

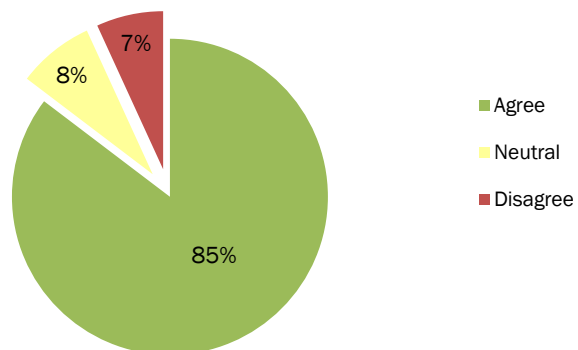
2015 Postgraduate Research Experience Survey summary report for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

n=410 (63.1% response rate)

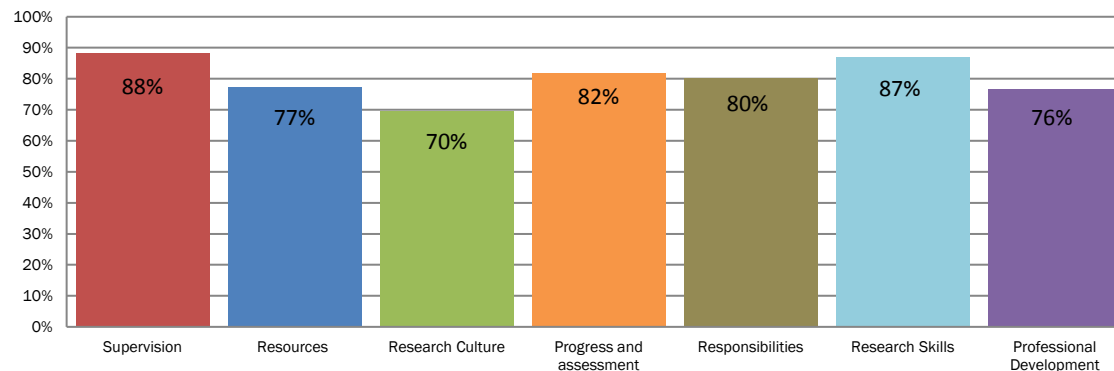


The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) is a national online survey that looks at eight thematic areas: supervision, resources, research culture, progress and assessment, responsibilities, research skills, professional development and overall experiences. The survey also provides the opportunity to ask additional questions about some of the services and facilities specific to Cardiff University that are provided for postgraduate students.

Overall, I am satisfied with the experience of my research degree programme



2015 Thematic Area Performance



Results are presented as whole numbers for ease of reading, with rounding performed at the last stage of calculation for maximum accuracy. Therefore in some instances, results may not total 100%

RESULTS

Highlights

The three highest scoring School statements

Statement	% agreement
My supervisor/s have the skills and subject knowledge to support my research	97%
My supervisor/s provide feedback that helps me direct my research activities	92%
My skills in critically analysing and evaluating findings and results have developed during my programme	91%

Lowlights

The three lowest scoring School statements

Statement	% agreement
I am actively encouraged to interact with researchers across the University	41%
I am actively encouraged to interact with researchers within the School who are outside my immediate subject area	56%
I have a confidential route to provide feedback on my supervision	57%

Most Positive

The three most positive statements compared against the overall University score

Statement	% agreement	% variance
I understand the required standard for my thesis	85%	4%
I received an appropriate induction to my research degree programme	81%	3%
My supervisor/s provide feedback that helps me direct my research activities	92%	3%

Least Positive

The three least positive statements compared against the overall University score

Statement	% agreement	% variance
I have a suitable working space	74%	-9%
There is adequate provision of computing resources and facilities	75%	-7%
I have access to the specialist resources necessary for my research	77%	-7%

2015 PRES statement responses for AHSS

	POSITIVE	NEUTRAL	NEGATIVE	% difference from University mean
Supervision				
My supervisor/s have the skills and subject knowledge to support my research	97%	1%	2%	1
I have regular contact with my supervisor/s, appropriate for my needs	90%	6%	4%	-1
My supervisor/s provide feedback that helps me direct my research activities	92%	5%	3%	3
My supervisor/s help me to identify my training and development needs as a researcher	75%	13%	12%	-1
Resources				
I have a suitable working space	74%	11%	15%	-9
There is adequate provision of computing resources and facilities	75%	13%	12%	-7
There is adequate provision of library facilities (including physical and online resources)	82%	7%	11%	-5
I have access to the specialist resources necessary for my research	77%	11%	11%	-7
Research culture				
My department provides a good seminar programme	78%	12%	10%	-2
I have frequent opportunities to discuss my research with other research students	70%	17%	13%	-2
The research ambience in my department or faculty stimulates my work	65%	21%	14%	-4
I have opportunities to become involved in the wider research community, beyond my department	65%	21%	14%	1
Progress and assessment				
I received an appropriate induction to my research degree programme	81%	11%	8%	3
I understand the requirements and deadlines for formal monitoring of my progress	84%	9%	7%	1
I understand the required standard for my thesis	85%	9%	6%	4
The final assessment procedures for my degree are clear to me	78%	12%	10%	2
Responsibilities				
My institution values and responds to feedback from research degree students	63%	27%	9%	-3
I understand my responsibilities as a research degree student	89%	7%	4%	-1
I am aware of my supervisors' responsibilities towards me as a research degree student	89%	6%	4%	1
Other than my supervisor/s, I know who to approach if I am concerned about any aspect of my degree programme	79%	11%	11%	-2

Research skills

My skills in applying appropriate research methodologies, tools and techniques have developed during my programme	91%	5%	4%	-1
My skills in critically analysing and evaluating findings and results have developed during my programme	91%	6%	3%	1
My confidence to be creative or innovative has developed during my programme	81%	13%	6%	0
My understanding of 'research integrity' (e.g. rigour, ethics, transparency, attributing the contribution of others) has developed during my programme	84%	11%	5%	-1

Professional development

My ability to manage projects has developed during my programme	77%	16%	7%	-7
My ability to communicate information effectively to diverse audiences has developed during my programme	75%	17%	8%	-6
I have developed contacts or professional networks during my programme	72%	18%	11%	2
I have increasingly managed my own professional development during my programme	81%	13%	5%	-1

Overall experience

Overall, I am satisfied with the experience of my research degree programme	85%	8%	7%	-1
I am confident that I will complete my research degree programme within my institution's expected timescale	81%	10%	10%	-2

Institutional questions

I have a formal research plan which has been agreed with my supervisor	83%	8%	8%	2
I have reviewed my development needs in relation to research skills and assessed how I need to progress them	78%	12%	10%	2
I have reviewed my development needs in relation to personal and professional skills and assessed how I need to progress them	74%	15%	11%	1
The review of my development needs has been agreed with my supervisor(s)	66%	19%	15%	-2
I find the progress monitoring helpful	61%	21%	17%	2
I have a confidential route to provide feedback on my supervision	57%	26%	16%	-5
I am actively encouraged to interact with researchers within my research group or immediate subject area	70%	18%	12%	-5
I am actively encouraged to interact with researchers within the School who are outside my immediate subject area	56%	25%	19%	2
I am actively encouraged to interact with researchers across the University	41%	31%	28%	0
I feel part of the research community in my School	59%	20%	21%	-4
I feel part of the postgraduate research community at Cardiff University	59%	21%	21%	-2
My School has systems and meetings in place to enable me and/or research student representatives to provide feedback	76%	16%	8%	-1
Overall, the University has effective representation systems for postgraduate students	66%	24%	10%	-3