



# Experiences of Teaching & Learning Questionnaire

## Introduction to the Project

The ESRC Teaching and Learning Research Programme is a nationwide initiative designed to provide a more effective research base to help staff to enhance the teaching they provide for students. Our project is the only one at university level, and we are investigating how students learn with differing kinds of teaching and support. We are looking at students' experiences in five contrasting subject areas in some 30 course settings across Britain. This is the last questionnaire that we are asking you to complete and it brings together your approaches to studying with your experiences of teaching and learning in this particular course unit or module.

Our overall findings (but none of your individual answers) will be fed back to staff to allow them to develop this course unit further. We are grateful for your involvement in this project. If you are interested in the progress of our work, our web site is <http://www.ed.ac.uk/etl>

## Data Protection Act

If you have not already done this, please complete the following declaration. If you have, start with the Background Information section.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act, we have to ask you to sign the following declaration. You can be quite sure that all the information we collect will be used only for the purposes of research and kept confidential to the research team itself: it will not be released to anybody else.

*I agree to allow the university to provide the research team with my name, contact details, grades and other information about my course of study. I also agree that this information, and the data collected from me, may be held and processed by the team for the purposes of research.*

Sign  Date 

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## Background Information

Print name  Identity number 

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Institution  Please complete from the right, e.g. 

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Overall programme of study  Age 

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 Year of study 

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This course unit or module  Male  Female

FOR OFFICE USE 

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# 1 Approaches to learning and studying ▲

You may have already filled out a longer questionnaire about your *general* approaches to studying, but this time we want you to relate your answers directly to **this particular course unit or module**. Please give your immediate reaction to **every** comment, indicating how you really have been studying.

Put a cross in the box to indicate how strongly you agree with **each** of the following statements.

✓ = agree    ✓? = agree somewhat    x? = disagree somewhat    x = disagree

Try not to use ?? = *unsure* unless you really have to, or if it cannot apply to you or your course unit.

	✓	✓?	??	x?	x
1. I've often had trouble in making sense of the things I have to remember.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I've been over the work I've done to check my reasoning and see that it makes sense.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I have usually set out to understand for myself the meaning of what we had to learn.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I have generally put a lot of effort into my studying.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Much of what I've learned seems no more than lots of unrelated bits and pieces in my mind.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. In making sense of new ideas, I have often related them to practical or real life contexts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7. On the whole, I've been quite systematic and organised in my studying.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Ideas I've come across in my academic reading often set me off on long chains of thought.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I've looked at evidence carefully to reach my own conclusion about what I'm studying.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. When I've been communicating ideas, I've thought over how well I've got my points across.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. I've organised my study time carefully to make the best use of it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. It has been important for me to follow the argument, or to see the reasons behind things.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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13. I've tended to take what we've been taught at face value without questioning it much.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. I've tried to find better ways of tracking down relevant information in this subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Concentration has not usually been a problem for me, unless I've been really tired.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. In reading for this course unit, I've tried to find out for myself exactly what the author means.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. I've just been going through the motions of studying without seeing where I'm going.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18. If I've not understood things well enough when studying, I've tried a different approach.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

# 2 Experiences of teaching and learning ▲

We would also like to know about your experiences of teaching and learning in **this particular course unit or module**. Please rate every comment, using the same scale as in the previous section, remembering not to use ?? = *unsure* unless you really have to, or if it cannot apply to your course unit. Please give a rating for **every** comment.

✓    ✓?    ??    x?    x

## Organisation and structure

1. It was clear to me what I was supposed to learn in this course unit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The topics seemed to follow each other in a way that made sense to me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. We were given a good deal of choice over how we went about learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The course unit was well organised and ran smoothly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. We were allowed some choice over what aspects of the subject to concentrate on.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. What we were taught seemed to match what we were supposed to learn.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Teaching and learning**

- 7. We were encouraged to look for links between this unit and others.
- 8. I can imagine myself working in the subject area covered by this unit.
- 9. The handouts and other materials we were given helped me to understand the unit.
- 10. On this unit, I was prompted to think about how well I was learning and how I might improve.
- 11. I could see the relevance of most of what we were taught in this unit.
- 12. We weren't just given information; staff explained how knowledge is developed in this subject.
- 13. The teaching encouraged me to rethink my understanding of some aspects of the subject.

