

**LJMU Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) 2019**

MS.Strength and Conditioning

**August 2019**

**Introduction**

Information about PTES background, mode of delivery, response rates, confidentiality, use of results and the questionnaire itself are available in the institutional level report.

In programme level reports only scores for each question (without commentary) are presented and accompanied by student comments where applicable.

If a more detailed breakdown of responses (e.g. number or percentage of neutral or negative responses) or programme demographic profile are required (only for 10+ responses), please contact Elena Zaitseva E.Zaitseva@ljmu.ac.uk

**Staff are encouraged to use their professional /academic judgement when interpreting the results and developing action points from the student evaluation.**

**Results**

16 students responded to the survey. The response rate for the programme is 62%

**Overall satisfaction**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Overall satisfaction (% of Strongly Agree and Agree) | LJMU | SCS | Programme |
|  | 85% | 83% | 81% |

**Teaching**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Staff are good at explaining things | Staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching | The course is intellectually stimulating | The course has enhanced my academic ability | The learning materials provided on my course are useful | There is sufficient contact time between staff and students | I am happy with the support for my learning |
| LJMU | 90% | 92% | 86% | 88% | 85% | 72% | 79% |
| SCS | 88% | 87% | 88% | 91% | 87% | 61% | 76% |
| Programme | 81% | 88% | 88% | 94% | 69% | 63% | 63% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

*Organisation regarding assessments hasn't been ideal because even though effort was made to give feedforward earlier, sometimes this didn't aid starting assignments as we did not have the data or did not have the required teaching for the assignment in due time. Therefore some work was more rushed than would've been ideal.*

*Tutorial time slots of several staff are overlapped with lecture time, which should be regarded carefully. Lecture context is not exactly in line with the job's needs.*

**Engagement**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | I am encouraged to ask questions or make contributions in taught sessions | The course has created sufficient opportunities to discuss my work with other students | My course has challenged me to produce my best work | The workload on my course has been manageable | I have appropriate opportunities to give feedback on my experience |
| LJMU | 90% | 82% | 84% | 69% | 80% |
| SCS | 87% | 79% | 87% | 65% | 78% |
| Programme | 100% | 94% | 94% | 44% | 75% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

*I personally felt at the beginning of the year, feedforward sessions were rushed and were far too close to the date set of the assignments. A few module had different dates in the module guide compared to feedforward presentations they used therefore was confusing as to which to go by this should be made more clear.*

*The only issue with the MSc. S&C is the lack of practical applciation to an athletic population. If I did not have my S&C internship, I would not have the opportuntiy to develop my practical skills with a real world athlete until I was in full time employment after my MSc.*

*At times, several pieces of work have been due at the same time or soon after each other. This meant that I haven't been able to produce my best work on these occasions. Although I expected this to a certain extent, I believe the work could be more spread out in future to facilitate a better quality of work and a deeper understanding of the work being undertaken.*

*The only reason why I feel the workload is unmanageable is because of my own personal circumstances. If I had less outside responsibilities then I feel I could manage the workload*

**Assessment and feedback**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | The criteria used in marking have been made clear in advance | Assessment arrangements and marking have been fair | Feedback on my work has been prompt | Feedback on my work (written or oral) has been useful |
| LJMU | 81% | 80% | 77% | 76% |
| SCS | 82% | 72% | 62% | 72% |
| Programme | 63% | 63% | 50% | 63% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

*The staff were very good at highlighting what was expected initially with regards to marking rubrics. However, some feedback took far in excess of the 15 days turn around. Also, some essays have received very unclear feedback. Specifically, brief and not very useful comments that left me confused.*

*For one of our assignments in the first semester, we weren't provided with the assessment feedforward sheet until after the deadline. Also in the first semester (Research Methods essay), we weren't given the result of our assignment for several months. This is unacceptable in itself - however, to make it worse, we were given no explanation as to why, we were not told when to expect the result and received no apology for the delay.*

*Had to wait over 60 days to receive results on an assignment. And had to wait over the 15 day window for another.*

*Sometimes feedback is not prompt as it did not precisely explain about the fact, and don't really understand criteria.*

**Organisation and management**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | The timetable fits well with my other commitments | Any changes in the course or teaching have been communicated effectively | The course is well organised and is running smoothly | I was given appropriate guidance and support when I started my course | I am encouraged to be involved in decisions about how my course is run |
| LJMU | 83% | 80% | 73% | 81% | 67% |
| SCS | 85% | 85% | 73% | 75% | 72% |
| Programme | 94% | 100% | 63% | 56% | 63% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible**:

*Think the MSC S&C course has been very good at getting our students opinions on how we are taught or opinions on assessments and i feel that it has been adapted to suit us best as a class which is helping enhance my learning*

*The course is very receptive to student feedback however, which I am very grateful for. When we have asked for extensions and voiced our opinions, they have been sure to help us out within reason*

*For one module in the first semester (Applied Practices), we received content relevant to the assignment after the assignment deadline. These lectures should be re-organised in future.*

*Feedforwards were given in good time in the 2nd semester yet received lab report data too late which defeated the object of requesting the feedforward earlier.*

**Learning resources**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | The library resources and services are good enough for my needs | I have been able to access general IT resources when I needed to | I have been able to access subject specific resources necessary for my studies | I am aware of how to access the support services at my institution |
| LJMU | 87% | 91% | 87% | 80% |
| SCS | 92% | 92% | 90% | 76% |
| Programme | 100% | 100% | 100% | 88% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

