5F LGBT- University campus climate and representation in the course curriculum

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While recent decades have seen huge improvements in the rights of sexual and gender minorities, LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) people still continue to face discrimination and social exclusion in places like universities. Therefore the current study aimed to look at the perceived LGBT campus climate, inclusion and attitudes towards LGBT people at the University of Glasgow. It was hypothesised that there would be differences in perceptions and attitudes between different gender identities, sexual orientations, academic years and disciplines of study. The research was done using an online questionnaire and both students and staff took part in the survey. Overall the campus climate was seen as fairly positive and attitudes towards LGBT individuals were very affirming. However, views on inclusion were more neutral. The campus climate was perceived as more negative by people who identified as LGBT+, especially if they identified as transgender or non-binary or if they had experienced harassment and by those who were in their later academic years. Classroom and curriculum inclusion was rated higher by students who were in later academic years or studying people-based disciplines. Furthermore, attitudes towards LGBT individuals were found to be more positive among those who identified as LGBT+, who were non-religious and who saw sexual orientation and gender identity as genetic. The qualitative analysis highlighted the overall positive views on LGBT campus climate while also noting that sexual minorities are more widely accepted than gender minorities.