

Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey: Staff Guide

The Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey of taught postgraduates begins at Teesside University on Monday 12th February.

This guide has been produced to help you support students through the survey process.

What you should tell your students:

The Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey is a national survey, co-ordinated by the national body for improving teaching and learning in Universities, the Higher Education Academy. It is carried out by the University and begins here on Monday 12 February and closes on Sunday 4 March.

Teesside University are promoting the survey to help encourage as many eligible students as possible to complete it online and to give their feedback. The more students who complete, the more representative it will be.

The survey is the chance for taught postgraduates to feedback their experiences on learning and teaching. We need to know what postgraduates think so we can address issues and keep doing what is valued. It is an opportunity to say what went well and what could have been improved.

The survey is confidential and the results are made anonymous so that no individual can be identified.

Postgraduates will receive an email from Bristol Online Surveys on the launch date, asking them to fill in the survey using a provided link, and will also be able to access the survey via Blackboard. No usernames or passwords will be required.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will PTES be carried out?

The survey is carried out by the Learning and Teaching Enhancement team within Academic Registry, and the questionnaire hosted online by Bristol Online Surveys.

On Monday 12 February all taught postgraduate students will receive an email from Bristol Online Surveys asking them to complete the survey.

Any students not completing the survey within the first couple of weeks will receive further reminders. The survey will close on Sunday 4 March.

What will be asked?

The survey questions are broken down into the following areas:

- The experience of teaching and learning, including: staff, learning materials, working with other students, workload, and feeding back on experience;
- Assessment and feedback, including supervisor support for dissertation or major project;
- Organisation and management, including induction and involvement in course decisions;
- Resources and services, including learning resources and overall support;
- Skills development, including independent learning, research skills and career skills;
- Motivation for taking the programme and information provided by the institution to help course choice;
- Demographic details, including on previous education and fluency in English.

Students are encouraged to take an overview of the whole course and have an opportunity to comment after each section, as well as at the end of the questionnaire.

What if students don't want to take part?

We strongly encourage students to fill it in as soon as possible because their experience and views are very important. However, it is not compulsory. Students are able to opt out and can let the University know at any point if they don't want to take part, by emailing surveys@tees.ac.uk.

How will I see the results?

The results of institutions aggregated together are published by the HEA. Institutions own their results and can decide whether to make them public. Detailed results will be made available to staff by Academic Registry. Results for the sector, this institution and student comments can be made public. Other results, for example for groups of institutions or sector quartile results, cannot be made public. All reporting should provide a fair and balanced picture of provision, and should be directed towards enhancing practice.

More information?

For more information please contact the Learning and Teaching Enhancement team via surveys@tees.ac.uk.