



Document 2: Additional Quotes supporting the Analysis of Qualitative Data Emerging from StudentSurvey.ie

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Additional Quotes 'Does Best'

Course structure

Wide variety of courses

2019

"Offers a wide variety of courses."

"They have an extensive range of courses and a flexible approach to part time learning."

"Provides a good variety/ combination of courses. Provides a good overall learning atmosphere."

"Informative Module Descriptions and Course Outline and expectations."

"Relatable & relevant course material."

"Provide in depth course materials and a wide variety of subjects that interest everybody."

"Encourages us to achieve our best results and shows us how all the information covered relates directly back to our future careers. It's in our best interests to succeed."

"I like the variety of course subjects during the semester. The subjects complement each other very well, and they are practical - I can clearly see their benefits for my future career."

"Provides a variety of subjects and modules and prepares us well for work life."

"Interesting coursework and involved lecturers."

"Wide range of courses to cater to potential students' areas of interest."

2020

"Has a good course outline."

"Provides a wide range of courses."

“Interesting course material.”

“Emphasis on how to use course work in a work life.”

“Apply course material relative to future employment opportunities.”

Online learning

2019

“The Online learning system via Moodle provides students with a flexible option to complete a wide range of courses.”

“Online courses is excellent.”

“Modular type programmes delivered through blended learning and workshops.”

“For me the blended learning and access to tutors is excellent to give college /work / life balance.”

“The online course is very flexible for me as a part-time student. I would recommend this platform to others.”

Additional Comments

2019

“Provide a range of different teaching and assessment methods. Engage students with a range of activities to develop skills that will be invaluable in future.”

Learning approaches

2019

“Different techniques for student learning eg presentation to group work to online learning.”

“Use a variety of teaching methods and encourage students input.”

“Provides learning and assessment through a variety of methods to cater for students needs.”

Teaching techniques

2019

“Use a wide range of teaching methods - online blogs, seminar activities etc.”

“Some modules allow for learners to teach each other or take part in a flipped classroom.”

“Effective use of model quizzes, lab exercises, presentations.”

Tutorials and Practical Learning Techniques

2019

“Put theory into practice with labs.”

“Practical hands on work relevant to theory being covered in class.”

“Provide one to one tutorials.”

2020

“Hands on practical modules.”

“Very practical courses in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Adapting course work to students needs and wishes.”

Context

2019

“Applying real life situations to theory.”

“Lecturers interact with students and help us understand coursework relating to everyday examples.”

2020

“Real life examples that we can apply to everyday life.”

“Lecturers giving examples which are relevant to everyday life/workplace.”

Role of online technologies

2019

“Different online quizzes or interactive games.”

“Interactive online quizzes in lectures to test our knowledge”.

“Very good online resources, course work really relates to real life situations.”

The Role of Discussion

2019

“Lecturers and student in class discussion is very good. We can learn from each other that way.”

“Class discussions and topics that are very relevant to the course content.”

“Many lecturers engage students with in class discussions which allow us to hear others ideas or voice our own.”

2020

“Lecturers open the floor to discussion and let students give an opportunity to share their opinions or ask for more information on topics.”

“Encourage students to contribute to class discussions so they understand more.”

Assessment

Assessment approaches

2019

“Many MCQs through semesters allows us to not stress as much about finals.”

“Smaller classes, allows Lecturers to work with students individually and effectively. Continuous assessment also increases student learning as they as keeping on top of work and it is not building up at the end of the year.”

“Includes continuous assessment in the courses, which helps with learning and understanding the material.”

2020

“Plenty of CA assessments and online quizzes and content to keep students engaged.”

“Different types of assessment to engage in topic over a period of time.”

“The continuous assessment is a great way to help up to date with the course content with various tasks throughout the semester. This makes the final assessment a lot easier.”

“Many MCQs through semesters allows us to not stress as much about finals.”

Practical nature of assessment

2019

“The programs to date have provided practical assignments to support the learning topics covered.”

“Requiring a fair amount of group projects and continuous assessments to be completed, sometimes on real life cases.”

