Australian Law Student Satisfaction Survey

2013

University of Western Australia

University of Western Australia

Demographics

Responses: 104

Question 2: What degree program are you enrolled in?

Table 1.2: Survey responses by Degree Program

Degree Program	%	Responses
LLB	15.4%	16
LLB/Double Degree	81.7%	85
LLM	0%	0
JD	2.9%	3
Other	0%	0

Question 3: What is your gender?

Table 1.3: Survey responses by Gender

Gender	%	Responses
Female	64.4%	67
Male	34.6%	36
Other	1.0%	1

Question 4: Current year level of study in your law degree

Table 1.4: Survey responses by Year Level of Study

Year Level of Study	%	Responses
First	3.9%	4
Second	1.0%	1
Third	17.3%	18
Fourth	28.8%	30
Fifth	26.0%	27
Sixth or higher	23.1%	24

Question 5: Current study mode

Table 1.5: Survey responses by Current Study Mode

Study Mode	%	Responses
Full-Time	92.3%	96
Part-Time	7.7%	8

Question 6: Attendance mode

Table 1.6: Survey responses by Attendance Mode

Attendance Mode	%	Responses
On campus	96.2%	100
Off campus/distance	0%	0
Mix of on campus and off campus/distance	3.9%	4

Question 7: Are you a domestic or international student?

Table 1.7: Survey responses by Domestic or International Student

Domestic/International	%	Responses
Domestic	97.1%	101
International	2.9%	3

Question 8: Do you mainly study in a metropolitan, regional, remote or overseas area?

Table 1.8: Survey responses by Primary Study Location (metropolitan, regional, remote or overseas)

Study Location	%	Responses
Metropolitan	96.2%	100
Regional	3.9%	4
Remote	0%	0
Overseas	0%	0

Question 9: Are you working while studying?

Table 1.9: Survey responses by Employment Status

Working while studying?	%	Responses
Yes, on average more than 37 hours per week	6.7%	7
Yes, on average fewer than 37 hours per week	75.0%	78
Yes, but only during university holidays	8.7%	9
No	9.6%	10

Question 10: Are you currently working in a law-related job?

Table 1.10: Survey responses by Law-Related Employment Status

Law-related job?	%	Responses
Yes	35.6%	37
No	64.4%	67

Question 11: Do you intend to work as a legal practitioner after you graduate?

Table: Survey responses by Intention to Work as a Legal Practitioner

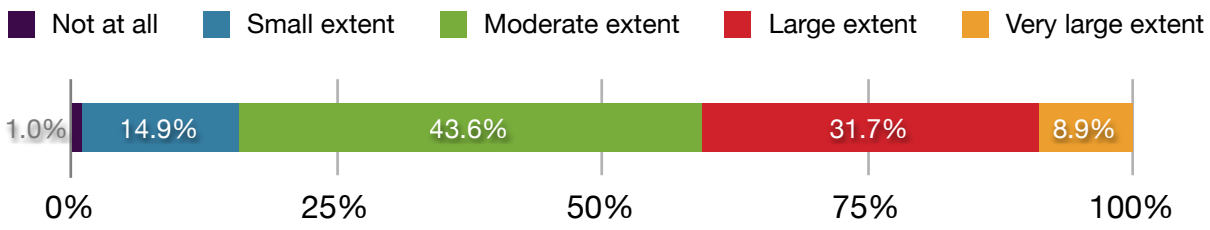
Do you intend to work as a legal practitioner?	%	Responses
Yes	60.6%	63
No	14.4%	15
Unsure	25.0%	26

Part 2: Teaching

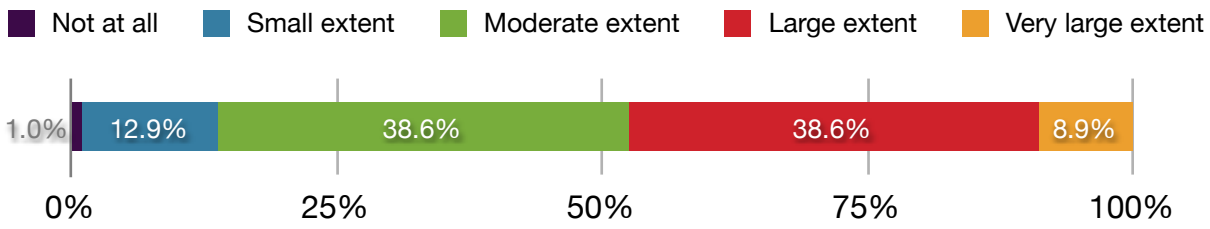
Question 12: To what extent have your lecturers and tutors:

Responses: 101

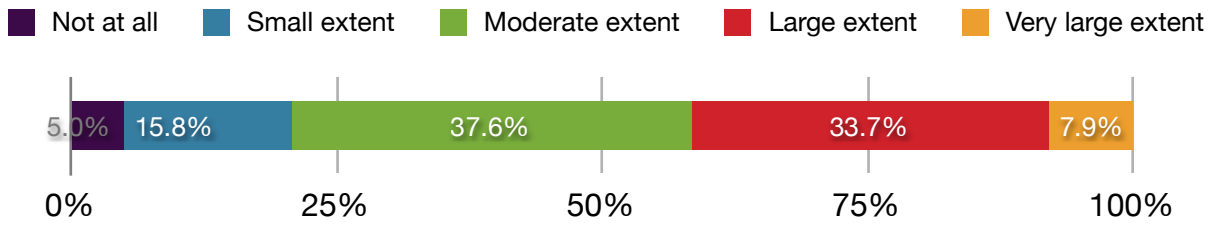
a) *Shown that they care about your learning outcomes?*



