

Postgraduate Taught Students
STUDENT VOICE GROUP
HELD ON Thursday 21st November 2019
ROOM 3.405

Apologies	Attended	
No apologies.	Students: Rabbi, Fawaz F Sarna, Gurkirat, Khan, Inshal (All BSc Data Science students)	Staff Dr Yanchun Bao (chair), Dr Stella Hadjiantoni (minutes)

No.	Item	
1	Starring items	Students would like to prioritise support for MA304. Additional classes for MA304 to fill in their gaps would be helpful.
2	Approval of Draft Minutes	These were approved (none of those at this meeting had been to the earlier one).
3	Update on Actions	NA
4	Section A – Student Business	There was no business raised other than what will be come to naturally under the consideration of individual modules and standard items of the agenda.
5	MA199 Mathematics Careers and Employability (Chris Saker and others)	Happy with the assignments.
6	MA200 Statistics II (Dan Brawn)	Some MSc Data science students feel that they cannot follow the module. They understand the importance of a Statistics module for their MSc. However, a more basic version of it (like the Basic Statistics support sessions for MA317 students) would be more appropriate for them.
7	MA304 Exploratory Data Analysis and Data Visualisation (Fanlin Meng and Harry Andrew)	Students have been having difficulty to follow the module. They mentioned there is a communication gap. Would like different structure of the lectures/labs: first be taught what they're doing, the idea and intuition behind the material they cover and then implementation of it. The students would like the lecturers to interact more with them for the explanation of the R code. Students also suggested 2hours labs would

		be better; explained that 10 minutes out of the 50 for each class are needed to open the software via the software hub.
8	MA305 Non linear programming (Xinan Yang)	No specific feedback.
9	MA312 Contingencies II (Spyridon Vrontos, Nor Abdul Aziz)	No specific feedback.
10	MA317 Modelling Experimental Data (Stella Hadjiantoni and Joe Bailey)	Students are happy with the module and the Basic statistics sessions; they were helpful.
11	MA318 Statistical Methods (Yanchun Bao)	No specific feedback.
12	MA319 Stochastics Processes (Junlei Hu, and Joe Bailey)	Little overall positive feedback from one student. No specific comments
13	MA323 Partial differential Equations (Hadi Susanto, Georgios Papamikos)	Little overall positive feedback from one student. No specific comments
14	MA902 Research Methods	Problems with Listen Again – lecturer is not audible – should talk louder. The students would like access to the material on Moodle before the class. There was uncertainty with the 0.5% of coursework they had to submit. One comment was why only 0.5% for this piece of work? In addition, they would like more explanation, for example, they were not sure what plagiarism is when writing a synopsis of a paper. Maybe examples should be given in guiding the students.
15	Modules taken in other departments	Machine learning: good content, lecturer tries his best to explain things. Introduction to programming with Python: good teaching but slides content is not helpful – would like more content for referring back later as there is no listen again in the lecture room.
16	Welcome week feedback	Happy with it. Students suggested having a gathering for the end of term.
17	SAMT	Maybe Department module evaluations can happen also mid-term so that all students have the chance of evaluating their modules.
18	Attendance, punctuality, LEAP etc.	A problem with LEAP was recorded by some students: attendance seemed to be inaccurate. Marked absent when present. Also marked absent when MA902 and MA304 was cancelled. Some issues with accessing moodle when trying to submit coursework.

19	Coherence and Organisation of degrees.	Generally happy, no specific comments.
20	Lecture rooms.	Only issue with Lab M, they cannot hear the lecturer. Microphone should be used.
	Timetable	Some modules are spread too much in the week/term and they would prefer otherwise. Suggestion to avoid lectures/classes/labs on Fridays 1-2pm as there are students who cannot attend due to religious reasons.
	Section B – Department Business	
21	External Examiners Reports	Defer to spring term meeting
22	ARC	Defer to spring term meeting
23	Library Update	No library matters.
	AOB	Students suggested information given to students with professional placements students e.g.CV, available information, links, support at the University to be made also available to students who are not following the professional placement. Since they'll also be applying for job, this is going to be useful, an email with available sources etc would suffice.
	Date and time of next meetings	TBC (end January/early February)