Feedback

2019

“When they give assignments to write they always give feedback which is a good way of keeping track of how you're getting on.”

2020

“Interaction is good with the online lectures. This year, we got responses from all assignments and course material prior to exams and it was very constructive.”

Facilities and environment

Range

2019

“Offers brilliant learning facilities.”

“Lots of facilities that offer great help and resources.”

“Provides excellent facilities.”

2020

“The amount of facilities I can use here.”

“Great facilities.”

2019

“Provides facilities that gives students the opportunity to improve their learning environment e.g the library.”

“Provides excellent study facilities.”

“Sports in my case, courses and various teams. Easy to socialise through sports.”

“Learning centres, good library and computer facilities.”

“Provides a maths and science learning centre.”

“Provides facilities that gives students the opportunity to improve their learning environment e.g the library.”

“<Institute> has lots of libraries and workshops to help with exam stress and managing our workload.”

2020

“Regular library opening, plenty of study facilities and student support facilities.”

“Have a lot of facilities for people who may have problem with learning.”

“They provide different facilities to help students who are struggling with different aspects of the course.”

“Providing proper facilities to learn.”

“Good IT facilities and computer labs.”

“It's a very hands on institution with a lot of practical aspects offered (e.g. clinical competencies, anatomy lab).”

“State of the art sport and science facilities to aid practical learning.”

“Lectures are clear and informative.....and facilities such as the library provide a wide range of material to complete assignments and further understanding of a topic.”

“Good post grad building & facilities in there for focused and quiet learning.”

“Provides facilities that gives students the opportunity to improve their learning environment e.g the library.”

“<Institute> has lots of libraries and workshops to help with exam stress and managing our workload.

Availability of facilities

2019

“Facilities available in <school> to facilitate and encourage learning outside class time (Bloomberg terminals, meeting rooms for group work).”

“Provide a library that is open late at night and encourages students to have a balance between work and social life.”

2020

“Facilities are open in evening times for students.”

“Facilities open early and close late.”

Online facilities

2019

“They promote use of the library and online facilities to help with your learning and make it easier for students.”

“I am a distance learning student and the on line lectures are very good.”

2020

“Use of online facilities where class material is uploaded, allowing students to freely revise and study.”

“Opportunities in distance learning and innovative use of learning technologies.”

“Provides easily accessible online facilities.”

Environment

2019

“Provide up to date curriculums and teaching methods with generally competent and pleasant staff in a relaxed environment.”

“It creates a safe and enjoyable environment.”

“Small class sizes and a comfortable environment.”

“Provide an active learning environment.”

“Provides safe environment to practice skills for placements.”

“Creates a healthy and respectful environment.”

“Create a very friendly, warm and happy environment which makes it easier for students to fit it.”

“By encouraging an interactive environment.”

“Offers a supportive learning environment, where everyones contribution is valued.”

“Provides students with a positive and inclusive atmosphere in which they can strive.”

Safe Environment – The role of staff in creating environment

2019

“They are more open and approachable. They create a positive atmosphere.”

2020

“Lecturers and staff are engaged with students, and create a safe space in which there is no such thing as a stupid question - students feel comfortable asking for more information/examples to help understand difficult topics and academic staff are super helpful with this.”

“The lecturers are very good at making a lecture feel like a safe environment to share thoughts and ideas.”

“I really enjoy the environment in the college and I think the entire experience from the way they have everything set up there for mature students leads to an overall feeling of belonging which in turn provides an excellent learning base. The set up as a whole from the lovely staff at Starbucks in the evenings, other mature students, extra classes in referencing and the hard work of academic staff and life long learning really combines to not just engage life long learning students but really make the entire process an enjoyable one and it is a pleasure to go there to learn..... It is the willingness of all the staff to help along with the services that provide a learning experience for mature students that is top quality.

Active/ Self Learning environment

2020

“Provides safe environment to practice skills for placements.”

“My course has a very encouraging environment with a strong emphasis on real world application.”

“Meeting students at their level, and fostering a warm, friendly and welcoming environment.”

Online environment

2019

“Provides a flexible, stress free online learning environment.”