**Skills development**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | As a result of the course I am more confident about independent learning | My confidence to be innovative or creative has developed during my course | My research skills have developed during my course | My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my course | I have been encouraged to think about what skills I need to develop for my career | As a result of the course I feel better prepared for my future career |
| LJMU | 84% | 77% | 83% | 78% | 80% | 80% |
| SCS | 85% | 73% | 85% | 83% | 80% | 82% |
| Programme | 100% | 63% | 88% | 94% | 94% | 94% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

*As mentioned earlier, without my S&C internship, I feel I would not have maximised my potential to develop as an S&C coach. Given this course is S&C focused, more practical application to athletic populations needs to be given*

**Information**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Information provided by your institution: easy to find | Information provided by your institution: useful | Information provided by your institution: accurate |
| LJMU | 89% | 90% | 85% |
| SCS | 90% | 90% | 85% |
| Programme | 94% | 94% | 81% |

**If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:**

**Language support**

When you started your course, did you consider yourself to be fluent in English?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes | No |
| LJMU | 94% | 6% |
| SCS | 93% | 7% |
| Programme | 75% | 25% |

If 'No', to what extent do you agree or disagree that you have received appropriate support for your English language needs.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Agree | Disagree |
| Programme | 0% | 0% |

**Motivation to study**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | LJMU % Agree | SCS% Agree | Programme |
| To improve my employment prospects | 57% | 68% | 75% |
| To progress in my current career path (i.e. a professional qualification) | 64% | 68% | 88% |
| For personal interest | 47% | 56% | 38% |
| To enable me to progress to a higher level qualification (e.g. PhD) | 36% | 45% | 44% |
| To change my current career | 24% | 14% | 13% |
| As a requirement to enter a particular profession | 30% | 30% | 31% |
| To meet the requirements of my current job | 10% | 5% | 6% |
| Other | 1% | 2% | 0% |

**Comments ‘other’:**

**Choose this course because:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | LJMU % agree | SCS % agree | Programme |
| The location of the institution | 48% | 34% | 31% |
| The content of the course | 44% | 46% | 31% |
| I have studied at this institution before | 32% | 36% | 38% |
| The overall reputation of the institution | 32% | 39% | 50% |
| Funding was available to study this particular programme | 22% | 14% | 13% |
| Delivery of the programme is flexible enough to fit around my life | 25% | 11% | 6% |
| Reputation in chosen subject area/department | 28% | 48% | 69% |
| The way the course is structured or assessed | 21% | 17% | 13% |
| The reputation of the course tutors | 20% | 35% | 31% |
| My employer advised or encouraged me to do it | 8% | 5% | 0% |
| The cost of the course compared to other institutions | 21% | 23% | 19% |
| It was recommended to me | 19% | 18% | 13% |
| Other | 4% | 2% | 0% |
| It is the only institution offering this programme | 11% | 18% | 0% |
| Graduates from this institution have good career and employment prospects | 13% | 20% | 25% |

**Comments ‘other’:**

*The opportunity of doing a work placement has been crucial for my decision to join this universit*

## **Have you considered, for any reason, leaving your postgraduate course?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes | No | Prefer not to say |
| Programme | 25% | 75% | 0% |

If 'Yes', what was the main (or most recent) reason that led you to consider leaving?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Programme % Agree |
| Difficulty balancing study and other commitments | 25% |
| Financial difficulties | 50% |
| Family, health or personal problems | 25% |
| There is not enough support for personal issues | 0% |
| There is not enough support for my learning | 0% |
| There is too much work | 0% |
| I have found this level of study difficult | 0% |
| I feel unsupported by my fellow students | 0% |
| The course is not what I expected | 0% |
| I might have chosen the wrong course | 0% |
| I might have chosen the wrong institution | 0% |
| Studying might not have been the right choice for me | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 0% |
| Other | 0% |

**Please comment on one thing that has been most enjoyable or interesting on your course:**

*I personally love the applied placement module, as I feel that what I have been taught and the skills I have developed on semester 1 can be put into practice. This module has allowed my confidence to grow in terms of coaching but also, in terms of using the research I have read to back up my decisions.*

*Diverse range of applied vs. research based practice.*

*The placement was definately the most enjoyable*

*the opportunity to do the assessments with presentation and poster*

*Practical sessions*

*I love the idea to do practical sessions for the first semester with actual practical knowledge and skills, with plenty of communication with course mates and people around.*

*The placements are brilliant opportunities*

*Development of communication skills*

*Practising lift*

**Please comment on one thing that would most improve your experience of your course:**

*Having the feedforward sessions in advance during semester 1 would have been more useful, as some content was taught after the assessment date was set.*

*Being more specific of what is asked in the assingments rather than letting the student figure out by researching*

*the opportunity to have more contact time, more lectures and lab sessions would be useful.*

*Modules should reflect the needs which is required to us in the practical field, rather than focusing on academic and non-practical sources. This course is too biased on strength, which represents only 50% of the course's name, and invests too limited time for conditioning, which also accounts for 50% of the course's name. We cannot be properly ready for the needs of the world with this modules. I have put effort on this with reading lots of papers, books and visited professors and people who are currently working in the position, but I suppose university should do more effort for us, not just turning over those parts to students.*

*I think more hands on experience with equipment would be good. We actually haven�t used much of the equipment we learn about. We seen a GymAware, but if you handed me the equipment, I wouldn�t have a clue on how to set it up and use it. This goes for other things as well. I also couldn�t design an effective programme or know how to implement an intervention. These are bog standard necessities of the industry and can easily be done.*

*It's mostly a MSc in strength rather than in strength and conditioning*

*Better support for new LJMU students at first*

*Content and delivery of the first two applied modules and physiology need to be improve*