

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 4 October 2019

**Periodic Subject Review: Update in Respect of Recommendation 6
Arising from the Review of Law held on 20 and 21 February 2018:
Enhanced EvaSys Procedures and Student Response Rates**

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I was asked to report to the ASC about the enhanced EvaSys procedures I put into effect for administering student questionnaires in the law school, 2018/19. By comparing data from 2017/18, we can see a significant increase in our student response rate. By further comparing data for the six courses which did not participate in the exercise, we can confidently attribute the improvement in response rate to the enhanced procedures.

Takeaways

The table below shows the improvement in the response rate, divided by undergraduate level. The full data is attached as an Appendix to this memo.

EvaSys response rates in in the School of Law

	2017/18 (%)	2018/19 (%)	Net improvement (%)
Level 1 (9 courses)	23.6	49.1	+25.5
Level 2 (9 courses)	20.8	50.6	+29.8
Level 3 (7 courses)	18.7	56.0	+37.3
Level 4 (20 courses)	23.8	60.8	+37.0
Non-participating (6 courses)	20.5	31.8	+11.3

Explanation of comparison

I prepared the enhanced procedures after our PSR in 2017/18, and put them into effect in the autumn of 2018. Compliance was high but not perfect. There were no reported problems in implementation. An unknown number of postgraduate courses also used the enhanced procedures, and most PG courses did show improvement, but we do not know what methods each course used, and so could not include PG courses in the table.

As the table (and the full data in the Appendix) shows, courses that used the enhanced procedures showed a much higher student response rate. Every course showed improvement, and courses which did not use the procedures showed far less improvement, and in one case, regression.

Enhanced procedures

The enhanced procedures are below, set out as guidance for policy documents.

1. Course convenors shall select a survey day at the beginning of the course and announce it via Moodle. The recommended survey day is usually the final meeting of students, whether lecture or seminar, but any other day near to the end of teaching is acceptable.
2. The day before the survey day, course convenors shall make an announcement via Moodle.
3. The relevant QA Administrator shall configure EvaSys to send an email to the students on the morning of the survey day, with a link to the survey.
4. At the class meeting at which the survey is conducted, the course convenor shall direct students to their inboxes to locate the survey link, and allow students 5–10 minutes at the beginning of the session to complete the survey.
5. Reminders shall be sent to non-completing students on the following day.
6. Surveys shall remain open for two weeks after the end of teaching.

These procedures are used alongside other recommendations by Senate, e.g. the recommendation that emails be personalised to the course and convenor.

I'm happy to answer any questions about these procedures.

Appendix

The table below shows the EvaSys response rate for all undergraduate courses that ran in the two academic years being compared. Shaded courses did not participate in the new procedures.

<u>Level</u>	<u>Course title</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>% change</u>
Level 1	Criminal Law & Evidence	31%	47%	+16
Level 1	Intro to Legal Studies	29%	44%	+15
Level 1	Obligations 1A	33%	60%	+27
Level 1	Business Law	42%	67%	+25
Level 1	Constitutional Law 1	18%	48%	+30
Level 1	European Legal Cultures	28%	55%	+27
Level 1	Family Law	14%	37%	+23
Level 1	Obligation 1B	14%	45%	+31
Level 1	Public International Law	17%	48%	+31
Level 1	Roman Law of Property and Obligations	14%	46%	+32
Level 2	Advanced International Law	20%	44%	+24
Level 2	International Private Law	24%	65%	+41
Level 2	Jurisprudence	26%	50%	+24
Level 2	Labour Law	15%	58%	+43
Level 2	Law & Government	28%	63%	+35
Level 2	Business Organisations	17%	28%	+11
Level 2	Commercial Law	16%	43%	+27
Level 2	Environmental Law	27%	64%	+37
Level 2	Continental Legal Cultures	16%	29%	+13
Level 2	European Union Law	15%	39%	+24
Level 2	Property Law	22%	31%	+9
Level 3	Criminal Justice	16%	83%	+67
Level 3	European Human Rights	41%	51%	+10
Level 3	Institutions and Jud. Cont. of EU	7%	44%	+37

Level 3	Intellectual Property Law	13%	47%	+34
Level 3	Law & Political Economy	16%	36%	+20
Level 3	Legal Theory	18%	68%	+50
Level 3	Principles of Healthcare Law	20%	63%	+43
Level 4	Administrative Law	11%	75%	+64
Level 4	Commercial Law	22%	84%	+62
Level 4	Company Law	38%	79%	+41
Level 4	Competition Law	26%	38%	+12
Level 4	Comparative Constitutional Law	15%	22%	+7
Level 4	Constitutional Law	31%	64%	+33
Level 4	Cont. Issue of Healthcare	13%	31%	+18
Level 4	Criminal Law: History and Theory	17%	74%	+57
Level 4	Financial Law	31%	38%	+7
Level 4	Human Reproduction & the Law	16%	13%	-3
Level 4	Immigration & Asylum	28%	59%	+31
Level 4	International Family Law	28%	84%	+56
Level 4	International Law & P of CWO	36%	44%	+12
Level 4	Internet Law	30%	38%	+8
Level 4	Issues of Family Law	30%	57%	+27
Level 4	Law & Social Theory	18%	74%	+56
Level 4	Law in the Roman World	8%	68%	+60
Level 4	Law Justice and Morality	23%	96%	+83
Level 4	Legal History	12%	35%	+23
Level 4	Obligations	25%	42%	+17
Level 4	Politics of Labour Law	9%	52%	+43
Level 4	Property Law	38%	65%	+27
Level 4	UN Law	26%	60%	+34