“The interactive blogging is very good and <name removed> is a shining example of how a blog should work. Everyone giving advice and feedback in a safe accessible environment.”

The

Variety of events

2020

“There are many events associated with cooperation in the college.”

“Lots of events and facilities to help students to learn.”

“Host helpful events e.g. debates, public speaking workshops.”

Student Relationships

Student-lecturer relationships

2019

“Lecturers build a good relationship with the students to make them feel comfortable and that they are approachable”

“The lecturers offering office hours is a great help for students who are struggling and who have questions to ask.”

“Student-Lecture relationships are very strong in this institution. Lecturers are willing to meet with students and can always be contacted through email or their offices which are located on campus.”

2020

“Lecturing staff build strong supportive trusting relationships with the students”

“Provide exemplary academic staff who will do all that they can to guide and assist students in the learning process.”

“Standard of staff”

2019

“Facilities and staff are at high standard.”

2020

“Offers excellent facilities in the library, lecturers are of a very high standard which encourages students to work hard and learn more.”

“High standard of teaching with a focus on the relevance of topics to the career I will pursue.”

“The standard of teaching and content is excellent and all of the staff are very supportive and approachable and extremely committed to enabling students to get the most out of their time at the University.”

Small class size and student/ lecturer relationships

2019

“Tutorials with small classes for closer interaction between tutors and students.”

“Class sizes are small therefore its easier to engage with lecturers during class.”

“Smaller class sizes, more personal relationship with lecturers.”

2020

“Small classes in first year, removes the daunting feeling of going into a large lecture hall. Staff are enthusiastic and go out of their way to help students understand the material.”

“Small lectures, taught by educated and interested lecturers who are willing to help in any way they can - it's a very positive relationship.”

“<Institute> provides a great learning experience due to its small classroom size. A student does not feel intimidated to ask questions and part take with others as everyone knows each other by name and quite well. The relaxed relationship of lecturers who refer to be addressed by their first name also make the learning experience very free flow and more like an open discussion.”

Staff-student relationships

2019

“Friendly staff and service, makes it easier to ask for help that is provided.”

“Enthusiastic staff encourage students to attend.”

2020

“It has some friendly staff that keep you engaged in your work.”

“Engaging communicative and enthusiastic staff.”

Department relationships

2020

“My department is small, and the close personal relationships I have built with my lecturers have really sparked a desire for knowledge and personal growth within me.”

“As I am learning something I love, having a good relationship with my lecturers is vital. I am lucky that I am attached to a small department. That has impacted on my positive experience in university.”

“The academic staff at the School of Irish are excellent; I would say that the standard is equally high in the institution as a whole.”

“Strong relationship with lecturers”

2020

“Lecturers give good feedback. Their lectures are very informative and they are always willing to talk or help a student if needed before or after class.”

“Excellent student-lecturer relationship; leading dynamic debates; providing collaborative and active learning (using videos, guest lecturers); boosting students' confidence.”

Support staff-student relationships

2020

“We have very supportive administrative staff and academic staff.”

“Have supportive library staff.”

“Lecturers Actively engage with students in class.. academic support staff offer and provide tutoring and help when needed.”

“Continuous assessment; open clear friendly and helpful staff both lecturer and other; constant flow of available information; a very human conscientious experience.”

“Academic, support and administrative staff are all very helpful and responsive to queries.”

“Excellent quality of teaching on my course, there are a plethora of helps available via the student union, pastoral care, admin and teaching staff at students finger tips - all supported and informed via a really efficient and caring student union.”

Student support

2019

“Great support services.”

“Offering a lot of support services outside of the classroom.”

“Provides a lot of library space for studying.”

2020

“Great support services for those in need.”

“There is a lot of extra support services available that can help with learning.”

“There is a great variety of support services available to students to encourage and engage learning.”

“Support services are readily available”.

“Learning support services”

Library

2020

“For me, the library and the design department being open late makes getting work done a lot easier.”

“Library runs workshops that help you learn how to use blackboard, documents, etc.”

“Have supportive library staff.”

“Provide the library services to give study/work space for those who do not have access to computers and/or a quiet space.”

