

International Foundation Programme (IFP)

Student Staff Liaison Committee

07 May 2021 (14:30-15:30)

Present: Anya Clayworth (IFP PD), Mostafa Abdollahi (student rep), Sofia Ye (student rep), Christy Feng (student rep).

Sustainability and Social Responsibility

- 9 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- Overall positive response to the course.
- The tutor is helpful.
- The blog posts are a different kind of assignment but the students are receiving support to develop them.
- The students would like to do more groupwork as the term goes on.

Archaeology Today

- 3 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- Students are enjoying the course and information is clear for most students.
- Students would like class content uploaded in advance of classes. AC noted that this was not always possible if the tutor is wanting students to learn alongside him during the live class.
- Students wanted more assessment information. AC noted that the survey was timed before students had a class specifically designed to explain the assessments so this has already been addressed.
- Students felt they needed more information on the assessments on LEARN. AC pointed out that the students have the same information on LEARN as all other courses and that it will be supplemented with teaching.
- Students like the review and 'pop quizzes' given by the tutor at the end of the teaching session.

Introduction to International Relations

- 11 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- The majority of respondents felt the course was clear but they find the content to be challenging.
- Students would like more examples for the IR theories. AC noted that this comes in the last few weeks of this course.
- Students found the lectures too long. AC reminded students that they can take a break in a recorded lecture at any time if they plan when they watch it carefully. AC has sent out an announcement suggesting this to all students in all courses with pre-recorded lectures.
- Blog assessment is helpful and the tutor's instructions and reminders are appreciated.
- Students are finding the reading and materials challenging and demanding in terms of vocabulary. AC reminded the reps that students must feel that they can ask questions and seek additional information from the tutor as needed.

Challenges in Statistics

- 8 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- Some students reported finding one of the tutors' voice unclear and that the videos produced were clearer than the live classes.
- Students reported feeling confused about assessed work and the link to the group project. AC has asked the Head of Subject Area and tutors to clarify this for students.
- The reps reported that the Outlook timetable entries for CiS are not correct. AC has reported this to the Teaching Office to find a solution and reminded all CiS students to use the timetable on our Programme LEARN site.
- Students felt unsure about how to access the forthcoming quizzes and the content to be tested. AC has organised for more details to be added to the LEARN site in terms of technical access to the LEARN quizzes and the tutors will guide students regarding the quiz content.

Medieval Scotland

- 9 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- Students are finding the reading to be challenging and time consuming, particularly from the point of view of vocabulary. AC asked how students were managing this in live classes and checked that they were asking questions.
- Students would appreciate new vocabulary being typed into the chatbox to aid correct spelling and definitions. AC has asked the Head of Subject Area and the Course Organiser to see how this could be implemented.
- Students would have liked more assessment information for the primary source analysis assignment. AC reminded students that assessment information is available on LEARN and that they have been able to practise skills on the LEARN discussion boards which are moderated by the tutors.
- Students were not as keen on being team-taught in this course. AC reminded them that tutors were teaching their specialist area within this course and that it was often the case in UG programmes that students would be taught by multiple tutors.

Living and Learning in Britain

- 9 people responded to the survey from the student reps.
- Some students found the course information unclear. AC reminded students that there are numerous sources of information to consult about the LLiB T3 assessment including Pebble, LEARN and live teaching videos from Teams.
- Some students are worried about the workload for Term 3. AC reminded the student reps that IFP students need to be managing that workload as preparation for UG study.

FEAP 3

- 1 person responded to the survey from the student reps.
- The student reported that the course was well-organised, the content was easy to follow and the pace of the work was good.
- The student reported finding the teacher helpful.

The meeting closed at 15:30 with AC thanking the student reps for their hard work and brilliant service to their classmates and to the IFP in 2020/21.