b) *Been helpful and approachable?*



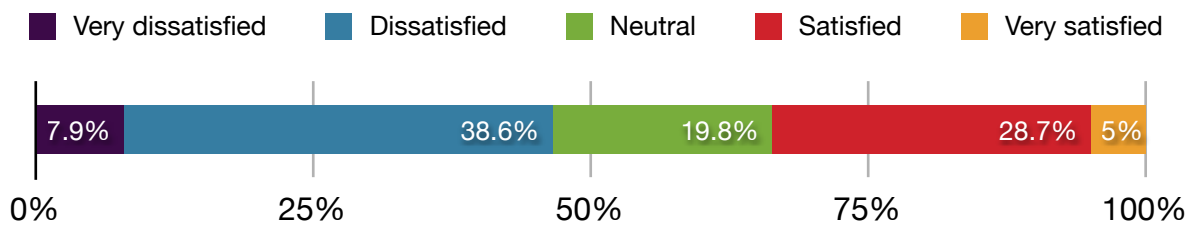
c) *Created an engaging learning environment?*



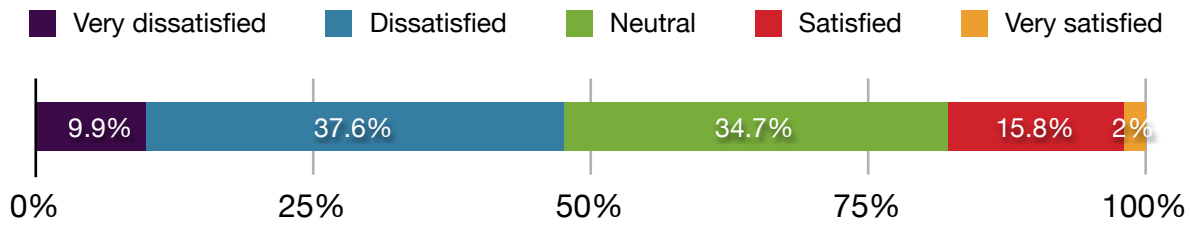
Question 13: How satisfied are you with:

Responses: 101

a) *The quality of the feedback that you receive on assessments?*

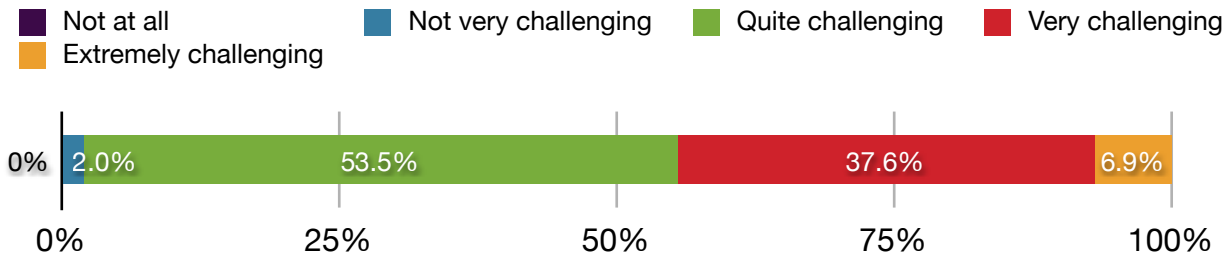


b) ***the timeliness of the feedback that you receive on assessments?***



Question 14: How challenging have you found your assessments?

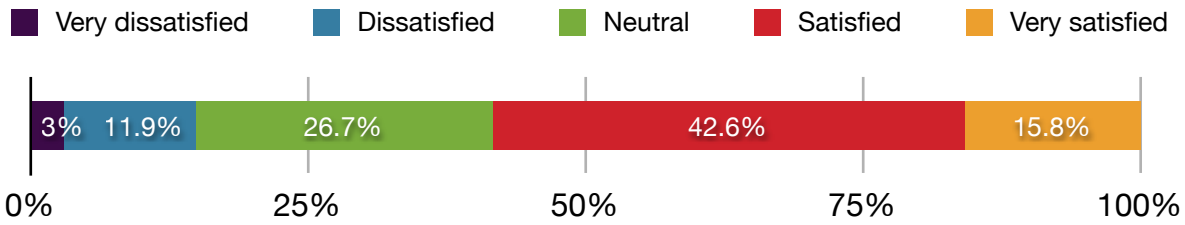
Responses: 101



Satisfaction Rating: Teaching

Question 15: Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of teaching at your law school?

