY



COMMUNITY OF
KNOWLEDGE



RECIPROCITY



THANK YOU

Created for Students, by Students

 University of
East Anglia
everwondered.uea.ac.uk

 neaco
takeyourplace.ac.uk

 Ofs Uni Connect
Programme