Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey - PTES - 2017 University of Glasgow

Welcome

This survey asks about your experiences of your taught postgraduate course. Your responses will be combined with those of others to help inform the University of Glasgow about the experience of taught postgraduates. This will help improve future support for the learning of postgraduates like you. The results are also used nationally to help advise policy and help improve learning and teaching of taught postgraduates across the sector.

Many thanks for your participation.

Data Protection

All data collected in this survey will be held securely. We will not to identify any individuals when reporting their results both internally and externally, and ensure that no individuals can be identified by implication. The full PTES dataset will be available to the Higher Education Academy and selected third parties in order to conduct national level research and analysis.

Some information held by the University of Glasgow, for example gender, is attached to your response so that you do not have to provide it again. This data helps the university and the sector better meet the needs of postgraduates like you.

1. To continue the survey please confirm below that you have read the data protection statement and consent to the data being used in the way described

Please select exactly 2 answer(s).
I have read and understand the data protection statement

I consent to my responses being used as described in the data protection statement

Notes for completion

If a question does not apply to you, or you cannot offer any opinion on it, then please leave blank or mark "Not applicable". The questionnaire should take **around ten minutes** to complete. When you arrive at the **final 'thank you' page**, you will know that your responses have been recorded on our database.

Where "course" is used in the questionnaire, this refers to your whole programme of study at your institution e.g. MA Archaeology, MSc Scientific Measurement, PGCE, Diploma in Democracy.

After each section you will be asked for any further comments on the issues covered, to enable staff to gain a better understanding of what has gone well and what has worked less well. **Please do not identify yourself or other individuals (including staff) in your comments.** If you have a complaint or need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please contact the relevant service at the university. If you are unsure of who to contact then please email [planning-central-surveys@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:planning-central-surveys@glasgow.ac.uk)

Once you click 'Next' you will be directed to the first section of the survey.
2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding teaching and learning on your course?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff are good at explaining things</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching</td>
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<td>The course is intellectually stimulating</td>
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<td>The course has enhanced my academic ability</td>
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<td>The learning materials provided on my course are useful</td>
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<tr>
<td>There is sufficient contact time (face to face and/or virtual/online) between staff and students to support effective learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am happy with the support for my learning I receive from staff on my course</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

4. Overall, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding engagement on your course?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am encouraged to ask questions or make contributions in taught sessions (face to face and/or online)</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>The course has created sufficient opportunities to discuss my work with other students (face to face and/or online)</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>My course has challenged me to produce my best work</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐</td>
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</table>
The workload on my course has been manageable

I have appropriate opportunities to give feedback on my experience

5. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
Section C: Assessment and Feedback

6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding assessment and feedback on your course? (Feedback includes oral and written feedback given in both formal and informal contexts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The criteria used in marking have</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>been made clear in advance</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment arrangements and marking</td>
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<td>have been fair</td>
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<td>Feedback on my work has been prompt</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feedback on my work (written or oral)</td>
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<td>has been useful</td>
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7. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
Section D: Dissertation or Major Project

If you are unsure what Dissertation or Major Project refers to, it could include a long-essay, independent research project, laboratory project, or other major supervised assessment task that forms an important part of your overall course.

8. Are you currently planning, undertaking, or have completed, a dissertation or major project as part of your course?

- Yes
- No
9. What stage of your dissertation or major project are you currently at?

- Planning
- Currently doing
- Completed

10. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your dissertation / major project? (If you have not had experience of an item then please select ‘Not applicable or Too soon to say’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable or Too soon to say</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I understand the required standards for the dissertation / major project</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am happy with the support I received for planning my dissertation / major project (topic selection, project outline, literature search, etc)</td>
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<td>My supervisor has the skills</td>
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<td>and subject knowledge to</td>
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<td>adequately support my</td>
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<td>dissertation / major project</td>
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<td>My supervisor provides</td>
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<td>helpful feedback on my</td>
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<td>progress</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
Section E: Organisation and Management

12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the organisation and management of your course?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The timetable fits well with my other commitments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Any changes in the course or teaching have been communicated effectively</td>
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<td>The course is well organised and is running smoothly</td>
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<td>I was given appropriate guidance and support when I started my course</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am encouraged to be involved in decisions about how my course is run</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the learning resources and support services at your institution?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The library resources and services are good enough for my needs (including physical and online)</td>
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<tr>
<td>I have been able to access general IT resources (including physical and online) when I needed to</td>
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<tr>
<td>I have been able to access subject specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software) necessary for my studies</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
I am aware of how to access the support services at my institution (e.g. health, finance, careers, accommodation)

15. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
### Section G: Skills Development

**16.** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the development of skills on your course?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As a result of the course I am more confident about independent learning</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>My confidence to be innovative or creative has developed during my course</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>My research skills have developed during my course</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my course</td>
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<tr>
<td>I have been encouraged to think about what skills I need to develop for my career</td>
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<tr>
<td>As a result of the course I feel better prepared for my future career</td>
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</table>

