

Course Data Fact Sheet:

University of Suffolk Student Survey Data

What is this data?

Each year, all University of Suffolk students not included in the National Student Survey (NSS) are invited to participate in an equivalent internal survey. This survey employs the same 27 questions as the NSS and is administered centrally through an electronic survey tool. The survey is open at the same time as the NSS (usually February to April) and the results are made available during May of each year.

Where possible, results are provided for courses, departments, faculties, partner colleges and the University of Suffolk overall. However, some courses do not have sufficient numbers of students participating to allow the provision of results specific to the course. Where this is the case, we are sometimes able to combine the student responses for related courses to provide results that can be used by course teams to inform their course monitoring and development.

Interpreting the data

While it is tempting to compare the University of Suffolk student survey results to the NSS results, the two surveys are very different.

In particular, it is worth remembering that:

- Most students surveyed by the University of Suffolk student survey are some way from completing their studies and their responses may reflect this.
- Response rates for the survey are typically much lower than those achieved for the NSS.
- While the NSS is limited to undergraduate courses, the University of Suffolk student survey includes students on postgraduate courses and on continuing professional development provision.

How the data is presented

As shown below, we provide the results for each course alongside those for the course's department or partner college and the overall University of Suffolk results. Each figure represents the percentage of respondents who 'definitely agreed' or 'mostly agreed' with each of the 27 statements posed in the survey—thus the higher the figure, the greater the satisfaction with provision that is indicated. 21 of the questions are also grouped into eight summary figures (presented on a cream background) to help interpretation and comparison.

Note on 2017 results

In 2017 a revised set of NSS questions were introduced and these were used in this survey too. As a consequence, there are questions for which there are no results for the previous years. Similarly, the wording for some questions (indicated by asterisks) is altered from that employed in previous years and so comparison of results should be done with care.

	2017			2016	2015
	University	Department	Course	Course	Course
Number of students invited to participate	3735	346	32	23	33
Number of Respondents	789	112	13	10	21
Response Rate (%)	21	32	41	43	64
	% Agree	% Agree	% Agree	% Agree	% Agree
The teaching on my course	78	79	90	88	83
01. Staff are good at explaining things.	79	80	92	92	81
02. Staff have made the subject interesting.	76	77	92	95	86
03. The course is intellectually stimulating.	78	80	85	82	86
04. My course has challenged me to achieve my best work.	78	78	92	-	-
2. Learning Opportunities	79	80	95	-	-
05. My course has provided me with opportunities to explore ideas or concepts in depth.	81	81	100	-	-
06. My course has provided me with opportunities to bring information and ideas together from different topics.	78	78	92	-	-
07. My course has provided me with opportunities to apply what I have learnt.	78	80	92	-	-
3. Assessment and Feedback	71	76	69	78	70
08. The criteria used in marking have been clear in advance.	70	70	62	86	81
09. Marking and assessment has been fair.	72	84	85	79	86
10. Feedback on my work has been timely. *	69	69	54	71	76
11. I have received helpful comments on my work. *	74	82	77	78	48
4. Academic Support	76	80	87	93	73
12. I have been able to contact staff when I needed to.	80	82	77	90	86
13. I have received sufficient advice and guidance in relation to my course. *	75	81	85	96	62
14. Good advice was available when I needed to make study choices on my course.	73	77	100	94	71
5. Organisation and Management	66	67	79	74	86
15. The course is well organised and running smoothly.	60	64	69	81	86
16. The timetable works efficiently for me. *	70	71	85	76	86
17. Any changes in the course or teaching have been communicated effectively.	68	67	85	66	86
6. Learning Resources	75	65	87	81	78
18. The IT resources and facilities provided have supported my learning well. *	73	60	85	94	90
19. The library resources (e.g. books, online services and learning spaces) have supported my learning well. *	77	66	92	96	71
20. I have been able to access course-specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software, collections) when I needed to. *	76	68	85	68	71
7. Learning Community	72	70	92	-	-
21. I feel part of a community of staff and students.	63	63	92	-	-
22. I have had the right opportunities to work with other students as part of my course.	80	78	82	-	-
8. Student Voice	61	64	80	-	-
23. I have had the right opportunities to provide feedback on my course.	74	77	77	-	-
24. Staff value students' views and opinions about the course.	68	73	92	-	-
25. It is clear how students' feedback on the course has been acted on.	50	56	85	-	-
26. The students' union (association or guild) effectively represents students' academic interests.	52	37	54	-	-
27. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course.	74	75	92	88	81