Responses: 101



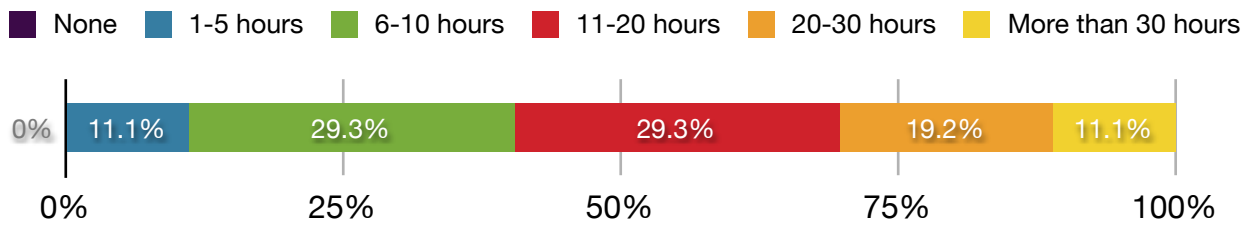
Responses

Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
3	12	27	43	16

Part 3: Study

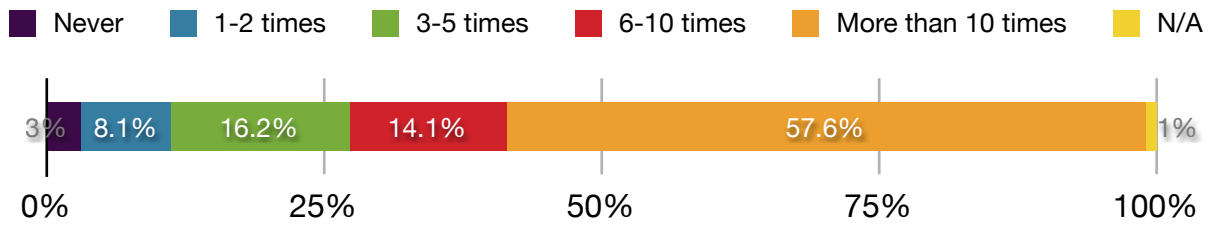
Question 16: During semester, how many hours do you spend studying (including preparing for class) each week?

Responses: 99



Question 17: How often do you visit your law school/university library (as opposed to using online library resources) in a typical semester?

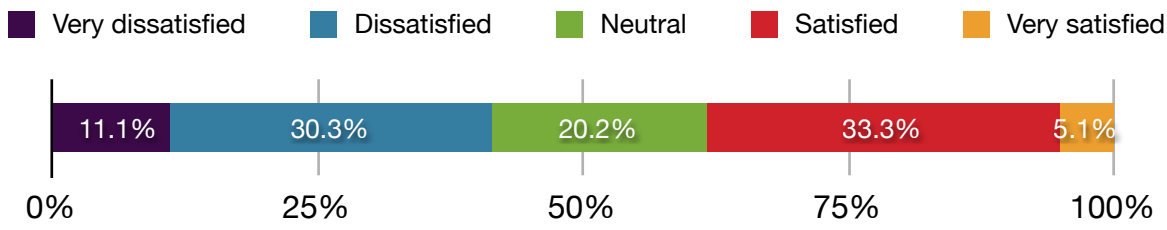
Responses: 99



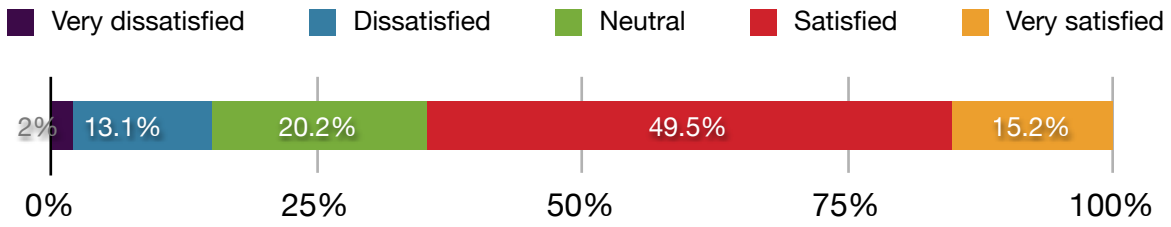
Question 18: How satisfied are you with:

Responses: 99

a) *The range of elective subjects available?*



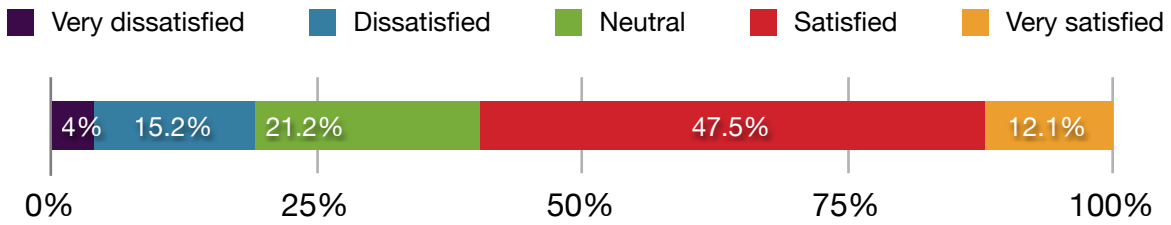
b) ***The online resources available to support your study, such as study forums***



Satisfaction Rating: Study

Question 19: Overall, how satisfied are you with the study experience at your law school?

Responses: 99



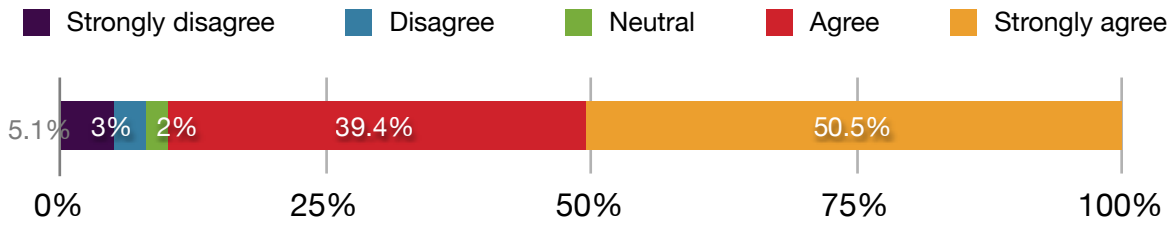
Responses

Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
4	15	21	47	12

Part 4: Careers

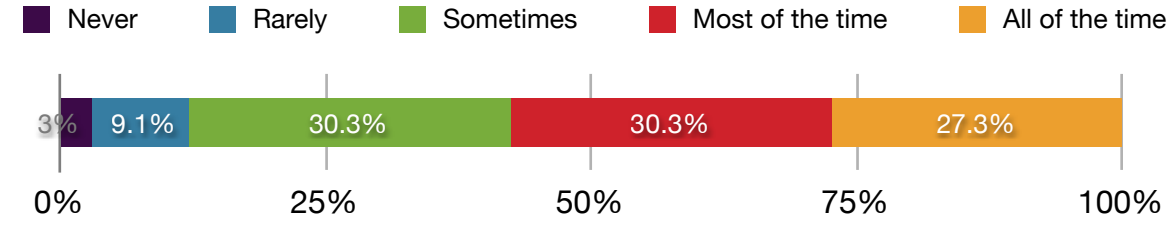
Question 20: I believe my law school is highly regarded by employers.

