

Default Question Block

A Statistical Analysis of students' attendance

Participant Information

Introduction

You are invited to take part in research taking place at the University of the West of England, Bristol. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the study is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully and if you have any queries or would like more information please contact Dr Andre Jesus, FET, University of the West of England, Bristol andre.henriquesjesus@uwe.ac.uk.

What is the aim of the research?

The research is looking at students attendance to lectures, in particular, factors which might contribute to a lower attendance. The research question is "what are the causes for a lower attendance to lectures in the civil engineering degree?". To help answer this question this online questionnaire has been developed. The aim of the questionnaire will be to collect data related to your attendance and the underlying causes without compromising anonymity.

The results of the study will be analysed and written in an internal report stored in the University of the West of England's repository. If the results and data are sufficiently reliable, the academic team might use them to develop strategies to support lecture attendance.

Why have I been invited to take part?

As a student, it is crucial to gain information about your learning experience and engagement with lectures. You will not be asked any questions about your personal data. My main objective is to improve your academic performance as a student and to remove barriers to lecture attendance.

Do I have to take part?

You do not have to take part in this research. It is up to you to decide whether or not you want to be involved. If you do decide to take part, you will be asked to confirm your consent in the next page. If you do decide not to take part, you are able to withdraw from the research without giving a reason. Answering this questionnaire bears no impact on your marks/academic progression.

What will happen to me if I take part and what do I have to do?

If you agree to take part you will be asked to take part in an online questionnaire. This will be conducted by an online system called Qualtrics. The researcher is experienced in the subject matter and is sensitive to issues that may raise. The online questionnaire will take approximately 10 minutes.

What are the benefits of taking part?

The aims of this work are to improve students engagement with lectures, ensure equality of opportunities, and overall improvement of academic performance.

What are the possible risks of taking part?

It is not foreseen or anticipated that any significant risk to you is developed in taking part in this study. If, however, you feel uncomfortable at any time you can ask for the online questionnaire to stop. If you need any support during or after the online questionnaire then the researcher will be able to put you in touch with suitable support agencies. The online questionnaire has been designed with these considerations in mind.

What will happen to your information?

All the information received from you will be treated in the strictest confidence. All the information that you give will be kept confidential and anonymised. The only circumstance where we may not be able to keep your information confidential is when you login into the Qualtrics system. Research material will be kept in UWE's database system in a safe and secure setting to which only the researcher will have access in accordance with the University's and the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation requirements. Your anonymised data will be analysed statistically, and the researcher will ensure that there is no possibility of identification or re-identification from this point.

Where will the results of the research study be published?

A report will be written containing any research findings. This report will be stored in the University of the West of England's Research Repository but will not be made publicly available.

A hard copy of the Report can be made available to any research participants if you would like to see it.

Who has ethically approved this research?

The project has been reviewed and approved by a module tutor of the Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice, Dr Hazel Corradi. Any comments, questions or complaints about the ethical conduct of this study can be addressed to Hazel.Corradi@uwe.ac.uk.

What if something goes wrong?

If you feel uncomfortable at any time you can ask for the online questionnaire to stop. If you need any support during or after the online questionnaire then the main researcher will be able to put you in touch with suitable support agencies.

What if I have more questions or do not understand something?

If you would like any further information about the research please contact in the first instance: Andre Jesus, Office 3Q81, Faculty of Environment and Technology, University of the West of England (UWE), Coldharbour Lane, Frenchay Campus, Bristol BS16 1QY, UK, andre.henriquesjesus@uwe.ac.uk

Thank you for considering to take part in this study.

Dr Andre Jesus, 12 September 2020

Consent form

This consent form will have been given to you with the Participant Information Sheet. Please ensure that you have read and understood the information contained in the Participant Information section and asked any questions before you sign this form. If you have any questions please contact a member of the research team, whose details are set out on the Participant Information Sheet

If you are happy to take part in this Qualtrics online questionnaire, please tick the relevant option below

I have read and understood the information in the Participant Information Sheet which I have been given to read before asked to sign this form; I have been given

the opportunity to ask questions about the study; I have had my questions answered satisfactorily by the research team; I agree that anonymised quotes may be used in the final Report of this study; I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time until the data has been anonymised, without giving a reason; I agree to take part in the research

Participate in the survey?

- Yes
- No

Survey body

How would you rate your attendance to the lectures in your degree?

- Often
- Rarely
- It depends of the module/occasion

Are you an international student?

- Yes
- No

Are you a part-time student?

- Yes
- No

What is your group age?

- 17-19
- 20-22
- 23-26
- 27-30
- 30+

Do you feel that attendance to lectures has an impact on your marks?

- Yes
- No
- It depends of the module

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that you have not been able due to the COVID-19 pandemic? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that your teacher is not performing well (in terms of organisation, clarity, ability to motivate, etc.)? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that your personal-life is interfering with your attendance? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that it is difficult (or impossible) to commute to UWE? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that you are confident in your ability/knowledge to self-learn the topic on your own? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that you are confident that made-available resources (videos, lecture notes, etc.) are sufficient to learn on your own? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In modules that you do not attend to, is it the case that the low level of the assessments does not justify attending the lectures? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- Not
- Not applicable

In module that you do not attend to, is it the case that the conditions of the classroom are not appropriate for you to learn effectively? Select "not applicable" if you attend regardless.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Is there any other reason, apart from the ones stated above, that negatively impacts your ability to attend to lectures?