

Student Feedback on Units

Full Subject Level Report

Teaching period 5 & 7, 2007
(Semester 2 and Term 4)

Prepared by Evaluation Services
Strategic Planning & Quality Unit

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SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY

How to read this Student Feedback on Units report

Section 1 Frequency tables and charts

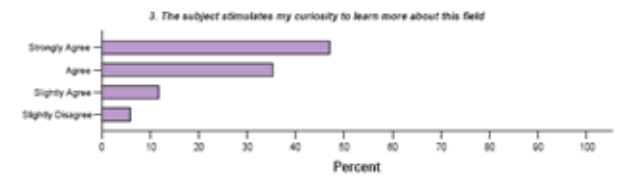
Satisfaction (Items 1 – 7 and 10 – 15)

These items involve Likert scales. The tables report ‘broad agreement’ or ‘broad disagreement’ with the statements. ‘Broad agreement’ is an aggregate of all responses of ‘strongly agree’, ‘agree’ and ‘slightly agree’. ‘Broad disagreement’ is the aggregate of all disagree categories.

Where respondents have left an item blank, this is recorded as missing. The “Valid Percent” column tells you the percentages, omitting any missing responses.

3. The subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field

Valid	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Strongly Agree	8	47.1	47.1
Agree	5	29.4	29.4
Slightly Agree	1	5.9	5.9
Slightly Disagree	1	5.9	5.9
Disagree	0	0.0	0.0
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0	0.0
Total	17	100.0	100.0



The charts in this section include the breakdown of the categories for ‘broadly agree’ and ‘broadly disagree’. Values which were not selected by any respondents are omitted.

Subject difficulty and workload (Items 8 & 9)

The tables in this section report whether respondents found the subject difficulty or workload to be ‘broadly low’, ‘moderate’ or ‘broadly high’. The ‘broadly low’ and ‘broadly high’ categories are aggregates of the ‘very low’ and ‘low’ and ‘very high’ and ‘high’ categories, respectively. Again, the charts include a breakdown of the categories.

Summary – Means

Finally, the last table in the report provides the “means” for items 1-15.

While these means are not, strictly speaking, a statistically meaningful measure, they are a useful way to summarise and compare performance.

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1. The subject is well organised	17	5.24	.662
2. Information and concepts are clearly explained	17	5.00	.791
3. The subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field	17	5.24	.903
4. I am given opportunities to apply my learning	17	4.76	.970
5. The assessment requirements are clear	17	5.12	.857
6. The assessment tasks align well with the subject content	17	5.18	.728
7. The assessment tasks assist my learning	17	4.94	.827

The mean value is an average response calculated by adding all the valid responses and dividing by the number of valid cases. The maximum value is 6. If two subjects have the same proportion of broad agreement to broad disagreement, if one is clustered at “strongly agree” and “slightly disagree” while the other is clustered around “slightly agree” and “strongly disagree”, the first will have a higher mean than the latter.

The standard deviation gives an indication of the distribution of the results. An item where the responses are evenly divided between “strongly disagree” and “strongly agree” has a high standard deviation. If the responses were clustered around slightly disagree and slightly agree, the standard deviation would be lower. You can see the range of responses by looking at the chart related to the item. Means for the Higher Education Division as a whole have been provided for comparison.

Section 2: Respondent demographics

This section includes demographic information from DEST data files is derived from student ID numbers. (Reports may be requested against these variables if required to support improvement activities)

The demographics reported are:

- Course(s) enrolled Each respondent’s enrolled course
- Enrolling Faculty The faculty to which the respondents are attached
- Age range of respondents
- Gender
- Status Postgraduate or Undergraduate
- Funding type This indicates the source of funding for the respondents (Commonwealth Grant Scheme or local or international Fee Paying)

Note: Improvement is indicated for any item which falls below 75% broad agreement.

Currently, the lowest 10% of subjects in each broad field of education, (as calculated by aggregate mean of items 1-7 and 11-15) require a formal improvement plan which is tabled at the next available Academic Programs Quality Committee (APQC) meeting. This listing is provided to faculties when available.

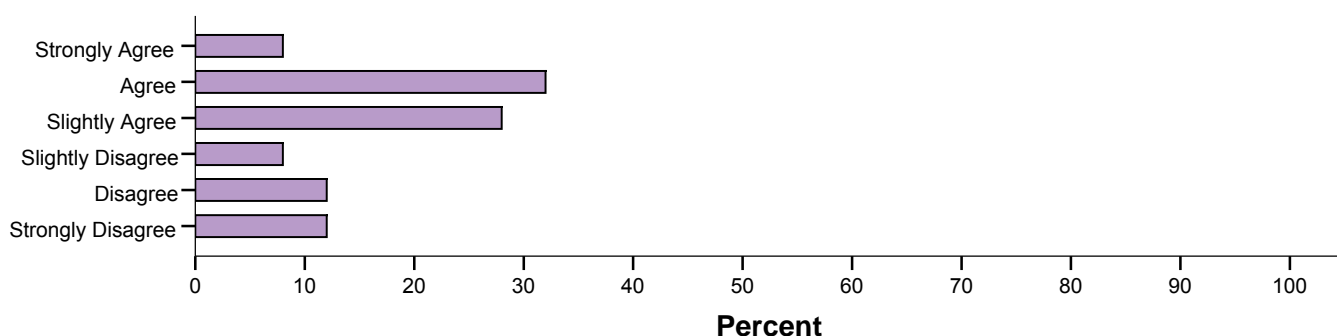
HET306 - UNIX FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Subject Delivery and Assessment