- 14. The different types of teaching (lectures, tutorials, labs, etc.) supported each other well.
- 15. Plenty of examples and illustrations were given to help us to grasp things better.
- 16. This unit has given me a sense of what goes on 'behind the scenes' in this subject area.
- 17. The teaching in this unit helped me to think about the evidence underpinning different views.
- 18. How this unit was taught fitted in well with what we were supposed to learn.
- 19. This unit encouraged me to relate what I learned to issues in the wider world.
- 20. The web pages provided by staff helped me to understand the topics better.

**Students and teachers**

- 21. Students supported each other and tried to give help when it was needed.
- 22. I found most of what I learned in this course unit really interesting.
- 23. Staff tried to share their enthusiasm about the subject with us.
- 24. Talking with other students helped me to develop my understanding.
- 25. Staff were patient in explaining things which seemed difficult to grasp.

- 26. I enjoyed being involved in this course unit.
- 27. Students' views were valued in this course unit.
- 28. Staff helped us to see how you are supposed to think and reach conclusions in this subject.
- 29. I found I could generally work comfortably with other students on this unit.
- 30. This course unit provided plenty of opportunities for me to discuss important ideas.

**Assessments and other set work**

- 31. It was clear to me what was expected in the assessed work for this course unit.
- 32. I was encouraged to think about how best to tackle the set work.
- 33. I could see how the set work fitted in with what we were supposed to learn.
- 34. You had really to understand the subject to get good marks in this course unit.
- 35. The feedback given on my work helped me to improve my ways of learning and studying.

- 36. Doing the set work helped me to think about how evidence is used in this subject.
- 37. Staff gave me the support I needed to help me complete the set work for this course unit.
- 38. To do well in this course unit, you had to think critically about the topics.
- 39. The set work helped me to make connections to my existing knowledge or experience.
- 40. The feedback given on my set work helped to clarify things I hadn't fully understood.



### 3 Demands made by the course unit ▲

In this section, please tell us how easy or difficult you found different aspects of **this course unit**.

✓ = very easy    ✓? = fairly easy    ?? = unsure/not applicable    X? = fairly difficult    X = very difficult

	✓	✓?	??	X?	X
a. What I was expected to know to begin with.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The rate at which new material was introduced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The ideas and problems I had to deal with.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The skills or technical procedures needed in this subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The amount of work I was expected to do.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Working with other students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Organising and being responsible for my own learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Communicating knowledge and ideas effectively.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Tracking down information for myself.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Information technology/computing skills (e.g. WWW, email, word processing).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other demands (please specify): .....

### 4 What you learned from this course unit ▲

Now we would like to know how much you feel you have gained from studying **this course unit**.

✓ = a lot    ✓? = quite a lot    ?? = unsure/not applicable    X? = not much    X = very little

	✓	✓?	??	X?	X
a. Knowledge and understanding about the topics covered.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Ability to think about ideas or to solve problems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Skills or technical procedures specific to the subject.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Ability to work with other students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Organising and being responsible for my own learning.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Ability to communicate knowledge and ideas effectively.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Ability to track down information in this subject area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Information technology/computing skills (e.g. WWW, email, word processing).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other gains (please specify): .....

Finally, how well do you think you're doing in this course unit as a whole? Please try to rate yourself **objectively**, based on any marks, grades or comments you have been given.

very well	well	quite well	about average	not so well	rather badly			
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Please check back to make sure that you have answered every question.**

**Thank you very much for spending time completing this questionnaire: it is much appreciated.**

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