

Covid-19 – Week Eight Check In Survey: Response from the Department of Social and Policy Science – PGT

Dear All,

We hope everyone is well as we move toward the end of semester 1 and look ahead to semester 2.

We wanted to write to you about the feedback received from you in the “Check in survey” from week 8. Your feedback is greatly appreciated, and it will help us work on enhancing our teaching delivery as we look forward to S2.

The challenges for staff and students this academic year have been significant. It has therefore been encouraging to read the positive responses about the experience of SPS students this semester, especially around the availability and responsiveness of staff, the quality of teaching offered in SPS, the flexibility for learners afforded by the Bath Blend, and the benefits of delivering in person teaching.

We recognise that there are still issues to improve in S2. Building on the recent survey and also on feedback from your S1 unit evaluations, we can highlight:

- One concern was around the high level of preparatory readings, videos etc associated with some units for some weeks. In S2 we will seek to ensure more consistency in workloads between weeks and across units.
- Several of you noted that opportunities to get to know your fellow students and staff had been constrained due to the pandemic. Several of you highlighted how we might better address this issue, including (1) making better use of breakout groups during LOIL sessions and (2) organising more online social activities. We will work with academic reps on the latter point for S2.

More broadly, please be assured that we will continue to look at ways that we can improve teaching delivery for this academic year. We will continue to explore ways to better support students (and staff) in the transition to blended learning, and at how we can enhance our in-person teaching sessions.

Joe and Pete