1. This subject is well organised

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	8	32.0	32.0
	Broadly Agree	17	68.0	68.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

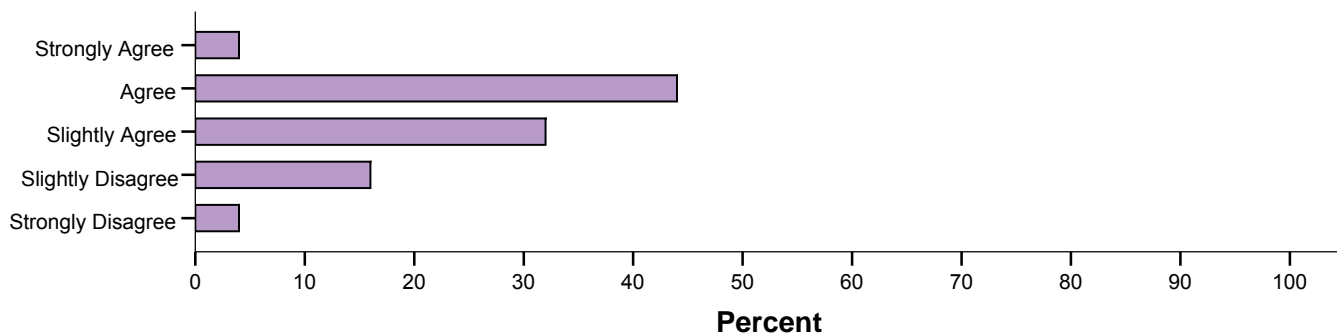
1. This subject is well organised



2. Information and concepts are clearly explained

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	5	20.0	20.0
	Broadly Agree	20	80.0	80.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

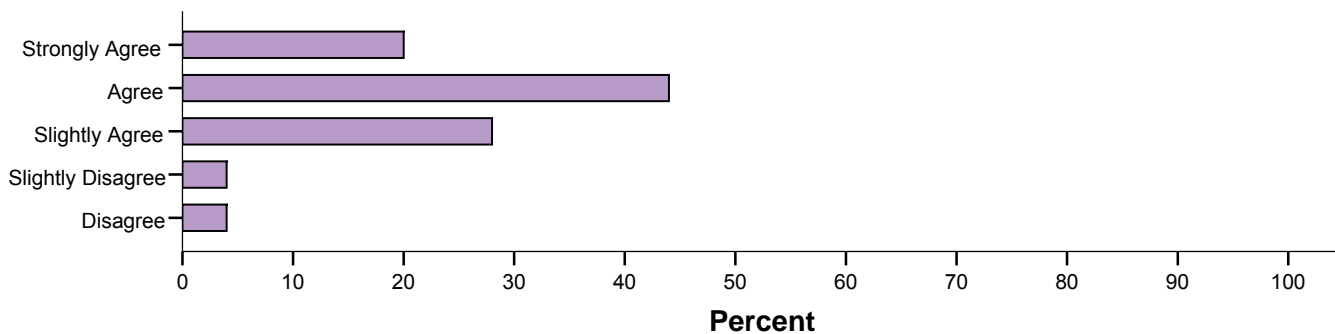
2. Information and concepts are clearly explained



3. This subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	2	8.0	8.0
	Broadly Agree	23	92.0	92.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

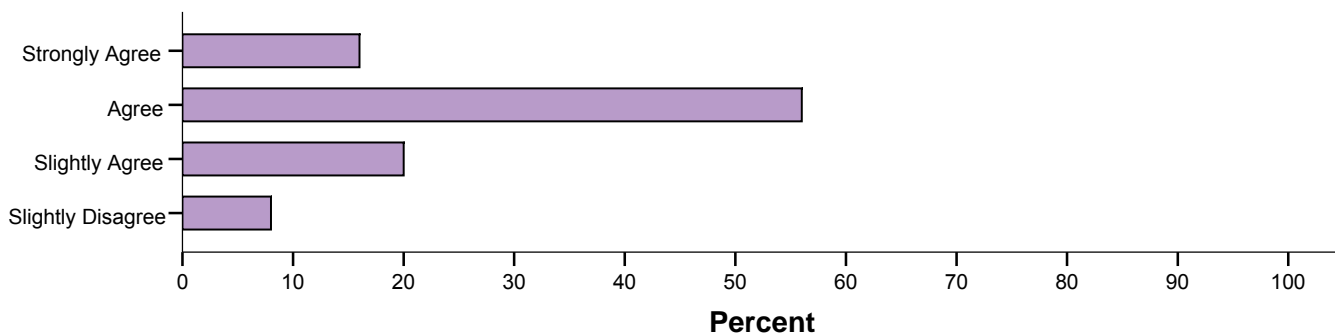
3. This subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field



