Postgraduate Research Experience Survey: Student Guide

Frequently asked questions
We’re keen to make sure postgraduate students have the best possible experience while studying at Newcastle University. To do that we need to know what you think we are doing well and what we can do better. If you’re thinking about taking part this year, these are the answers to some of the questions students often ask:

What is it?
The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is a national survey of postgraduate research students inviting them to comment on their experience. The survey takes around 15 minutes to complete.

Why should I take part?
The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is the chance for research postgraduates to feedback on their experience. We need to know what postgraduates think so we can address issues and keep doing what is valued. It is an opportunity to say what went well and what could have been improved. This will help improve the experience of students like you in the future. Participating students will also be entered into a prize draw to win: 1st Place prize: 9.7-inch iPad Pro (one available to win), 2nd Place prizes: iPad mini 4 (two available to win), 3rd Place prizes: £20 Amazon gift card (20 available to win). Terms and conditions for the prize draw can be found here: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/assets/documents/2017PRESPrizeDrawTermsandConditions.pdf

What does it cover?
PRES focuses on students’ experiences including:
- Supervision experiences
- Resources
- Research culture
- Progress and Assessment
- Research Skills
- Professional development
- Opportunities

What happens to the results?
Your feedback is important. Over one hundred universities and colleges take part. This means we can compare your experience against similar postgraduates at other institutions to see if we are supporting your learning as we should. We use the findings to improve the learning experience for future students.

Is it anonymous?
The survey is anonymous and no-one will be able to identify you from any results. The survey asks that any comments you make should not identify yourself or any specific members of staff.

What do I need to do?
You will receive an email with a link to the questionnaire on Monday 20 March. Simply click on the link and enter in your username and password and complete the online form. The survey is open until Thursday 18 May.

Where can I find out more?
If you are unsure about anything to do with the survey, or have any difficulty, please see your course or course leader, or contact Elisabeth Turnbull in Learning Teaching Development Service on 0191 2086386 or by email: newcastlestudentssurveys@ncl.ac.uk
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/student/opinion/PRES/