17. If you have any further comments on these issues then please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
### Section H: Overview

18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement about your overall experience of your course?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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Motivations

21. My main motivations for taking this postgraduate programme were:

- To enable me to progress to a higher level qualification (e.g. PhD)
- To progress in my current career path (i.e. a professional qualification)
- To change my current career
- To improve my employment prospects
- As a requirement to enter a particular profession
- To meet the requirements of my current job
- For personal interest
- Other

21.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

22. I am studying for this qualification at this particular institution because of:

- Overall reputation of institution
- Reputation in chosen subject area / department
- Reputation of the course tutors
- It was recommended to me
- Graduates from this institution have good career and employment prospects
- I have studied at this institution before
- Location of institution
- The content of the course
- The way the course is structured or assessed
☐ My employer advised or encouraged me to do it
☐ Delivery of the course is flexible enough to fit around my life
☐ Funding was available to study this particular course
☐ The cost of the course compared to other institutions
☐ It is the only institution offering this course
☐ Other

22.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

☐

23. Would you agree or disagree that the information provided by your institution (including course specific information) to help you choose your course was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Definitely agree</th>
<th>Mostly agree</th>
<th>Neither agree nor disagree</th>
<th>Mostly disagree</th>
<th>Definitely disagree</th>
<th>Not applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>easy to find</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>useful</td>
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<tr>
<td>accurate</td>
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</table>

24. If you have any further comments on the information provided by your institution, please provide them here. Please be as specific as possible:
Institutional questions
Demographic questions

To help us understand whether provision at this institution and across the sector is meeting the needs of all postgraduates, we would now like to ask some questions about you and your course. As with the rest of the survey, all reporting will be anonymous and your responses will be treated confidentially.

About yourself

25. **What is your age?**

- 25 years old or younger
- 26-30 years old
- 31-35 years old
- 36-40 years old
- 41-45 years old
- 46-50 years old
- 51-55 years old
- 56 years old or older
- Prefer not to say

26. **What is your gender?**

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say
- Other

26.a. If you selected Other, please specify:
27. **Do you consider yourself to have a disability?** (for example dyslexia, long-term illness, mental health condition, physical impairment)

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

27.a. **If 'Yes', please choose one or more from the following options:**

- A social/communication impairment such as Asperger’s syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
- Blind or a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- Deaf or serious hearing impairment
- A long standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- A mental health condition, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety disorder
- A specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or ADHD
- A physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using your arms or using a wheelchair or crutches
- A disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above
- Prefer not to say

28. **When you started your course, did you consider yourself to be fluent in the language you are taught in?**

- Yes
Choose one:

- No
- Prefer not to say
29. **To what extent do you agree or disagree that you have received appropriate support for your language needs**

- Definitely agree
- Mostly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Mostly disagree
- Definitely disagree
- Not applicable

30. **If you have any further comments on the support for your language needs provided by your institution, please provide them here:**
31. Where do you consider to be your permanent home?

32. What is your ethnic group? (Please choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background)

- White
- White: Gypsy or Traveller
- Black or Black British: Caribbean
- Black or Black British: African
- Any other Black background
- Asian or Asian British: Indian
- Asian or Asian British: Pakistani
- Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background
- Mixed: White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed: White and Black African
- Mixed: White and Asian
- Mixed: Any other Mixed background
- Arab
- Any other ethnic background
About your course

For these questions, please respond in relation to the taught postgraduate course you are currently studying

33. I am registered (currently studying at this institution) for the qualification of:

- Taught Masters (for example MBA, LLM, MSc, MEng)
- Postgraduate Certificate (including PGCE)
- Postgraduate Diploma
- Other

33.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

34. Please indicate, which of the following most closely matches your discipline (click more info if you are unsure of which discipline you are in). Please note that a) if you are undertaking teacher training, you should select 'Teacher Training' rather than the discipline you aim to teach; b) if you are studying management or business in relation to a particular discipline then you should select that discipline (e.g. nursing, tourism, computer science):

More info

35. What are you currently registered as?

- Full-time
36. I am:

- Primarily a face to face learner [e.g., based at my institution]
- Primarily a distance learner [e.g. work based learner, OU student]
About your education and career

37. When you started your current course, what was your highest level qualification:

- Qualifications below undergraduate degree (e.g. A-level, HND)
- Undergraduate degree or equivalent (e.g. BSc, DipHE, FdA)
- Postgraduate degree (e.g. MA, PGCE, PhD)
- No academic qualifications but professional experience
- Other

37.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

38. Did any of your parents / guardians complete a university degree course or equivalent (for example BA, BSc, MBA)?

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know
- Prefer not to say

39. Are you currently in paid employment?

- Yes
- No
**39.a.** If 'Yes', how many hours of paid employment do you undertake in a typical week (term time)?

