

Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey – PTES 2011

Welcome

The Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) is run by the Higher Education Academy together with your institution, to ask about your experiences of your postgraduate taught programme. Surveys of this nature provide universities with information that they can use to improve the experience of postgraduate taught students in future. The overall aim of the survey is to identify, at both a local and national level, areas where improvements could be made and efforts targeted to further enhance taught degree programmes.

PTES was developed following the success of the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) which has been run nationally for three years in more than 80 institutions across the United Kingdom and will run again for a fourth time this year. Thirty institutions participated in the first national administration of PTES in 2009 and 76 institutions took part in PTES 2010. This third national administration of PTES is likely to include more than 80 participating institutions.

Some questions in this survey are informed by the National Student Survey developed by HEFCE and the Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) developed by the Higher Education Academy.

The survey is divided into several short sections:

The first section asks about your motivations to undertake a postgraduate taught programme. This is followed by a further nine sections, each asking about a different, broad area of your experience and overall satisfaction. A demographic section is included at the end, which enables us to check the representativeness of the sample and to compare between different demographic groups in our analyses. It is important that you complete all sections of the survey for your views to be included. The data will not be used to identify any individuals.

The survey is on five pages and it is **not possible to return** to a page once it has been completed. Therefore, please think carefully before responding so that your views are accurately represented. When you arrive at the final 'thank you' page, you will know that your responses have been recorded on our database.

Once you click 'continue' you will be directed to the first section of the survey.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Pam Wells [Adviser, Evidence-Informed Practice]

Professor Adrian Randall [Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching, Learning and Quality), University of Birmingham; Chair of the PTES Advisory Group]

DATA PROTECTION

All data collected in this survey will be held securely.

Individual results are confidential to your institution.

All participating institutions have agreed not to identify any individuals when reporting their results, and to use their best efforts to ensure that no individuals can be identified by implication.

Aggregated institutional results will feed into an anonymised national aggregate which will be available to all institutions taking part in PTES for benchmarking purposes only. Some institutions may also wish to share their results to create smaller anonymised aggregates – benchmarking clubs – with similar institutions (e.g. Russell Group, Post-92).

The full PTES dataset will be available to the Higher Education Academy in order to conduct national level analysis, and all results will be reported in an aggregated and anonymised form.

SECTION A: MOTIVATIONS

1. My main motivations for taking this postgraduate programme were: *(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)*.....

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

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

SECTION B: QUALITY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

3. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding teaching and learning on your programme?

	Definitely disagree	Mostly disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly agree	Definitely agree	Not applicable
a. The teaching and learning methods are effective for this type of programme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. 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"/>
c. I am happy with the teaching support I received from staff on my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The course is intellectually stimulating	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding staff on your programme?

	Definitely disagree	Mostly disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Mostly agree	Definitely agree	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 made the subject interesting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. 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"/>

5. Overall, how would you rate the teaching quality on your programme?

- It is consistently good
- It is variable but generally good
- It is variable but generally poor
- It is consistently poor

6. To what extent have you been expected to analyse ideas or examine a particular case or situation in depth?

- ✓ Never
- ✓ Hardly ever
- ✓ Sometimes
- ✓ Frequently
- ✓ Most of the time

7. To what extent have you been expected to synthesise information or organise ideas or experiences into more complex relationships?

- ✓ Never
- ✓ Hardly ever
- ✓ Sometimes
- ✓ Frequently
- ✓ Most of the time

8. To what extent have you been expected to judge and evaluate information, arguments, or methods?

- ✓ Never
- ✓ Hardly ever
- ✓ Sometimes
- ✓ Frequently
- ✓ Most of the time

9. To what extent have you been expected to apply theories to practice in new situations?

- ✓ Never
- ✓ Hardly ever
- ✓ Sometimes
- ✓ Frequently
- ✓ Most of the time

10. Please outline any other key learning skills you have developed or been expected to practise on your programme:

.....
.....

SECTION I: OVERALL SATISFACTION

19. Please rate the following broad aspects of your postgraduate taught programme in terms of how your experience of those aspects has met with your expectations (-3 it has definitely not met my expectations , 0 it has met my expectations, +3 it has definitely exceeded my expectations)

	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
a. Quality of teaching and learning	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Assessment and feedback	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Organisation and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Learning resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Skills and personal development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Career and professional development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Overall experience of my course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

SECTION J: FURTHER COMMENTS

Looking back over your experience of your taught degree programme, are there any particularly positive or negative aspects you would like to highlight?

20. POSITIVE

.....

21. NEGATIVE

.....

SPACE FOR INSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

22. I am registered for the qualification of:

- ✓ Taught Master (e.g. MA, MSc, MBA, LLM)
- ✓ Postgraduate Certificate (including PGCE)
- ✓ Postgraduate Diploma
- ✓ Other (*Please specify*).....