4. I am given opportunities to apply my learning

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	2	8.0	8.0
	Broadly Agree	23	92.0	92.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

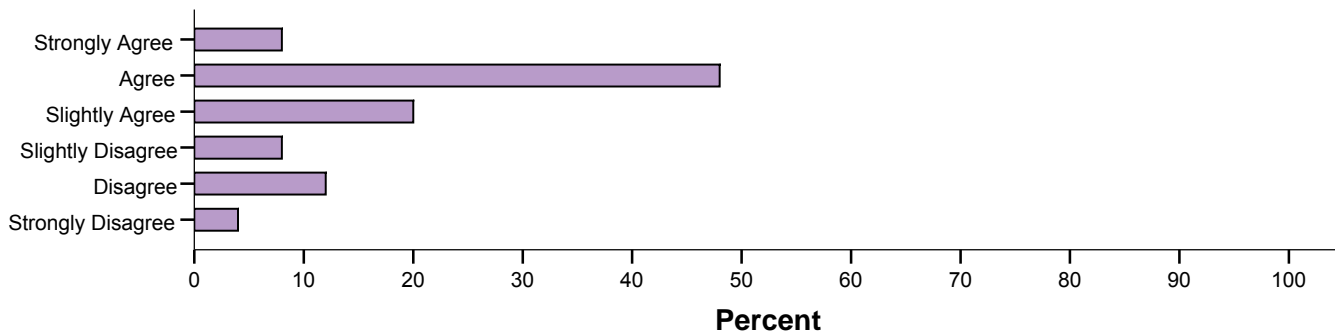
4. I am given opportunities to apply my learning



5. The assessment requirements were clear

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	6	24.0	24.0
	Broadly Agree	19	76.0	76.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

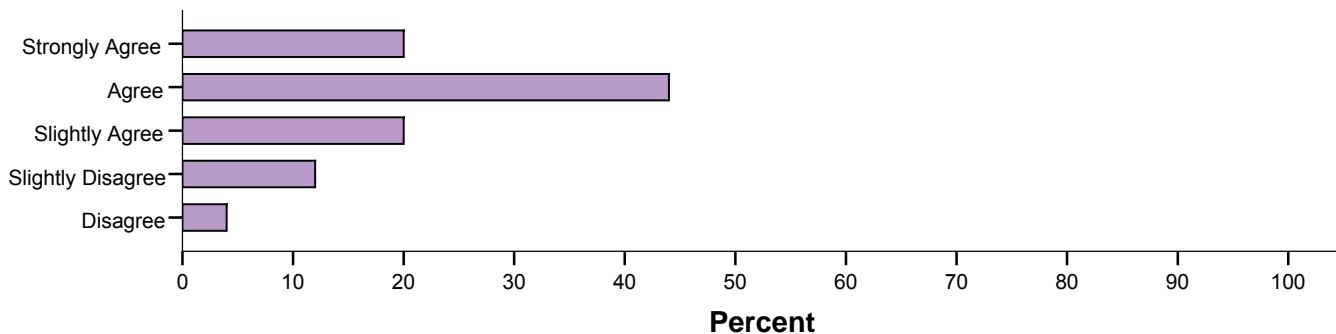
5. The assessment requirements were clear



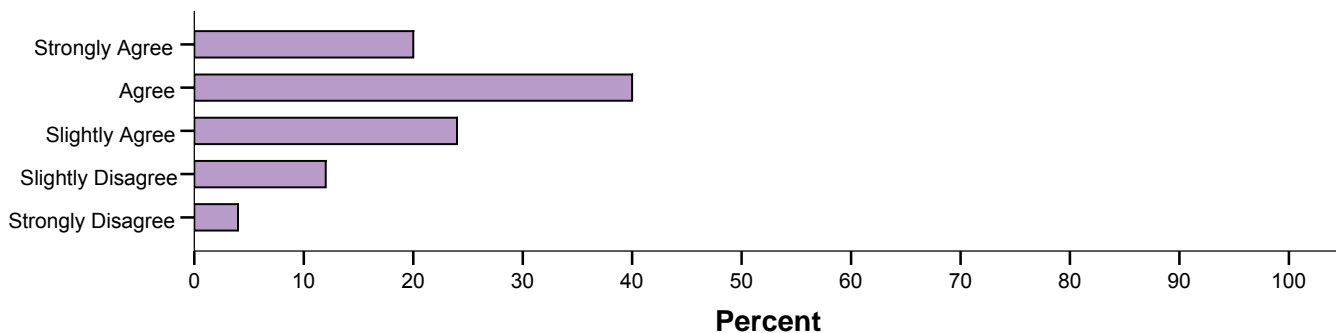
6. The assessment tasks align well with the subject content