- [ ] 1-10 hours
- [ ] 11-20 hours
- [ ] 21-30 hours
- [ ] More than 30 hours

**40.** How do you fund your tuition fees?

- [ ] Self-funded (including family or other personal contributions or loans)
- [ ] Part self-funded, part externally funded
- [ ] Externally funded (including funding body, university, employer or government)

**41.** Have you considered, for any reason, leaving or suspending your postgraduate course?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] Prefer not to say

Please now click the 'Finish' button for your answers to be recorded.
Thank you

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Your answers have now been recorded on our database. You can exit this survey by closing this window. If you need support with any of the issues raised within the survey, please email planning-central-surveys@glasgow.ac.uk and a member of the University of Glasgow PTES Survey Team will contact you to help.

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Key for selection options

31 - Where do you consider to be your permanent home?
- United Kingdom -- England
- United Kingdom -- Northern Ireland
- United Kingdom -- Scotland
- United Kingdom -- Wales
- Afghanistan
- Åland Islands
- Albania
- Algeria
- American Samoa
- Andorra
- Angola
- Anguilla
- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bermuda
Bhutan
Bolivia (Plurinational state of)
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
British Virgin Islands
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Cayman Islands
Central African Republic
Chad
Channel Islands
Chile
China
China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
China, Macao Special Administrative Region
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cook Islands
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Estonia
Ethiopia
Faeroe Islands
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)
Fiji
Finland
France
French Guiana
French Polynesia
Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Gibraltar
Greece
Greenland
Grenada
Guadeloupe
Guam
Guatemala
Guernsey
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Holy See
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Ireland
Isle of Man
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jersey
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kiribati
Kosovo
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Malta
Marshall Islands
Martinique
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mayotte
Mexico
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Monaco
Mongolia
Montenegro
Montserrat
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
Netherlands Antilles
New Caledonia
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Niue
Norfolk Island
Northern Mariana Islands
Norway
Occupied Palestinian Territory
Oman
Pakistan
Palau
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Pitcairn
Poland
Portugal
Puerto Rico
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Réunion
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Saint-Barthélemy
Saint Helena
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint-Martin (French part)
Saint Pierre and Miquelon
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Somalia
South Africa
South Sudan
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Taiwan
Tajikistan
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Togo
Tokelau
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
34 - Please indicate, which of the following most closely matches your discipline (click more info if you are unsure of which discipline you are in). Please note that a) if you are undertaking teacher training, you should select 'Teacher Training' rather than the discipline you aim to teach; b) if you are studying management or business in relation to a particular discipline then you should select that discipline (e.g. nursing, tourism, computer science):

- ======
  Teacher Training (please indicate this if you are undertaking Teacher Training - not the discipline that you teach)
  Education studies (including Research Skills in Education; and Academic Studies in Education)
  Social Work (including Child Care and Community Work)

= =======
  Medicine and Dentistry
  Medical Science and Pharmacy (including Anatomy; Neuroscience; Pharmacology; Physiology and Pathology)
  Nursing (including Midwifery)
  Other subjects allied to Medicine (for example: Aural and Oral sciences; Nutrition; Public Health; Medical Technology)

= =======
  Biology and related Sciences (including Biochemistry, Ecology, Genetics, and
Microbiology
Sports Science (including Sport Coaching, Sport Development, Sport Studies)
Psychology
Veterinary Sciences (for example: Pre-Clinical and Clinical Veterinary Medicine)
Agriculture and related subjects (for example: Food & Beverage Studies; Animal Science; Environmental Conservation)

Physical Science (for example: Physics; Chemistry; Forensic and Archaeological Science; Geology)
Physical Geography and Environmental Science
Mathematical Sciences (including Statistics and Operations Research)
Computer Science
Mechanically-based Engineering (including Aerospace Engineering; Production & Manufacturing Engineering)
Electronic and Electrical Engineering
Civil and Chemical Engineering (and other Engineering not covered above)
Technology (for example: Biotechnology; Maritime Technology; and Materials Technology)

Architecture; Building and Planning
Human and Social Geography
Sociology; Social Policy and Anthropology
Politics (including International Studies)
Law
Economics

Business (including Marketing)
Management (including Human Resource Management)
Finance and Accounting
Tourism; Transport; Travel (and others in Business and Administrative studies not covered above)

Media studies (including Media Production)
Communications and Information studies (including Publishing and Journalism)
English-based studies (for example: English Language; English Literature; Scots Literature)
European Languages and Area studies
Other Languages and Area studies
History and Archaeology
Philosophy; Theology and Religious studies
Art and Design
Performing Arts (including Music; Dance; and Drama)
Other Creative Arts (for example: Cinematics; Photography; Crafts)

Combined