“The library services have great opening hours and access to seating and laptop charging areas. The open access for students allows free use to get assignments done or research topics. It’s very beneficial to just be able to walk in and work whenever you have a free period or when you want to get extra studying done.”

“The library is quiet and well organised and there is good access to computers.”

“Library laid out well with the options of working alone at PC, working in quiet solitude or in a group setting in order to suit all students.”

“The library, providing a good space to study with a well stocked selection of books and reading material The Online Library, -allowing students to access past exam papers.”

“The college has an excellent library with great facilities to encourage students to study in a quiet environment and provide lots of facilities like computers and books to help students complete course work, study and assignments. There is study rooms to allow students to get together and help each other understand work and get projects done in a helpful environment which benefits everyone.”

Academic support centre

2019

“Provides a Maths support centre and workshops for citing and referencing in assignments.”

“Offers a wide variety of support such as the maths and english support centers.”

“Give international students some language support.”

“Provides learning centers for maths and science, and provides study areas around campus.”

2020

“Outside of lectures, there are regular classes and workshops that are free to all students E.G Math's learning centre, creative writing classes, referencing workshops etc.”

“Offers a wide variety of support such as the maths and english support centers.”

“Provide learning and support grinds.”

“Provide services to assist students such as maths and writing support centres.

“Support from staff is available when required. Information is available for the access office. I have not had a negative experience since commencing college.”

“Smaller class sizes is good, more interaction, careers office will always be open to supporting and helping you make a decision.”

2019

“Wide range of options to enhance learning, such as tutorials and lectures and extra material.”

“Supporting class and extra lab assistant.”

“They offer extra support learning classes.”

2020

“My institution have extra help classes that you can attend voluntarily.”

“Supporting class and extra lab assistant.”

“They offer extra support learning classes.”

“Have extra tutorial classes to help students and provide grind classes for hard subjects.”

Student Services

2020

“Student union are most supportive and informative to students.”

“Lecturers are there to help. Also the support staff for disability and other services are amazing and want to help.”

“The health services are easily accessed.”

Online supports

2020

“A lot of online support and resources.”

“Provide a comprehensive online support service with lecture notes recommended reading etc.”

Additional Quotes 'Improve'

Teaching

Teaching pedagogies

2019

"Focus on more relevant and up to date work practices and not spend time teaching obsolete methods."

"Have facilitator style of teaching lecturers."

"Better teaching techniques not just standard note taking and lecturing."

"Have the lecturers be more organized when they are teaching material so it is easier to focus. And also more demonstrations so we can see the theory in action."

"More flipped class room teaching."

2020

"Have more interactive classes instead of sitting there watching a PowerPoint as it's easy to get lost and daydream etc."

"Update the course work and make it more relevant to modern practices and procedures."

"Keep classes fresh and innovative."

"Do more interactive teaching techniques."

Practical Content

2019

"Have more practical elements in modules."

"Provide more practical classes."

2020

“Less theory more practical work.”

“Using more practical means of learning.”

Use of Technologies

2019

“Greater use of technology.”

2020

“More technology based learning.”

“Introduce a module which updates and/or introduces technology as an addition to teaching methods in the classroom.”

Online Teaching technologies

2019

“Leverage more the power of Blackboard, and technology in context of virtual seminars, recordings, and virtual interactions.”

“Improve the reliability of technology and remember that the on-line students are there by speaking up in class.”

“More technology with the online course: e-lectures, video.”

2020

“Offer a good, comprehensive, well structured online course.”

Lecturers approach

2019

“Treat students equally and have lecturers that are actually interested in teaching.”

“Lecturers with more passion for teaching and the subject they’re teaching.”

2020

“Ensure lecturers are interested and enthusiastic.”

“More content in lectures. Better organised lectures.”

Content

2019

“Update the course materials to make them more relevant.”

“Make course material more relevant to the end career.”

2020

“Update some of the lecture materials.”

“Relate the course work to the work environment.”

Class Size

2019

“Reduce class room sizes.”

“Small class sizes in tutorials.”

2020

“Smaller class room sizes to encourage interaction.”