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	4	16.0	16.0
	Broadly Agree	21	84.0	84.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

6. The assessment tasks align well with the subject content



7. The assessment tasks assisted my learning

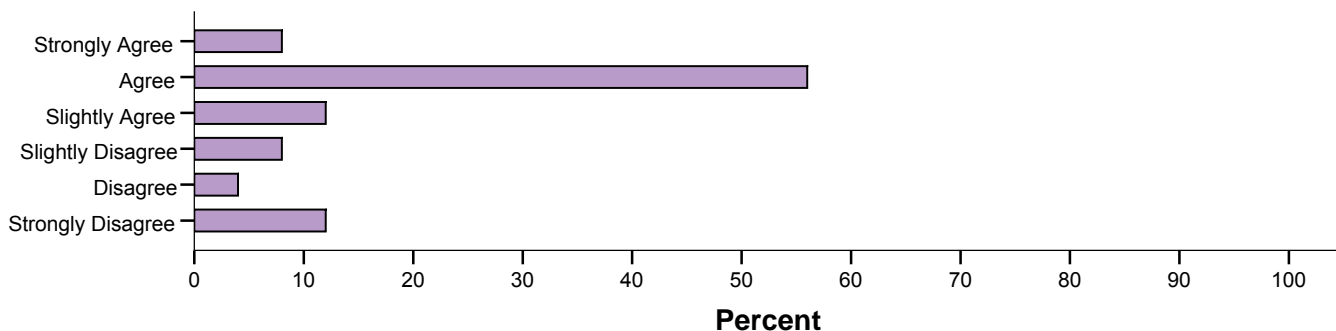


Facilities, Resources and Materials

10. I am satisfied with the teaching spaces, facilities and equipment

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	6	24.0	24.0
	Broadly Agree	19	76.0	76.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

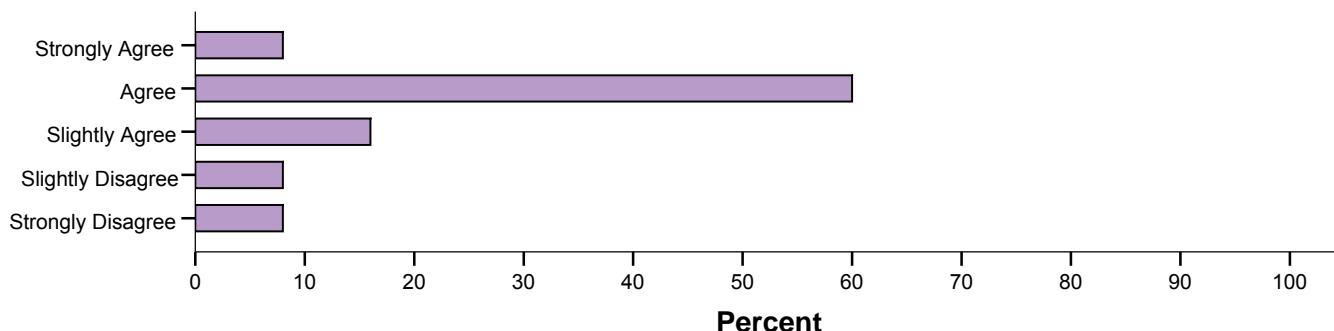
10. I am satisfied with the teaching spaces, facilities and equipment



11. The learning materials and resources for this subject meet my learning needs

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	4	16.0	16.0
	Broadly Agree	21	84.0	84.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

