

PANDEMIC PROFILES: THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE DURING COVID-19

SUMMARY AND SUGGESTIONS

Created by: Vanessa Geitz, Cassie Lai, Yujin Chung, & Winky Yau

91% of respondents ranked their **motivation to complete coursework, attend online lectures, or study at 5 or lower** (1 being no motivation at all; 10 being extremely motivated)

73% of respondents felt they only had **somewhat or inadequate support from their university and professors** throughout the pandemic

How has your learning experience been throughout the COVID-19 pandemic?

- **POSITIVES:** no commute time, flexible schedule, participation in class is less intimidating
- **NEGATIVES:** screen time is very draining, high levels of stress and burn-out, lack of structure, missing the school environment, social implications, workload and expectations are higher, mentally exhausting, hard to stay engaged, lack of resources/assistance from professors

What steps did your university take to support your learning?

- Slip days + increased flexibility for deadlines
- Advocating information/programs on mental health and wellness
- Flexible office hour times to accommodate different time zones
- Virtual faculty events (game nights, trivia, etc.)
- Counselling services

- Extra study days off during the term when students normally wouldn't have any breaks

What steps would you recommend universities take to improve the student experience?

- Spread grade weightings more evenly throughout the semester
- Better access to mental health, academic, and social support resources
- Lowered tuition rates
- Increased leniency and accommodations for assessment deadlines
- Open timeslots for students and professors to interact outside of lectures
- Standardization between courses for a fair and manageable workload
- Options for in-person classes for courses with small numbers of students
- Requirement for live lectures to be recorded for accessibility accommodations