Supporting Learning

2019

“Take their time with subjects, some are teaching over 25 years, students don't all have a background in chemistry it takes a little while longer to pick it up for some than others.”

“They could make the lectures more enjoyable by making sure the students completely understand what the lecturer is teaching, if a particular student does not understand a question or whatever even though they tried their best to understand it. The lecturer should not skip over but should explain it in the best possible way for the student to understand.”

2020

“They could have the notes up on moodle prior to lectures as some students find them a good learning aid.”

Make learning fun

2019

“Regular quizzes and test, make learning more fun and less serious.”

“I would say do more practical classes, more activities that would engage all students I think it would be more fun and it would help to learn as I done something similar in Spain and from the practical classes I learnt more than the classes where student just sit and listen to the lecture.”

2020

“Quizzes and polls during class keep students engaged in the topic and add some entertainment to the lecture too.”

Group work

2019

“Provide more opportunities for group work.”

2020

“More group work.”

Group Assessment

2019

“I think the institution could encourage us to work in groups more and assign group projects instead of individual projects.”

2020

“Have more group projects to learn working in a team and discussing the material needed.”

Feedback

2019

“Give feedback forms to students so we can voice our opinion so everyone is on the same page grasping sometimes very difficult concepts.”

“Improve on lecturers feedback to students.”

“Have marking schemes available for assignments and provide immediate feedback. Not feedback after our final exams are done because how are we supposed to learn throughout the year.”

2020

“Feedback on exam results and assignments.”

“Give feedback on performance and ways to improve next time.”

Facilities and environment

2019

“Provide better facilities.”

2020

“More facilities.”

“Improve facilities.”

2019

“Offer more facilities such a study areas with more computers and study hubs, longer library hours.”

2020

“Offer better class room facilities like better desks provide stationary to students etc”.

Promotion of the available facilities

2019

“Make more emphasis on the facilities available to aid the students if struggling or finding things hard.”

2020

“Become more approachable and let students know the facilities available to them.”

Utilisation of online facilities

2019

“Work on online facilities.”

2020

“Better online facilities.”

“Uploading learning materials in <platform> earlier. Because some international students sometimes feel difficult to catch up the content that talk about in the lectures if they don't preview the materials.”

“Better facilities - wifi and blackboard organisation.”

Smaller class sizes

2019

“Smaller group learning environments for certain modules and maybe some helpful tutorials given by students in older years to first/second years.”

“Smaller classes with more tutorials to improve students.”

2020

“Provide more intimate learning environments, big classes can be intimidating.”

“Smaller classes for the bigger subjects so students can ask questions and have a discussion.”

Student relationships

Lecturer-student relationships

2019

“Greatly improve the relationship between lecturers and students.”

“Establish more positive student-teacher relationships.”

2020

“A more personal relationship with the lecturers.”

“Have lecturers try to create a more personal relationship with students.”

Influence of class size of lecturer-student relationships

2019

“Smaller class sizes to have a better relationship with lecturers.”

“Have smaller classes, allows the lecturer to create a better relationship with students.”

2020

“A greater emphasis on a lecturer and student relationship. Very big classes can impact this.”

“Develop better relationships with students. smaller classes.”

Individual lecturer-student relationships

2019

“More one on one time.”

“One to one with students.”

2020

“Have one on one meetings with students.”

“Arrange one on one sessions with lecturers.”

Student Support

Academic support

2019

“Provide extra classes for all modules.”

2020

“Extra classes and tutorials.”

“Upload extra notes from lectures on Moodle, allowing students to concentrate on taking in information instead of scrabbling to jot down information during lectures

Library services

2019

“More seating in library, wider selection of books and computer software.”

“Increase library spaces to ensure that more students can avail off study spaces during peak studying periods.”

2020

“Provide bigger study spaces in the library.”

“More library facilities eg working computers, space.”

Support for International students

2019

“Also maybe promoting international and national relations would probably help all to engage in all the courses.”

“Be more open again and more helpful for international people.”

2020

“Mixing international students for more interaction.”

“Improve interactions with international students knowing they are far from home and endeavouring to make them comfortable.”