11. The learning materials and resources for this subject meet my learning needs



Question 10 and 11 Comments

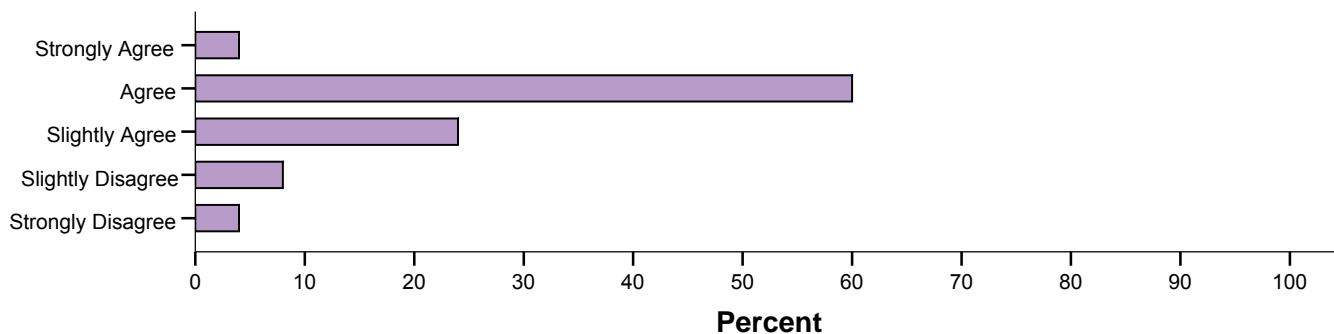
Case Number	Q10&11Facilities and Resources - Comment
1 3746	The RULE hosts kept on crashing throughout the semester and it got particularly bad when there were problems with RULE hosts right before the assignment deadline. The instruction guides in later labs were extremely poor. I understand that one part of this subject is research and working things out for ourselves; however, some instructions very extremely confusing and vague. Labs in general were not well organised.
2 3781	too much time is needed to complete lab reports. I cannot see much point of writing reports for each lab. Waste of time. Subject is not hard but both teachers make it hardest. this subject effects on other subjects. Teachers assume that we are doing only one subject in a semester. I think asking short questions is better than writting lab report. that can save time. And saved time could be spend on other subjects.
3 3829	I think their are to many oppotunities to fail this subject, which is unhelpful given other difficult subjects. □The weekly reports are annoying as we need a certain number submitted or we fail, also we need a certain percentage of the major reports correct or we fail, the assignment is also mandatory and students need a minimum of 40% or they fail. The workload is quite high per week: 2hr Lecture + 1hr Tutorial(Also expected to prepare antother 1-2hrs) + ~5hrs Reports + Assignment, again this is would not be so bad except that all the chances to fail increase stress and make it a quite unenjoyable subject.
4 4700	We wrote the exam today . .but still have no result for 2 of our 4 marked lab reports.. !! Was quite hard to prepare for the exam without to know how good/ bad i did on that topic
5 4901	Lots of laptops in this class, which is expected considering the topic, not enough powerpoints in lecture theatres/tutorial rooms
6 4957	Labs could have been written more clearly explaining the process and the end result.
7 5039	RULE host uptime was terrible. There were several outages during the semester, including one which resulted in the loss of all student configuration data on the system. □Lab handouts often had incorrect information in them. Labs on the whole often had tedious questions in them such as "what is the website for software A" I don't see how these sorts of questions provoke any sort of learning, and I found many of the lab questions to be a waste of time answering.
8 5283	RULE host uptime was appalling. Multiple extended downtime periods, including several hours on the day the major assignment was due. Host's were also completely ruined in the first few weeks, removing any work that had been done so far. □□If the teaching staff were providing this as a service to a client, the contract would have been terminated by now, and possible legal procedings initiated. I've seen contracts terminted for at a lot less than this in the real world.
N	8

Delivery Style and Feedback

12. The way that this subject is delivered suits my needs

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	3	12.0	12.0
	Broadly Agree	22	88.0	88.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

12. The way that this subject is delivered suits my needs



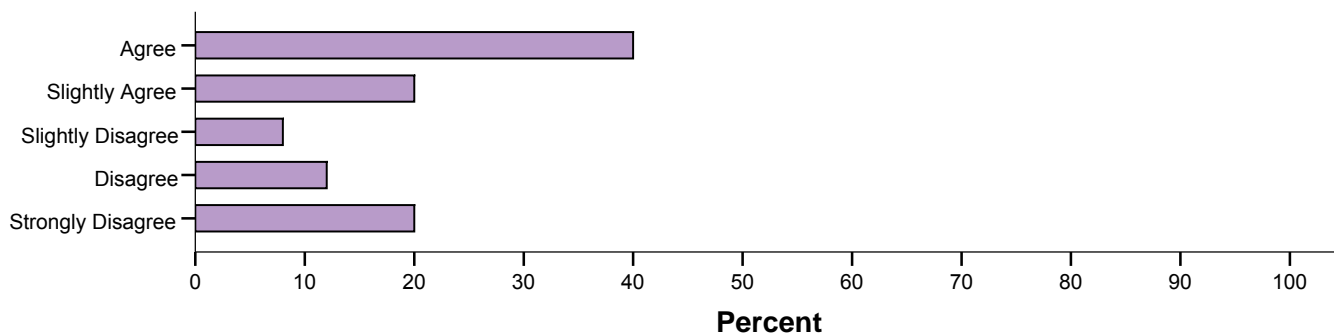
Question 12 Comments

			Case Number	Q12 The way this subject is delivered suits my needs -Comment
12. The way that this subject is delivered suits my needs	Slightly Agree	1	3746	Demonstrations during lectures and tutes are often interrupted due to something not working. This is very disruptive and when it happens for prolonged periods, I lose focus.
		N		1
	Agree	1	4700	maybe too much lab reports for just 1 subject. had to submit 7 of 9 (to pass) and only four of them got marked..(mark more or reduce number of lab reports)
		2	4957	Lectures where conducted very well. Tutorials could have used the concepts that where taught in the lectures in real world examples.
		3	5283	The subject has great potential, but the implementation is just not up to scratch.
		N		3
	N			4

13. I have received helpful feedback

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	10	40.0	40.0
	Broadly Agree	15	60.0	60.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