23. 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

24. What is your gender?

- ✓ Male
- ✓ Female

25. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

- ✓ Yes
- ✓ No

If yes, please choose one from the following options:

- ✓ Social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
- ✓ Blind/serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- ✓ Deaf/serious hearing impairment
- ✓ Long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- ✓ Mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder
- ✓ Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Two or more impairments and/or disabling medical conditions

For the next question, please respond in relation to the taught postgraduate programme you are currently studying.

26. Please indicate, which of the following most closely matches your discipline:

- ✓ Medicine and Dentistry
- ✓ Medical Science and Pharmacy
- ✓ Nursing
- ✓ Other subjects allied to Medicine
- ✓ Biology and related Sciences
- ✓ Sports Science
- ✓ Psychology
- ✓ Veterinary Sciences
- ✓ Agriculture and related subjects
- ✓ Physical Science
- ✓ Physical Geography and Environmental Science
- ✓ Mathematical Sciences
- ✓ Computer Science
- ✓ Mechanically-based Engineering
- ✓ Electronic and Electrical Engineering
- ✓ Civil, Chemical and other Engineering
- ✓ Technology
- ✓ Architecture, Building and Planning
- ✓ Economics
- ✓ Politics
- ✓ Sociology, Social Policy and Anthropology
- ✓ Social Work
- ✓ Human and Social Geography
- ✓ Law
- ✓ Business
- ✓ Management
- ✓ Finance and Accounting
- ✓ Tourism, Transport, Travel and others in Business and Administrative studies
- ✓ Media studies
- ✓ Communications and Information studies
- ✓ English-based studies
- ✓ European Languages and Area studies
- ✓ Other Languages and Area studies
- ✓ History and Archaeology
- ✓ Philosophy, Theology and Religious studies
- ✓ Art and Design
- ✓ Performing Arts
- ✓ Other Creative Arts
- ✓ Teacher Training
- ✓ Education studies
- ✓ Combined

27. *** Which Department do you belong to? *** *This is a question for each institution to map their departmental structure. The format of this question is a drop down list and question wording can be changed or deleted. If you wish to compare your results with previous years in BOS, please test your question wording carefully to make sure that you can access the information you need.*

28. When did you start your course?

- ✓ After 1 January 2011
- ✓ 1 September 2010 – 31 December 2010
- ✓ 1 September 2009 – 31 August 2010
- ✓ Before 1 September 2009

29. What are you currently registered as?

- ✓ Full-time
- ✓ Part-time
- ✓ Currently not registered (e.g. finished the course) was full-time
- ✓ Currently not registered (e.g. finished the course) was part-time

30. I am:

- ✓ Primarily a face to face learner [e.g., based at my institution]
- ✓ Primarily a distance learner [e.g. work based learner, OU student]

31. For fees purposes, is your normal place of residence registered as:

- ✓ Home
- ✓ Other EU
- ✓ Non EU

32. Where is your normal place of residence?

- ✓ Afghanistan
- ✓ Åland Islands
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ Algeria
- ✓ American Samoa
- ✓ Andorra
- ✓ Angola
- ✓ Anguilla
- ✓ Antigua and Barbuda
- ✓ Argentina
- ✓ Armenia
- ✓ Aruba
- ✓ Australia
- ✓ Austria
- ✓ Azerbaijan
- ✓ Bahamas
- ✓ Bahrain
- ✓ Bangladesh
- ✓ Barbados
- ✓ Belarus

- ✓ Belgium
- ✓ Belize
- ✓ Benin
- ✓ Bermuda
- ✓ Bhutan
- ✓ Bolivia (Plurinational state of)
- ✓ Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ✓ Botswana
- ✓ Brazil
- ✓ British Virgin Islands
- ✓ Brunei Darussalam
- ✓ Bulgaria
- ✓ Burkina Faso
- ✓ Burundi
- ✓ Cambodia
- ✓ Cameroon
- ✓ Canada
- ✓ Cape Verde
- ✓ Cayman Islands
- ✓ Central African Republic
- ✓ Chad
- ✓ Channel Islands
- ✓ Chile
- ✓ China
- ✓ China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
- ✓ China, Macao Special Administrative Region
- ✓ Colombia
- ✓ Comoros
- ✓ Congo
- ✓ Cook Islands
- ✓ Costa Rica
- ✓ Côte d'Ivoire
- ✓ Croatia
- ✓ Cuba
- ✓ Cyprus
- ✓ Czech Republic
- ✓ Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- ✓ Democratic Republic of the Congo
- ✓ Denmark
- ✓ Djibouti
- ✓ Dominica
- ✓ Dominican Republic
- ✓ Ecuador
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ El Salvador
- ✓ Equatorial Guinea
- ✓ Eritrea
- ✓ Estonia
- ✓ Ethiopia
- ✓ Faeroe Islands
- ✓ Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
- ✓ Fiji
- ✓ Finland
- ✓ France
- ✓ French Guiana
- ✓ French Polynesia
- ✓ Gabon

