

## Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2020

### Welcome

This survey asks about your experiences of your taught postgraduate course. Your responses will be combined with those of others to help improve future support.

Many thanks for your participation.

### Data Protection

Before you start the survey, please read this privacy statement which tells you how any personal data you submit with your responses to this survey will be utilised and protected, and the rights you have in relation to it.

***[Institution to insert here a hyperlink to your institution's privacy statement. We suggest that you seek advice in order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation as the data controller]***

Your participation in this questionnaire is voluntary and you can stop at any point without your responses being included in the dataset.

1. If you are happy to continue, please tick the box below to confirm that you consent to any personal data you provide being used in the way described (if you do not consent then please close this browser window to exit the survey):

- I give my consent for my responses to this questionnaire to be used as described in the privacy statement

You can withdraw your consent at any time in the future by contacting ***[Institution to insert appropriate contact details]***

## Notes for completion

The questionnaire should take **around fifteen minutes** to complete.

Where “course” is used in the questionnaire, this refers to your whole programme of study at your institution e.g. MA Archaeology, MSc Scientific Measurement, PGCE, Diploma in Democracy.

After each section you may be asked for any further comments on the issues covered, to enable staff to gain a better understanding of what has gone well and what has worked less well. **Please do not identify yourself or other individuals (including staff) in your comments.** If you have a complaint or need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please contact **[the relevant service at your institution]**.

## Section A: Teaching and Learning

2. Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding teaching and learning on your course?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. Staff are good at explaining things	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. The course is intellectually stimulating	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The course has enhanced my academic ability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. The learning materials provided on my course are useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. There is sufficient contact time (face to face and/or virtual/online) between staff and students to support effective learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. I am happy with the support for my learning I receive from staff on my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

## Section B: Engagement

4. Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding engagement on your course?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. I am encouraged to ask questions or make contributions in taught sessions (face to face and/or online)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. The course has created sufficient opportunities to discuss my work with other students (face to face and/or online)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. My course has challenged me to produce my best work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The workload on my course has been manageable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I have appropriate opportunities to give feedback on my experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

## Section C: Assessment and feedback

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding assessment and feedback on your course? (Feedback includes oral and written feedback given in both formal and informal contexts)

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. The criteria used in marking have been made clear in advance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Assessment arrangements and marking have been fair	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Feedback on my work has been prompt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Feedback on my work (written or oral) has been useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

[8. Hidden routing question to take students around dissertation section. Default is to display dissertation section]

## Section D: Dissertation or major project

If you are unsure what Dissertation or Major Project refers to, it could include a long-essay, independent research project, laboratory project, or other major supervised assessment task that forms an important part of your overall course.

**9. Are you currently planning, undertaking, or have completed, a dissertation or major project as part of your course?**

- Yes  
 No [students are routed to Section E]

**10. What stage of your dissertation or major project are you currently at?**

- Planning  
 Currently doing  
 Completed

**11. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your dissertation / major project?** (If you have not had experience of an item then please select 'Not applicable or Too soon to say')

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable or Too soon to say
a. I understand the required standards for the dissertation / major project	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I am happy with the support received for planning my dissertation / major project (topic selection, project outline, literature search, etc)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. My supervisor has the skills and subject knowledge to adequately support my dissertation / major project	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. My supervisor provides helpful feedback on my progress	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**12. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

## Section E: Organisation and management

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the organisation and management of your course?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. The timetable fits well with my other commitments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Any changes in the course or teaching have been communicated effectively	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. The course is well organised and is running smoothly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I was given appropriate guidance and support when I started my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I am encouraged to be involved in decisions about how my course is run	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

## Section F: Resources and services

15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the learning resources and support services at your institution?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. The library resources and services are good enough for my needs (including physical and online)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I have been able to access general IT resources (including physical and online) when I needed to	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I have been able to access subject specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software) necessary for my studies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I am aware of how to access the support services at my institution (e.g. health, finance, careers, accommodation)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

## Section G: Skills development

17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the development of skills on your course?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. As a result of the course I am more confident about independent learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. My confidence to be innovative or creative has developed during my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. My research skills have developed during my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I have been encouraged to think about what skills I need to develop for my career	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. As a result of the course I feel better prepared for my future	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18 If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

## Section H: Overview

19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about your overall experience of your course?

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

20. Please comment on one thing that has been most enjoyable or interesting on your course:

.....

21. Please comment on one thing that would most improve your experience of your course:

.....

## Motivations

22. My main motivations for taking this postgraduate course were: *(please select all that apply)*

- To enable me to progress to a higher level qualification (e.g. PhD)
- To progress in my current career path (i.e. a professional qualification)
- To change my current career
- To improve my employment prospects
- As a requirement to enter a particular profession
- To meet the requirements of my current job
- For personal interest
- Other *(Please specify)*.....