13. I have received helpful feedback



Question 13 Comments

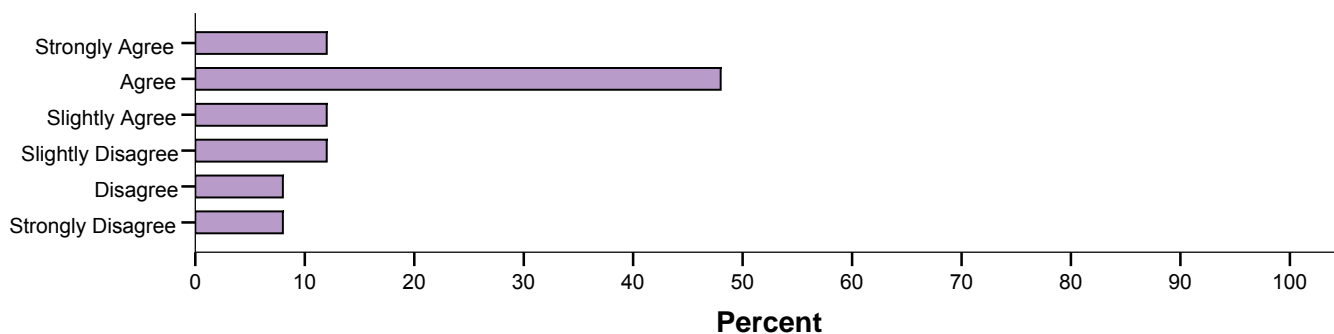
			Case Number	Q13 I have received helpful feedback - Comment	
13. I have received helpful feedback	Strongly Disagree	1	3746	Very little feedback was provided to me. I completed 9 lab reports and an assignment and have only received one short written feedback and a result for a lab report I did earlier in the semester. I was also experiencing difficulties with one of the labs and no help was provided to me; mind you, the instructions for this lab were incorrectly specified in the first place.	
		2	3781	got feedbacks for report writtings. it seems like this subject's aim is to write reports.	
		3	5039	Feedback on labs was slow. It is now swotvac week and I do not have lab results for labs week 5,7,8 or 9.	
		4	5686	Feedback was not provided in a timely manner for reports and assignments submitted. In some cases results were not upload after well over a month.	
		N			4
	Disagree	1	4939	Assessment results were posted late or not at all for several items□Very hard to gauge my apparent progress in the subject (I score 1/5 for my first lab, with no idea as to why)	1
		N			
	Slightly Disagree	1	4957	Lab results where often returned too late or without adequate feedback to make improvements for future labs and exam preparation.	
		N			1
	Slightly Agree	1	5283	Feedback on the first 3 labs was good, although a little slow.	
		N			1
	Agree	1	4700	Didn't get very useful feedback for questions on assignment.. but questions on blackboard were answered quite well (by lecturer and other students !!)	
		N			1
	N				8

Overall Teaching Satisfaction

14. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	7	28.0	28.0
	Broadly Agree	18	72.0	72.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

14. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject



Question 14 Comments

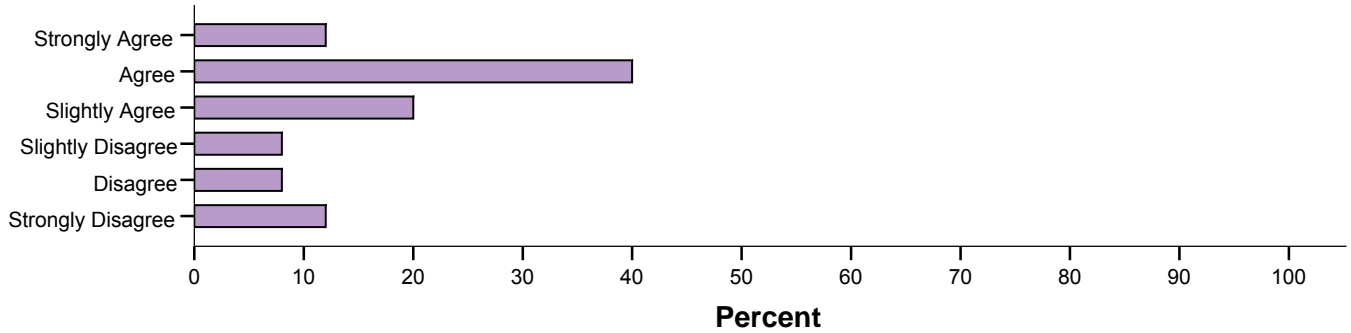
			Case Number	Q14 Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject - Comment
14. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject	Disagree	1	5039	This subject is named unix for telecomms, yet there is very little teaching in regards to using unix for telecommunications purposes. It is more like a very basic introduction to unix subject. Having a reasonable amount of unix experience, I found this subject more of a burden than an enjoyable subject. I was hoping to consolidate my own unix learnings, however I found most of the time i found the answers i needed on the internet, rather than in the lectures.
		N		
	Slightly Disagree	1	3746	I think both the lecturer and lab instructor are very knowledgeable individuals; however I just don't think they passed on that knowledge well enough.
		2	4939	
		N	2	
	Slightly Agree	1	5283	Staff are certainly knowledgeable. They seem to be either too busy, or not care enough to provide the level of teaching and background support needed. Perhaps getting some students onboard as lab demonstrators and to help run the RULE host's would help?
		N		
	Agree	1	4957	Overall both the instructors for this subject made the classes very interesting and stimulating. It did seem that when it came to assessing labs they struggled due to the number of students enrolled.
		2	5686	
		N	2	
	Strongly Agree	1	4063	Jason provided interesting and informative lectures on the subject material providing helpful examples in an easy to understand way.
		N		
	N			7