- ✓ Gambia
- ✓ Georgia
- ✓ Germany
- ✓ Ghana
- ✓ Gibraltar
- ✓ Greece
- ✓ Greenland
- ✓ Grenada
- ✓ Guadeloupe
- ✓ Guam
- ✓ Guatemala
- ✓ Guernsey
- ✓ Guinea
- ✓ Guinea-Bissau
- ✓ Guyana
- ✓ Haiti
- ✓ Holy See
- ✓ Honduras
- ✓ Hungary
- ✓ Iceland
- ✓ India
- ✓ Indonesia
- ✓ Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- ✓ Iraq
- ✓ Ireland
- ✓ Isle of Man
- ✓ Israel
- ✓ Italy
- ✓ Jamaica
- ✓ Japan
- ✓ Jersey
- ✓ Jordan
- ✓ Kazakhstan
- ✓ Kenya
- ✓ Kiribati
- ✓ Kuwait
- ✓ Kyrgyzstan
- ✓ Lao People's Democratic Republic
- ✓ Latvia
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Lesotho
- ✓ Liberia
- ✓ Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- ✓ Liechtenstein
- ✓ Lithuania
- ✓ Luxembourg
- ✓ Madagascar
- ✓ Malawi
- ✓ Malaysia
- ✓ Maldives
- ✓ Mali
- ✓ Malta
- ✓ Marshall Islands
- ✓ Martinique
- ✓ Mauritania
- ✓ Mauritius
- ✓ Mayotte

- ✓ Mexico
- ✓ Micronesia (Federated States of)
- ✓ Monaco
- ✓ Mongolia
- ✓ Montenegro
- ✓ Montserrat
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Mozambique
- ✓ Myanmar
- ✓ Namibia
- ✓ Nauru
- ✓ Nepal
- ✓ Netherlands
- ✓ Netherlands Antilles
- ✓ New Caledonia
- ✓ New Zealand
- ✓ Nicaragua
- ✓ Niger
- ✓ Nigeria
- ✓ Niue
- ✓ Norfolk Island
- ✓ Northern Mariana Islands
- ✓ Norway
- ✓ Occupied Palestinian Territory
- ✓ Oman
- ✓ Pakistan
- ✓ Palau
- ✓ Panama
- ✓ Papua New Guinea
- ✓ Paraguay
- ✓ Peru
- ✓ Philippines
- ✓ Pitcairn
- ✓ Poland
- ✓ Portugal
- ✓ Puerto Rico
- ✓ Qatar
- ✓ Republic of Korea
- ✓ Republic of Moldova
- ✓ Réunion
- ✓ Romania
- ✓ Russian Federation
- ✓ Rwanda
- ✓ Saint-Barthélemy
- ✓ Saint Helena
- ✓ Saint Kitts and Nevis
- ✓ Saint Lucia
- ✓ Saint-Martin (French part)
- ✓ Saint Pierre and Miquelon
- ✓ Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- ✓ Samoa
- ✓ San Marino
- ✓ Sao Tome and Principe
- ✓ Saudi Arabia
- ✓ Senegal
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Seychelles

- ✓ Sierra Leone
- ✓ Singapore
- ✓ Slovakia
- ✓ Slovenia
- ✓ Solomon Islands
- ✓ Somalia
- ✓ South Africa
- ✓ Spain
- ✓ Sri Lanka
- ✓ Sudan
- ✓ Suriname
- ✓ Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands
- ✓ Swaziland
- ✓ Sweden
- ✓ Switzerland
- ✓ Syrian Arab Republic
- ✓ Tajikistan
- ✓ Thailand
- ✓ The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- ✓ Timor-Leste
- ✓ Togo
- ✓ Tokelau
- ✓ Tonga
- ✓ Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Turkmenistan
- ✓ Turks and Caicos Islands
- ✓ Tuvalu
- ✓ Uganda
- ✓ Ukraine
- ✓ United Arab Emirates
- ✓ United Kingdom – England
- ✓ United Kingdom – Northern Ireland
- ✓ United Kingdom – Scotland
- ✓ United Kingdom – Wales
- ✓ United Republic of Tanzania
- ✓ United States of America
- ✓ United States Virgin Islands
- ✓ Uruguay
- ✓ Uzbekistan
- ✓ Vanuatu
- ✓ Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
- ✓ Viet Nam
- ✓ Wallis and Futuna Islands
- ✓ Western Sahara
- ✓ Yemen
- ✓ Zambia
- ✓ Zimbabwe
- ✓ Other (*Please specify*).....

33. Are you currently in paid employment?

- ✓ Yes
- ✓ No

If yes, how many hours of paid employment do you undertake in a typical week (term time)?

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

34. What is your main source of funding for this course?

- ✓ Self-funded (e.g. loan, family)
- ✓ Charity
- ✓ Research council
- ✓ Institution (e.g. bursary, scholarship)
- ✓ Employer
- ✓ UK Government
- ✓ EU Government
- ✓ Overseas Government
- ✓ *Other (Please specify).....*

35. Your highest qualification on entry:

- ✓ Qualifications below undergraduate degree
- ✓ Undergraduate degree or equivalent
- ✓ Postgraduate degree (e.g. MA)
- ✓ No academic qualifications but professional experience
- ✓ *Other (Please specify).....*

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your answers have now been recorded on our database.