

# **Social interaction, online access and attendance on taught programmes: a cross-disciplinary student perspective**

Julie Hendry, Daniele Sartori, Ruth Wood

# Rationale and research question

- **Rationale**
  - Students undertaking professional qualifications: radiography and teaching
  - Physical attendance → professional development
  - No previous study about KU student attendance
- **Which factors affect student attendance?**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> year radiography and education courses

# Steps

- Literature review on factors fostering or inhibiting student attendance (February 2015)
- Designing the online questionnaire using SurveyMonkey (September 2015)
- Piloting the questionnaire (October 2015)
- Administering the questionnaire (November-December 2015)

# Literature review - 1

- **Education Research Complete (EBSCO)**
  - 2005-2015
  - Peer review journals only
  - Full text
- **BOOLEAN**
  - Absenteeism AND (higher education OR college OR university)
  - Student attendance AND (higher education OR college OR university)

# Literature review - 2

- **Total: 804**
- **First selection: 115** (Abstract, eliminating doubles)
- **Selected: 94**
- **Reasons for discarding articles:**
  - Not higher education (other schools, management, other educational settings - e.g. prison)
  - Not lectures, seminars or tutorial (e.g. counselling sessions)
  - Correlation between attendance and health (asthma or chronic sickness)
  - Attendance/Grade
  - Teachers or other employees' absenteeism
  - Article not accessible

# Factors influencing student attendance

## Assessment/mark

Positive influence	No influence	Negative influence
Continuous assessment	50% assignment and 50% exam	Adopting term paper only
Benefits of class attendance		
Penalties Reducing allowable absences	Penalties	Attendance policy is not clear (S)
Attendance/mark (S) Extra credits (S) Content/Assign (S)		

# Factors influencing student attendance

## Notes and technology

Positive influence	No influence	Negative influence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal notes during exams</li> <li>• PPT before lecture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partial VS full notes</li> <li>• PPT are not replacements</li> <li>• PPT/own attendance (S)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lecture notes</li> <li>• PPT/other students (S)</li> </ul>
Clickers		
Reminders		
		Webcast sessions

# Factors influencing student attendance

## Teaching style

Positive influence	No influence	Negative influence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groups/inclusive teaching style (S)</li> <li>• Tournament style</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boring, not motivating (S)</li> <li>• Same strategy (S)</li> <li>• No assistance (S)</li> <li>• Test/exam (S)</li> <li>• Handbook only</li> </ul>
	Verbal aggressiveness	



# Factors influencing student attendance

## Personal/social

- Laziness
- Low motivation
- Tiredness/Oversleeping
- Leisure/Socialising
- Family related obligations

# Designing the questionnaire

- Identifying the main themes/factors/ideas arising from the literature reviewed
- Sample: 2<sup>nd</sup> year, radiography and education courses  
(we can come back to them later)
- Pilot: 3<sup>rd</sup> year

# Students' reasons for attending

- Exam/assessment
- Content related
- Lecturer's relational style
- Personal reasons
- Peers
- Curriculum related
- Other