Overall Subject Satisfaction

15. Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Broadly Disagree	7	28.0	28.0
	Broadly Agree	18	72.0	72.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

15. Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching)



Question 15 Comments

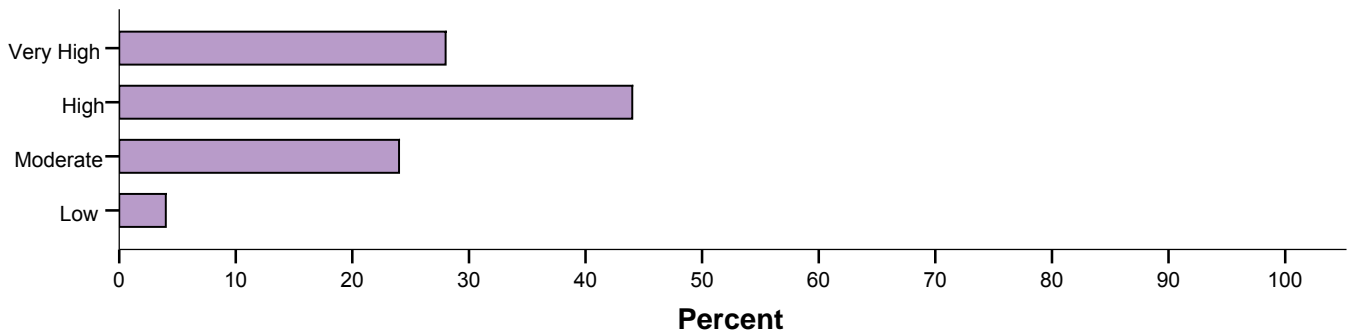
			Case Number	Q15 Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching) - Comment		
15. Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching)	Strongly Disagree	1	3873	Feedback on lab reports are a joke. It takes 4 weeks to get results. Overall, a very badly organised subject that relies too much on what students know rather than what we can learn.		
		2			5283	Great potential, ruined by poor implementation.
		N				2
	Disagree	1	5039	As mentioned previously - the standard of teaching could be vastly improved. My main area of concern is the content, rather than the teachers themselves.		
		N				1
	Slightly Agree	1	3746	I was very enthusiastic about topics covered and the labs in particular. I don't think students in my course gain enough exposure to Unix, even though Unix offers some fundamental concepts in regard to networking and software back-end, so it was refreshing to do a subject that allows us to play around with Unix. Overall, if the RULE glitches didn't hinder our lab and assignment work so much, and if the lab instructions were clearer (or at least proof-read), this subject would've been a lot more enjoyable and a better learning experience for all. More assistance and better feedback from the lab instructor would also be recommended.		
		2			5686	Apart from not receiving any real/useful or timely feedback or results on assessment tasks (which were marked to a fairly standard), the subject matter was very interesting and did prompt me to want learn more. Information delivery was also very good, Jason as a lecturer was generally good. Although at times live demonstrations in the lectures tended to go wrong because there wasn't much preparation (sometimes understandable due to busy scheduling on the lecturer's part etc).
		N				
	Agree	1	4957	Most of the subject content was relevant and interesting, however reducing the number of labs required and removing the content that is not related to 'Telecommunication' could have improved this subject.		
		N				1
	Strongly Agree	1	4700	Learned never so much in one subject... but took (toooooo much) time		
		N				1
	N				7	

Student Commitment and Subject Difficulty

8. How would you describe your level of commitment to this subject?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Generally Low	7	28.0	28.0
	Moderate	18	72.0	72.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

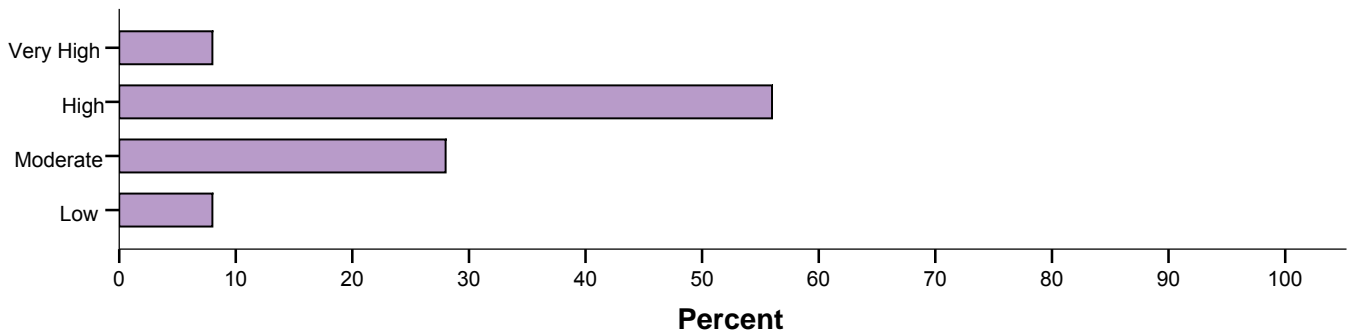
8. How would you describe your level of commitment to this subject?



