

TransMaths Project Questionnaire III

Mathematics learning, identity and educational practice: The transition into Higher Education

This research project aims to understand how students of different courses are supported during transition into and during their first year of university, especially regarding their mathematical needs.

We would like to thank you for participating in the study and assure you that any responses you give will be treated in confidence. For more information please visit <http://www.education.manchester.ac.uk/research/centres/lta/LTAResearch/transmaths/>.

This should take you no more than 15 minutes. As a small token, we will enter your name in a raffle to win a £50 gift voucher.

Background Information

1. Surname: _____
2. First name(s): _____
3. Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male
4. Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yyyy) _____
5. UCAS application number (if known): _____
6. University : _____
7. Title of degree (e.g. BSc “Physical Science” or MEng “Electronic Engineering”):

8. Home Postcode (if UK): _____

[NB: We want your HOME postcode and **not** your temporary/university postcode]

9. Country (if international): _____

Please give email and mobile here, in case we need to contact you.

10. Email: _____

11. Mobile telephone number: _____

Survey ID:

A. Additional Background Information and your University Choices

12. Which one of the following groups do you feel most adequately describes your ethnic origin?

<input type="checkbox"/> White British	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi
<input type="checkbox"/> White Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian Background.....
<input type="checkbox"/> Other White Background.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British – Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed – White and Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British – African
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed – White and Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Black Background.....
<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed – White and Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> Other – Mixed Background.....	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnic Background
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British - Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Not known
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British - Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say

13. Has anyone in your close family been to university?

[Tick all boxes that apply]

- ☐ Yes, one or both parents
☐ Yes, brother, sister or other close relative
☐ No

14. Do you consider yourself to have any special educational needs?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Prefer not to say

If you ticked 'yes', please tell us what:.....

15. What is your language of first choice?

- ☐ English
☐ Other [Please state:]
☐ Bilingual with English and [Please state:].....

16. If you have changed course since September/Autumn 2008 please give new course details here:

.....

.....

17. Please list your pre-university course subjects and grades (e.g. AS level English=C; A level Mathematics=B; BTEC Engineering=Merit; IB Social Anthropology=4).

.....

.....

.....

We also want to know how you feel about completing your chosen degree subject, and the differences between your experience at university and school/pre-university.

18. Please rate your agreement with the following statements:

[Tick the appropriate box or the 'don't know' column]

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	DON'T KNOW
I am quite certain I will complete my degree/course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I might be prepared to change my course/subject or degree programme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I would take a job rather than complete my course if a good job was on offer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I might consider taking time off or interrupting my degree course for a while.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
I am considering dropping out of my degree/ course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

B. Mathematics Experience and Expectations

Please tell us about your preferences for studying mathematics in future years, courses or careers.

19. My preferred options for my future studies include:

- ☐ a lot of mathematics
- ☐ quite a lot of mathematics
- ☐ a moderate amount of mathematics
- ☐ as little mathematics as possible
- ☐ no mathematics
- ☐ DON'T KNOW

20. The mathematics in my future study will be:

- ☐ essential
- ☐ very important
- ☐ quite important
- ☐ not at all important
- ☐ DON'T KNOW

21. If I find out that my future studies involve more mathematics than I thought, this would make me feel:

- ☐ very happy
- ☐ fairly happy
- ☐ not bothered one way or the other
- ☐ fairly unhappy
- ☐ very unhappy
- ☐ DON'T KNOW

22. If in the future I am studying a course involving mathematics, then I would prefer it to be:

- ☐ familiar mathematics that I have already done
- ☐ new mathematics that I have not learnt before
- ☐ a mix of familiar and new mathematics
- ☐ DON'T KNOW

23. If you have a particular career in mind at this stage, please state:

- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Medicine
- ☐ Teaching
- ☐ Other
- ☐ I don't have a career in mind at the moment

If you selected "other", or can be more specific, please comment here:

24. How important do you think mathematics will be for this career?

- ☐ Not important at all
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Very important
- ☐ DON'T KNOW

25. Please tell us what you think of the support you received for learning mathematics in your course/ programme last year, by selecting how much you agree with the following statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	DON'T KNOW - N/A
1. I have learnt a lot from working with my fellow students on the maths for my course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. I can follow the maths in most of my lectures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. I find that the teachers generally respond to my needs in the maths teaching I have received.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. I have learnt a lot from using technology for maths during my course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. I have learnt a lot from using on-line support for maths during my course.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. I preferred the school/pre-university teaching in maths to the teaching last year at university.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. I have benefitted a lot from maths lectures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. I have benefitted a lot from maths tutorials.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. I have learnt a lot from working with my own informal group of colleagues outside of organised classes/tutorials/workshops.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. I have learnt a lot from special provision provided for my particular maths needs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

If applicable, please tick one or more 'special provisions', and/or add your own 'other' special maths provision that has been important to your studies this year.

- ☐ Special tutoring
- ☐ Learning support unit
- ☐ Contact with lecturers outside lectures
- ☐ Small group teaching
- ☐ Special workshops
- ☐ Peer mentoring
- ☐ Other (please specify)

26. What areas of mathematics do you think have been useful for your university course so far?

[Tick the appropriate box or the 'don't know' column]

	Not useful at all	Somewhat useful	Useful	DON'T KNOW
Calculating/estimating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using ratio and proportion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Manipulating algebraic expressions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Proofs/proving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modelling real situations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using basic calculus (differentiation/integration)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using complex calculus (differential equations/ multiple integrals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using complex numbers (e.g. imaginary numbers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

27. How confident are you with these areas of mathematics?

[Tick the appropriate box or the 'don't know' column]

	Not confident at all	Somewhat confident	Confident	Very confident	DON'T KNOW
Calculating/estimating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using ratio and proportion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Manipulating algebraic expressions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Proofs/proving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Problem solving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Modelling real situations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using basic calculus (differentiation/integration)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using complex calculus (differential equations/multiple integrals)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Using complex numbers (e.g. imaginary numbers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

C. Reflecting on your Overall Experience

28. In your opinion, overall, the grades you got for your first year (including all exams and coursework) were:

- ☐ poor
- ☐ satisfactory/OK
- ☐ good
- ☐ very good/excellent
- ☐ Don't know/Not applicable

Please tell us your overall results/grades so far (e.g. 2/1, grade B, 60%), if applicable/known:

"My overall classification/grade/% for my first year was

29.* Single honours maths students do not need to answer this question

In your opinion, if applicable, the grades you got for your first year maths courses (including all exams and coursework) were:

- ☐ poor
- ☐ satisfactory/OK
- ☐ good
- ☐ very good/excellent
- ☐ Don't know/Not applicable

Please tell us your mathematics result/grades so far (e.g. 2/1, grade B, 60%), if applicable/known:

"My classification/grade/% in first year maths was

END OF QUESTIONNAIRE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME

WE HOPE YOU HAVE A PLEASANT AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

Please give your completed questionnaire to a member of the project team or send it to the following freepost address:

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University of Manchester
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MANCHESTER
M13 1ZG