23. I am studying for this qualification at this particular institution because of: *(please select all that apply)*

- Overall reputation of institution
- Reputation in chosen subject area / department
- Reputation of the course tutors
- It was recommended to me
- Graduates from this institution have good career and employment prospects
- I have studied at this institution before
- Location of institution
- The content of the course
- The way the course is structured or assessed
- My employer advised or encouraged me to do it
- Delivery of the course is flexible enough to fit around my life
- Funding was available to study this particular course
- The cost of the course compared to other institutions
- It is the only institution offering this course
- Other *(Please specify)*.....

24. Would you agree or disagree that the information provided by your institution (including course specific information) to help you choose your course was...

	Definitely agree	Mostly agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly disagree	Definitely disagree	Not applicable
a. easy to find	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. accurate	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. If you have any further comments on the information provided by your institution, please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:

[Space for institutional questions]



## About yourself

To help us understand whether provision at this institution and across the sector is meeting the needs of all postgraduates, we would now like to ask some questions about you and your course. As with the rest of the survey, all reporting will be anonymous and your responses will be treated confidentially.

### 26. What is your age?

- 25 years old or younger
- 26-30 years old
- 31-35 years old
- 36-40 years old
- 41-45 years old
- 46-50 years old
- 51-55 years old
- 56 years old or older
- Prefer not to say

### 27. How would you describe your gender?

- Man
- Non-binary
- Woman
- Prefer not to say
- In another way (specify, if you wish)

### 28. Do you consider yourself to have a disability? (for example dyslexia, long-term illness, mental health condition, physical impairment)

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

#### If yes, please choose one or more from the following options:

- A social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
- Blind or a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- Deaf or serious hearing impairment
- A long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- A mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder
- A specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or ADHD
- A physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches
- A disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above
- Prefer not to say

**29. When you started your course, did you consider yourself to be fluent in the language you are taught in?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

**29a. To what extent do you agree or disagree that you have received appropriate support for your language needs**

- Definitely agree
- Mostly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Mostly disagree
- Definitely disagree
- Not applicable

**29b. If you have any further comments on the support for your language needs provided by your institution, please provide them here:**

**30. Where do you consider to be your permanent home?**

[Domicile list drawn from the HESA Domicile field]

**31. What is your ethnic group? (Please choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background):**

- White
- White: Gypsy or Traveller
- Black or Black British: Caribbean
- Black or Black British: African
- Any other Black background
- Asian or Asian British: Indian
- Asian or Asian British: Pakistani
- Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background
- Mixed: White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed: White and Black African
- Mixed: White and Asian
- Mixed: Any other Mixed background
- Arab
- Any other ethnic background
- Prefer not to say

## About your course

For these questions, please respond in relation to the taught postgraduate course you are currently studying.

### 32. I am registered for the qualification of:

- Taught Masters (for example MBA, LLM, MSc, MEng)
- Postgraduate Certificate (including PGCE)
- Postgraduate Diploma
- Other (*please specify*).....

### 33. HECOS discipline question - PRE-POPULATED

### 34. What are you currently registered as?

- Full-time
- Part-time

### 35. I am:

- Primarily a face-to-face learner (for example, based at my institution)
- Primarily a distance learner (for example, work based learner, online learner)

## About your education and career

### 36. Are you currently in paid employment?

- Yes
- No

#### 36.a. If yes, how many hours of paid employment do you undertake in a typical week?

- 1-10 hours
- 11-20 hours
- 21-30 hours
- More than 30 hours

### 37. How do you fund your tuition fees?

- Self-funded (including family or other personal contributions or loans)
- Part self-funded, part externally funded
- Externally funded (including funding body, university, employer or government)

### 39. Where do you live during term time?

- With other students in university accommodation
- With other students in private accommodation
- At home with parents
- With spouse/ partner / family but not in the family home
- On my own
- With others who are not students
- Other

### 40. Approximately how far do you travel from where you live during term time to campus?

- Under 1 mile
- 1 – 5 miles
- 6-10 miles
- 10 miles or more
- Not applicable

### 38. Have you considered, for any reason, leaving your postgraduate course?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

## [Hidden variables]

Username

Spare Parameter 1

Spare Parameter 2

## Thank you

Thank you very much for your time in completing this questionnaire. If you have a complaint or need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please contact **[the relevant service at your institution]**.

*This material and its content is developed by Advance HE. Advance HE would like to thank The National Student Survey ("NSS") in the reproduction of questions 2a-c, 5a-c, 13b & c, 15 a & b and question 19, which are taken from the NSS. With the exception of the aforementioned questions reproduced from the NSS, the copyright in such material and content belongs to Advance HE. No reproduction, modification or adaptation is permitted without the prior written consent of Advance HE.*

*© Advance HE 2008. Amended 2020. All rights reserved*