Responses: 99



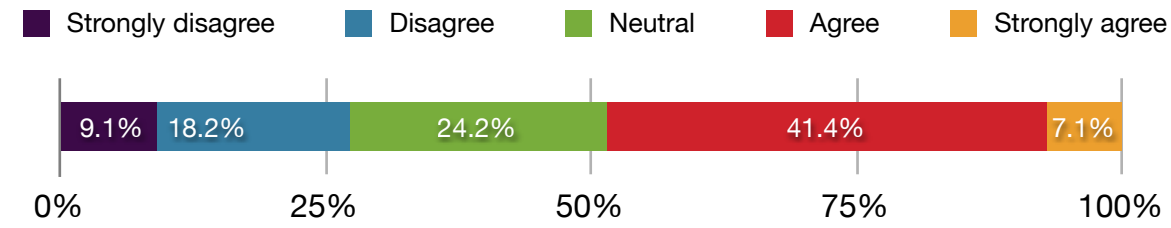
Question 21: How often do you feel stressed about finding a relevant job after you graduate?

Responses: 99



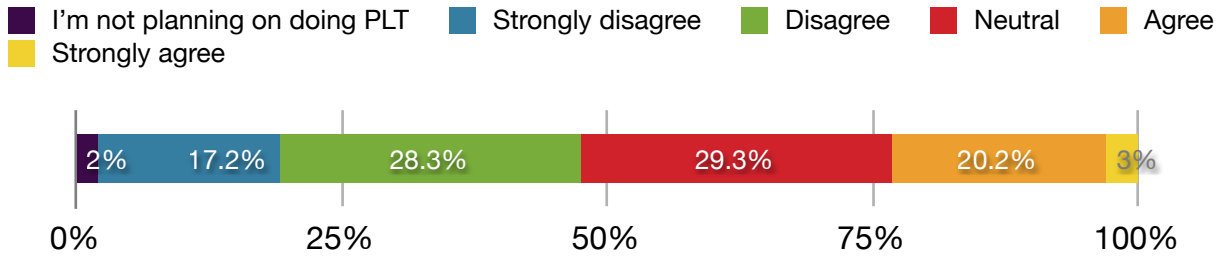
Question 22: My law school provides sufficient information about work experience/employment opportunities.

Responses: 99



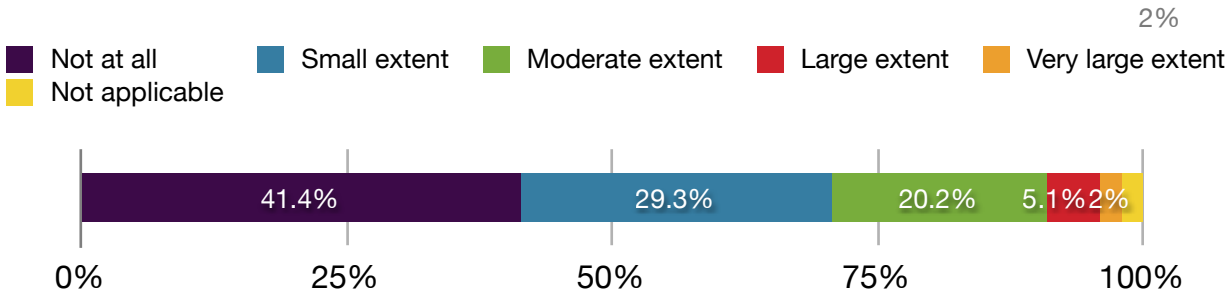
Question 23: I have access to sufficient information about my practical legal training (PLT) options for when I finish my degree.

Responses: 99



Question 24: To what extent have you used career support services at your university?

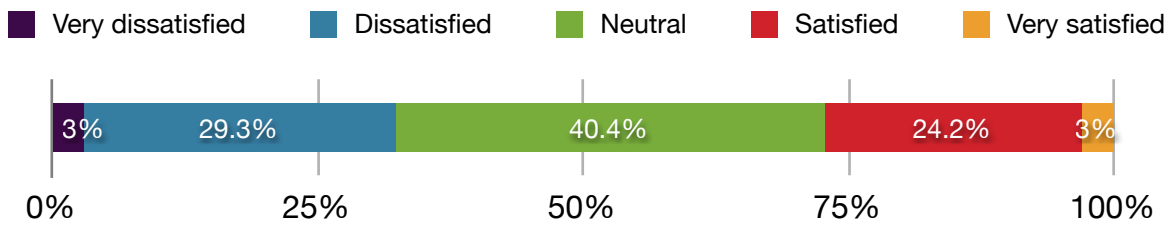
Responses: 99



Satisfaction Rating: Careers

Question 25: Overall, how satisfied are you with the level of career support provided at your law school?