9. I found the level of difficulty of this subject ...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Generally Low	9	36.0	36.0
	Moderate	16	64.0	64.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

9. I found the level of difficulty of this subject ...



Mean Scores for this subject

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1. This subject is well organised	25	3.80	1.528
2. Information and concepts are clearly explained	25	4.24	1.052
3. This subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field	25	4.72	.980
4. I am given opportunities to apply my learning	25	4.80	.816
5. The assessment requirements were clear	25	4.20	1.323
6. The assessment tasks align well with the subject content	25	4.64	1.075
7. The assessment tasks assisted my learning	25	4.56	1.193
8. How would you describe your level of commitment to this subject?	25	3.96	.841
9. I found the level of difficulty of this subject ...	25	3.64	.757
10. I am satisfied with the teaching spaces, facilities and equipment	25	4.20	1.500
11. The learning materials and resources for this subject meet my learning needs	25	4.44	1.261
12. The way that this subject is delivered suits my needs	25	4.48	1.005
13. I have received helpful feedback	25	3.48	1.610
14. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject	25	4.20	1.472
15. Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching)	25	4.04	1.567
MeanSat	25	4.30	.915
Valid N (listwise)	25		

Mean Scores for Swinburne Higher Education Division

Descriptive Statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1. This subject is well organised	9986	4.66	1.248
2. Information and concepts are clearly explained	9978	4.60	1.273
3. This subject stimulates my curiosity to learn more about this field	9959	4.62	1.337
4. I am given opportunities to apply my learning	9956	4.81	1.111
5. The assessment requirements were clear	9974	4.68	1.272
6. The assessment tasks align well with the subject content	9941	4.83	1.116
7. The assessment tasks assisted my learning	9944	4.83	1.139
8. How would you describe your level of commitment to this subject?	10010	3.75	.950
9. I found the level of difficulty of this subject ...	10010	3.39	.901
10. I am satisfied with the teaching spaces, facilities and equipment	9908	4.70	1.151
11. The learning materials and resources for this subject meet my learning needs	9932	4.62	1.184
12. The way that this subject is delivered suits my needs	9945	4.51	1.233
13. I have received helpful feedback	9832	4.51	1.299
14. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of teaching in this subject	9962	4.62	1.333
15. Overall, I am satisfied with this subject (other than teaching)	9959	4.62	1.227
MeanSat	9999	4.66	1.008
Valid N (listwise)	9588		

Demographics

Course

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	E059 - BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INTERNET TECHNOLOGIES)	3	12.0	12.0
	E069Y - BENG (TELECOMS & INTERNET TECHNOLOGIES)/BSC (COMPUTER SCIENCE & SOFTWARE ENG)	6	24.0	24.0
	I052 - BACHELOR OF COMPUTING	3	12.0	12.0
	I055 - BACHELOR OF COMPUTING (NETWORK DESIGNAND SECURITY)	6	24.0	24.0
	I059 - BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (TELECOMMUNICATION AND NETWORK ENGINEERING)	3	12.0	12.0
	ISAP - INTERNATIONAL STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM	1	4.0	4.0
	J032 - BMM(NETWORKS AND COMPUTING)/BENG(TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INTERNET TECHNOLOGIES)	2	8.0	8.0
	J043 - BACHELOR OF MULTIMEDIA (NETWORKS AND COMPUTING)	1	4.0	4.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

Enrolling Faculty

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION OFFICE	1	4.0	4.0
	FACULTY OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATN TEC	24	96.0	96.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

Age Range

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Less than 19	2	8.0	8.0
	20-24	21	84.0	84.0
	25-29	1	4.0	4.0
	35-39	1	4.0	4.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Female	2	8.0	8.0
	Male	23	92.0	92.0
	Total	25	100.0	100.0

Degree Type

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Undergraduate	25	100.0	100.0

Funding Status

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Commonwealth Government Funded	12	48.0	60.0
	Fee Paying International	8	32.0	40.0
	Total	20	80.0	100.0
Missing	System	5	20.0	
Total		25	100.0	

Admission Criteria (Combined)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	Higher Education (Complete/Incomplete)	7	28.0	36.8
	Secondary	7	28.0	36.8
	VET (Complete/Incomplete)	5	20.0	26.3
	Total	19	76.0	100.0
Missing	System	6	24.0	
Total		25	100.0	