The student perspective on teaching and assessment during initial COVID-19 related closures at Irish universities: implications for the future.

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Restarting the New Normal

The Survey

Aim: To investigate the impact of the Covid-19 closures on mathematics students in Irish universities.

- Surveyed students in July 2020.
- There were 263 responses from students in 6 Irish universities.
- The survey focused on:
  1. Teaching and Learning
  2. Assessment
  3. Personal Experience and Well-Being.

Our research questions were:

1. What were university mathematics students' experiences of teaching, studying, and assessment during the initial COVID-19 closures?
2. What are mathematics students' views on the provision of future teaching and assessment?

Students' Views on Teaching, Learning and Assessment during the Covid-19 Closures

Challenges

- Interaction and Communication
- Delivery of Teaching
- Motivation and Independent Learning
- Learning Environment
- Assessment

Positives

- Flexibility
- Independent Learning
- Online Resources
- Assessment

Implications for the Future

- Prioritize student communication and interaction with lecturers, tutors and peers.
- Students find it difficult to ask mathematical questions online (notation; lack of immediate answer; embarrassment).
- Students want face to face tutorials and access to supports.
- Need to communicate clearly (and often) with students about course contents, structure, and assessment.
- Need to pay attention to students' mental health.