Responses: 99



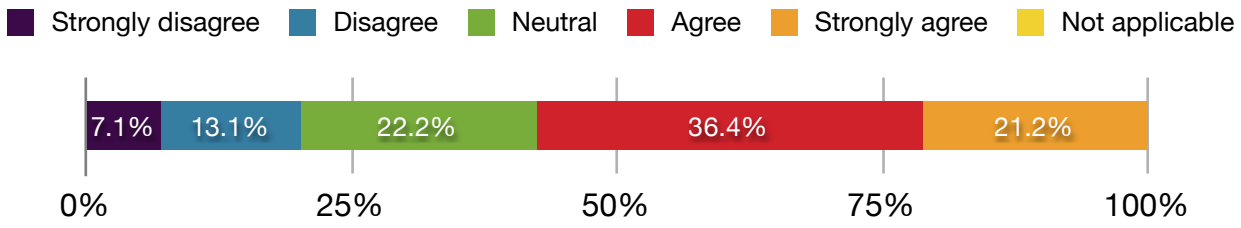
Responses

Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
3	29	40	24	3

Part 5: Campus Life

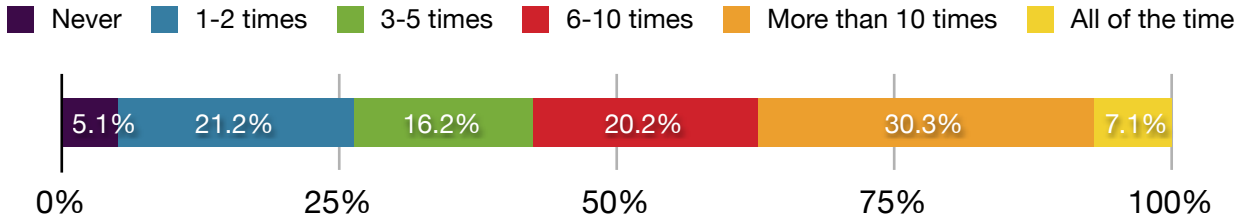
Question 26: I enjoy spending time on campus at my law school

Responses: 99



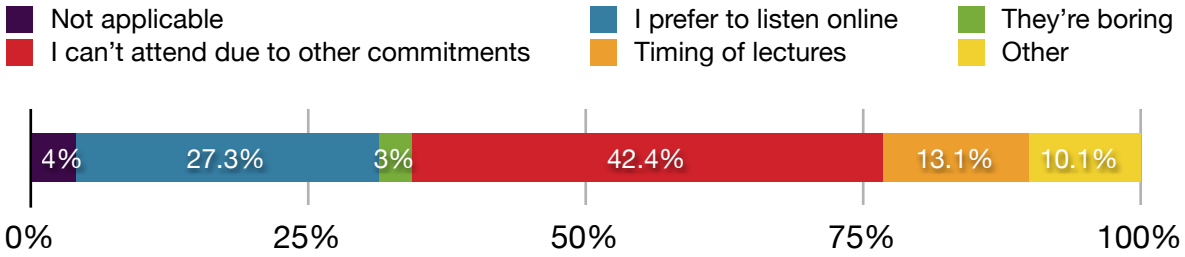
Question 27: How often do you skip lectures in a typical semester, other than as a result of illness?

Responses: 99



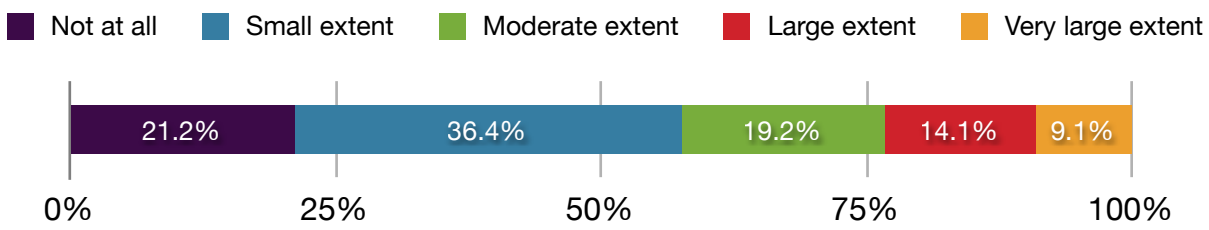
Question 28: What is your main reason for skipping lectures?

Responses: 99



Question 29: To what extent have you taken part in extra-curricular activities such as legal competitions, social events and clubs at your law school?

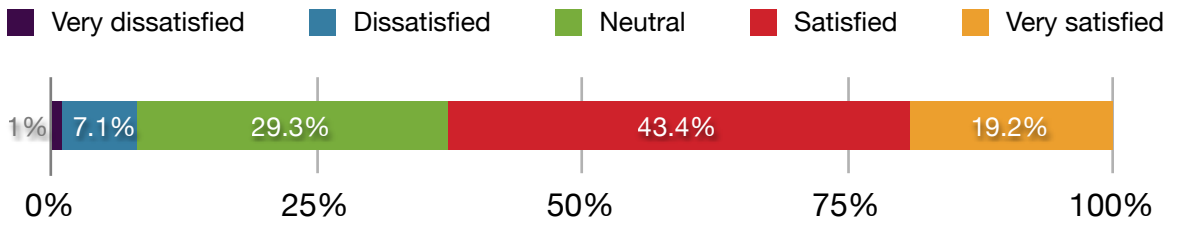
Responses: 99



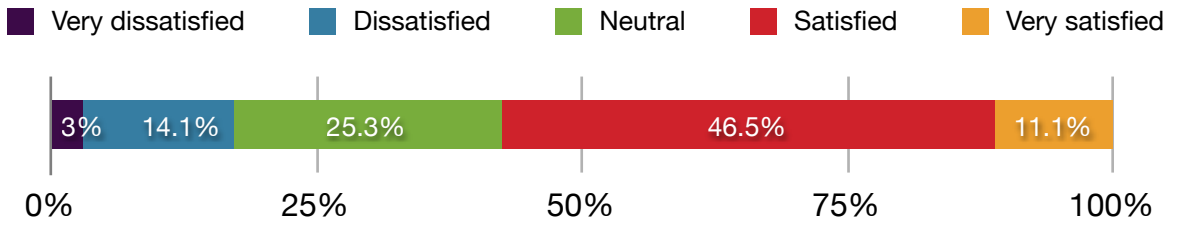
Question 30: How satisfied are you with:

Responses: 99

a) *the range of extra-curricular activities available at your law school?*



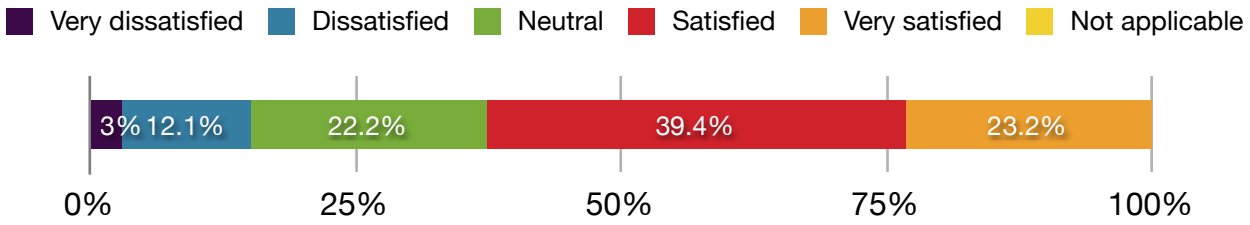
b) learning facilities at your law school, such as lecture halls and classrooms?



Satisfaction Rating: Campus Life

Question 31: Overall, how satisfied are you with campus life at your law school?

Responses: 99



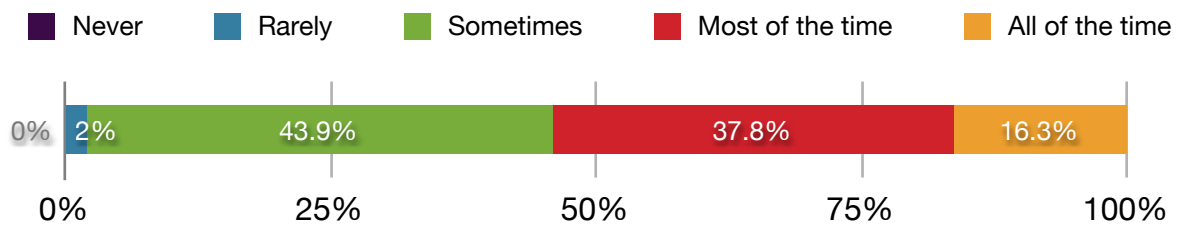
Responses

Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied	N/A
3	12	22	39	23	0

Part 6: Wellbeing

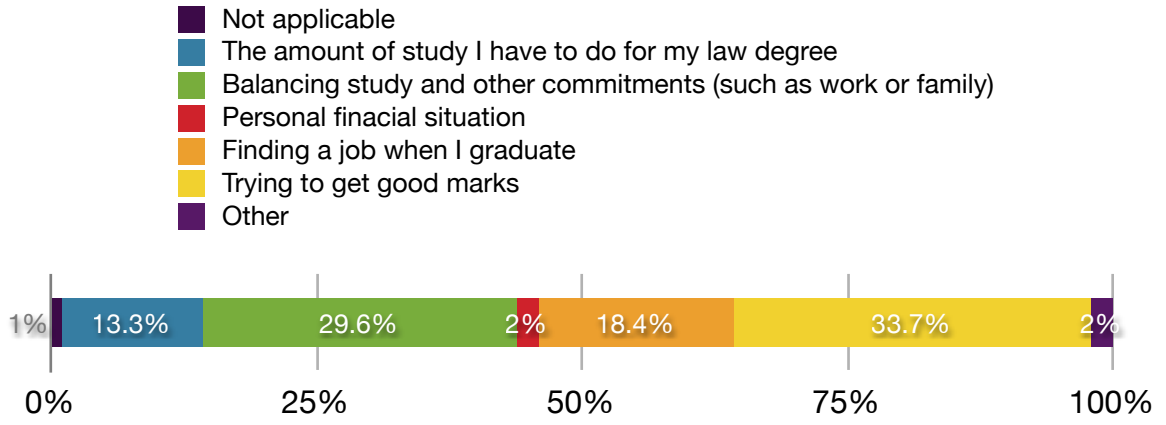
Question 32: How often do you feel stressed at law school?

Responses: 98



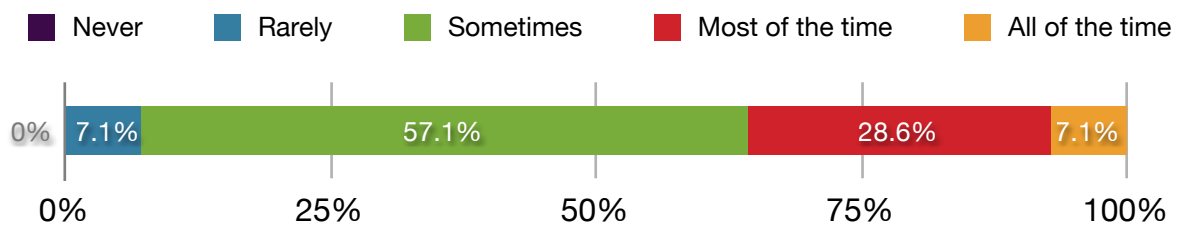
Question 33: Which of the following causes you the greatest amount of stress?

Responses: 98



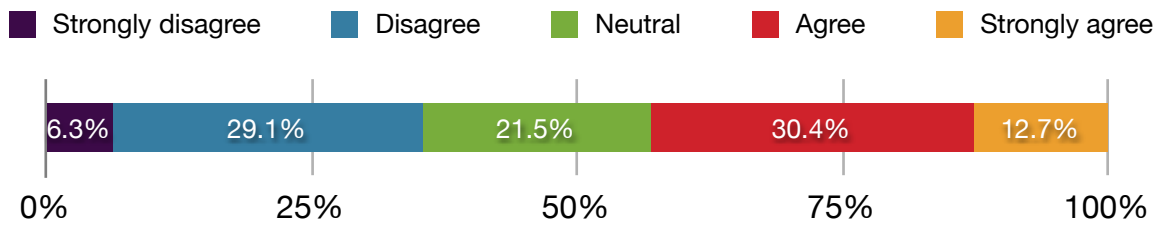
Question 34: How often do you feel overwhelmed by your workload at law school?

Responses: 98



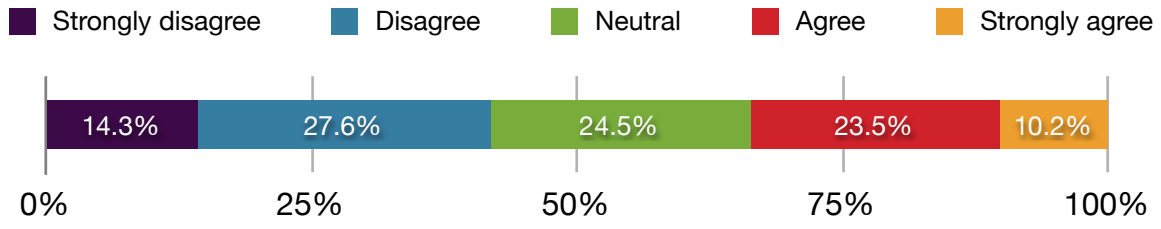
Question 35: I would feel comfortable seeking support from law school staff if I was anxious, depressed or struggling psychologically.

Responses: 98



Question 36: I would feel comfortable seeking support from other law students if I was anxious, depressed or struggling psychologically.

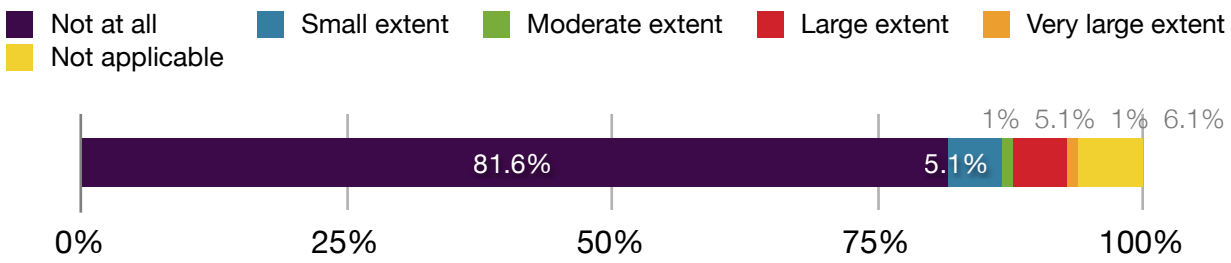
Responses: 98



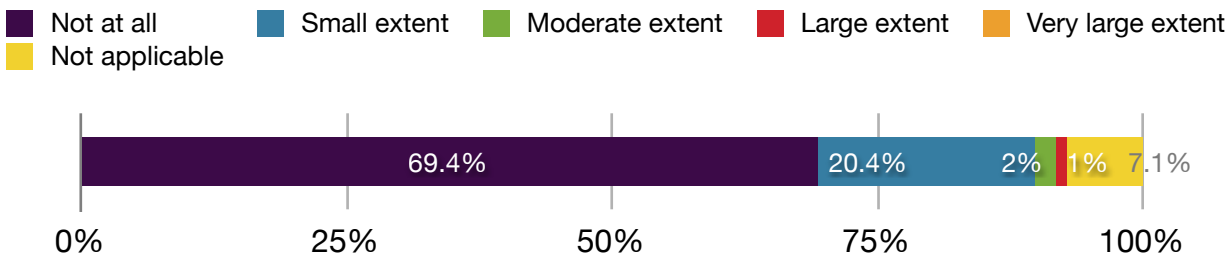
Question 37: To what extent have you used university provided:

Responses: 98

a) *Counselling*



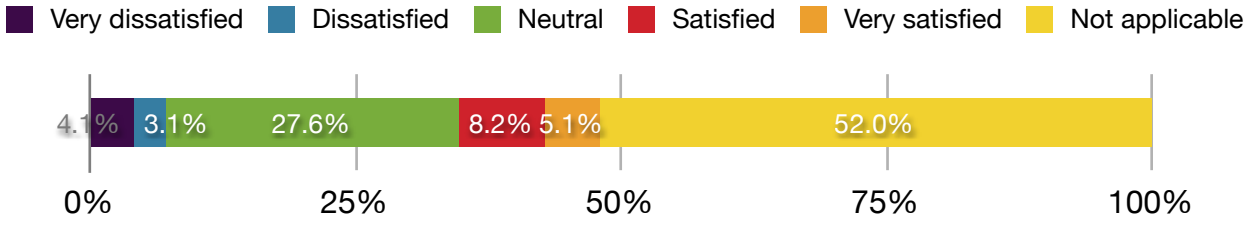
b) Peer mentoring



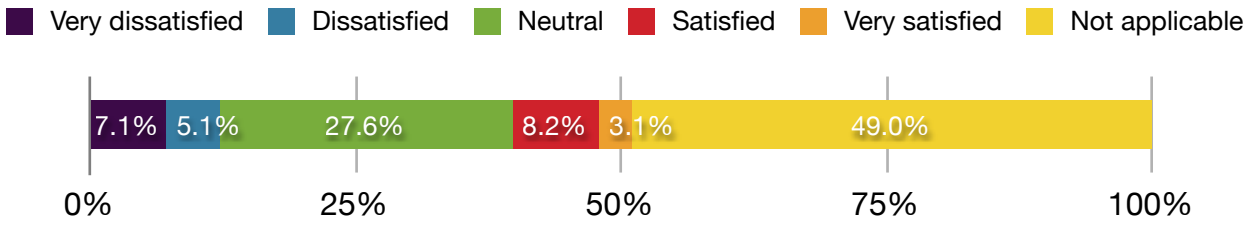
Question 38: How satisfied are you with the:

Responses: 98

a) *Counselling*



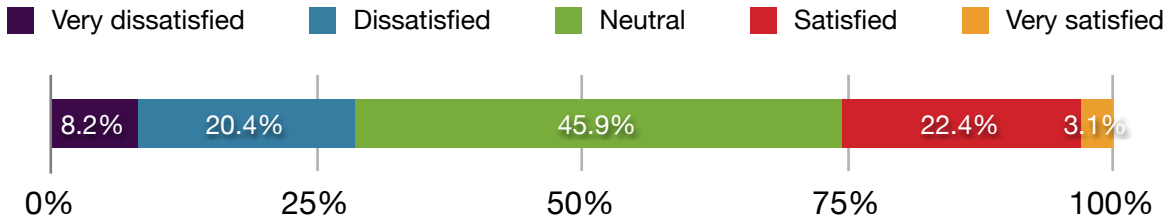
b) *Peer mentoring*



Satisfaction Rating: Wellbeing

Question 39: Overall, how satisfied are you with your law school's support for your wellbeing?

Responses: 98



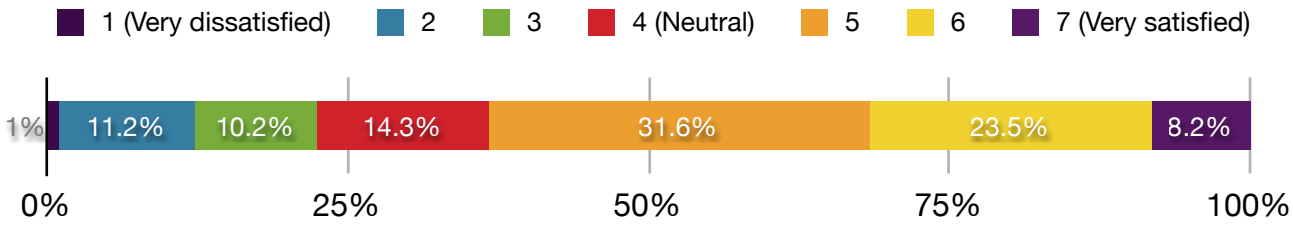
Responses

Very dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very satisfied
8	20	45	22	3

Part 7: Overall Satisfaction Rating

Question 40: How satisfied are you with your law school overall?

Responses: 98



Rating	%	Responses
1 (Very dissatisfied)	1.0%	1
2	11.2%	11
3	10.2%	10
4 (Neutral)	14.3%	14
5	31.6%	31
6	23.5%	23
7 (Very satisfied)	8.2%	8

Part 8: Open Responses

Overview

Part 8 of the ALSSS contained two non-compulsory questions giving students the opportunity to state in their own words what they liked best about their law school and what they would most like to see improved.

A selection of the responses received are included below. Email contact@survivelaw.com for more information.

Question 41: What do you like best about your law school and why?

-There are some really excellent lecturers who genuinely seem passionate about their area of law and wanting to impart their knowledge upon others in an enjoyable way.

-It is recognised as a good law school, which improves chances of being employed once I've graduated.

-I love the people and friends I have at UWA - everyone's so supportive of one another and it's a great place to be.

-The actual tuition provided is first rate, in that the lecturers and tutors are very competent instructors and approachable people. Assessments are often very relevant, and the courses offered reflect the dynamic opportunities available within the legal profession.

-A high standard of work is required of students, producing competitiveness and a good reputation for the Law School.

Question 42: What about your law school would you most like to see improved and why?

-Better initiatives to tackle stress, depression and mental illness - more counselling services, lower-weighted assessments, spreading out due dates of assignments over the semester, less emphasis on corporate legal careers, etc.

-More elective units, or different ones run each year rather than the same over and over.

-More online lectures rather than compulsory non-recorded lectures that are early in the morning.

-The UWA Law School as a whole is also not great at talking to law students frankly and openly about law career opportunities (or, at the moment, lack of). Students need to be well informed about career paths (and how to achieve them) at the beginning of, and throughout, their degrees.

-The degree seems to be structured as a one-size fits all approach, despite the occasional emphasis that the degree is not just for students who want to be lawyers. I want to see more choice in how to study law, more

pathways into a legal career, rather than a single pathway which is predominantly aimed at training students for commercial practice. I want to see this because the reality is, many of us, myself included, choose to study law in order to reach some other goal other than commercial practice.