



PHD GRADUATES SATISFACTION SURVEY

Satisfaction survey results – PhD programme in VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCE

Number of questionnaires collected: 16

With a view to helping universities develop a system for monitoring processes and results of their teaching, research and third-mission/social impact activities, as well as of their actions aimed at taking into account the voices of PhD candidates, the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR) has created a questionnaire template to collect the opinions of PhD students and graduates.

The questionnaire has two sections, A and B.

Section A consists of a set of close-ended questions, for which respondents choose one or more answers from the ones provided.

Section B consists of a list of statements; respondents rate their level of agreement with each statement on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 equals “completely disagree” and 10 equals “completely agree”.

This report shows the results filtered by year of enrolment, as well as considered together. Each question of section A shows the number and percentage of answers given for each option. For each statement of section B, the report displays the average level of agreement.

In section B, the average level of agreement is represented by different colours:

- average level of agreement < 6 red ●
- average level of agreement $6 \leq X < 7$ yellow ●
- average level of agreement ≥ 7 green ●

These colours do not imply any judgement, but are included with the sole aim of highlighting critical and/or more than positive results.

This document has been prepared and produced by the Performance, Quality Assurance, Assessment, and Open Science Policy Division of the University of Milan

For information on the student survey and reporting, e-mail:

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SECTION A

1) Was this your first choice PhD programme?

Answers	No	%
Yes	12	75%
No	4	25%
Total	16	100%

2) Did the PhD programme include structured training activities (courses, seminars, workshops)?

Answers	No	%
Yes	16	100%
No	0	0%
Total	16	100%

3) Were teaching contents different from those taught in the courses included in master's degree programmes?

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 2 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Yes	14	88%
No	2	13%
Total	16	100%

4) Did the academic plan include additional modules? (More than one option is possible)

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 2 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Yes, interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary modules.	12	60%
Yes, modules on entrepreneurship, access to competitive funding, publication and valorisation/dissemination of research results	7	35%
No	1	5%
Total	20	100%

5) How many hours of structured training activities did you take during the entire PhD programme?

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 2 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
From 0 to 30	3	19%
From 31 to 60	2	13%
From 61 to 90	4	25%
91 or more	7	44%
Total	16	100%

6) How was learning assessed during the PhD programme? (More than one option is possible)

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 2 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Written exams	4	17%
Oral exams	8	33%
Practical tests	10	42%
None	2	8%
Total	24	100%

7) How was your research activity monitored during the PhD? (More than one option is possible)

Answers	No	%
Presentation of individual results of the research activity	12	39%
Presentation of group results of the research activity	5	16%
Assessment of the progression of the thesis work at the end of each year	14	45%
Total	31	100%

8) Have you presented the results of your thesis or other research works during any conference, workshop, PhD School etc.? (More than one option is possible)

Answers	No	%
Yes, in Italy	12	46%
Yes, abroad	13	50%
No	1	4%
Total	26	100%

9) Have you submitted for publication or published the results of your thesis or other research works (including co-authored works)?

Answers	No	%
Yes	15	94%
No	1	6%
Total	16	100%

10) Have you received the 10% additional budget for research activities under Ministerial Decree 226/2021?

Answers	No	%
Yes	7	44%
No	9	56%
Total	16	100%

11) During your PhD, did you spend any study or research period, congruent with your PhD programme, in another country?

Answers	No	%
Yes	14	88%
No	2	13%
Total	16	100%

12) During your PhD, did you spend any study or research period, congruent with your PhD programme, in another country?

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 11 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Yes	12	86%
No	2	14%
Total	14	100%

13) Why did you choose not to spend any study or research period abroad during your PhD? (More than one option is possible)

N.B. Only those who answered "No" to question 11 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Training opportunities offered by this programme are satisfactory and no further training at foreign institutions is necessary.	0	0%
I was not authorised by the Faculty of Instructors.	0	0%
No institution matched my interests or was willing to host me.	1	50%
I was not aware of this opportunity.	0	0%
I was not a scholarship recipient and there were no specific funding opportunities for activities abroad, or those available were not enough.	0	0%
I could not leave because of how financial support is awarded/paid.	0	0%
Other*	1	50%
Total	2	100%

***Answers given for the option "Other"**

- mi è stato sconsigliato

14) During your PhD, did you spend any study or research period, congruent with your PhD programme, at national research institutions, companies or public administrations?

Answers	No	%
Yes, at a research institution	8	50%
Yes, at a company	1	6%
Yes, at a public administration	0	0%
No	7	44%
Total	16	100%

15) Have you received financial support for the time spent at research institutions, companies or public administrations?

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes,....." to question 14 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Yes	4	44%
No	5	56%
Total	9	100%

16) Why did you choose not to spend any study or research period at national research institutions, companies or public administrations during your PhD? (More than one option is possible)

N.B. Only those who answered "No" to question 14 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
Training opportunities offered by this programme are satisfactory and no further training at national research institutions, companies or public administrations is necessary.	1	11%
I was not authorised by the Faculty of Instructors.	0	0%
No institution matched my interests or was willing to host me.	1	11%
I was not aware of this opportunity.	2	22%
There were no additional funding opportunities, or those available were not enough.	0	0%
I could not leave because of how financial support is awarded/paid.	1	11%
Other*	4	44%
Total	9	100%

***Answers given for the option "Other"**

- mi è stato sconsigliato
- Ho trascorso il periodo all'estero in una università.
- non era di mio interesse
- I used the existing collaboration with other Universities within the European Union

17) Is there a dedicated workspace for each PhD student on your campus?

Answers	No	%
Yes, with a workstation for each PhD student	5	31%
Yes, with shared workstations	7	44%
Yes, a shared area with no workstations	1	6%
No	3	19%
Total	16	100%

18) Did you undertake any teaching or teaching-supporting activities during your PhD?

Answers	No	%
Yes, ordinary lectures	0	0%
Yes, supplementary activities (exercises, seminars or tutoring)	7	44%
Yes, both ordinary lectures and supplementary activities	7	44%
No	2	13%
Total	16	100%

19) If yes, for how many hours during your entire PhD?

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes,....." to question 18 replied to this question.

Answers	No	%
From 0 to 30	7	50%
From 31 to 60	3	21%
61 or more	4	29%
Total	14	100%

20) Did the programme include any joint research activities with other Universities?









Answers	No	%
Yes	10	63%
No	6	38%
Total	16	100%






21) Did the programme include research activities that led to technology transfer in cooperation with companies?









Answers	No	%
Yes	3	19%
No	13	81%
Total	16	100%

SECTION B

N.B. the statements marked with a double asterisk ** can be considered "better" the lower the level of agreement, for this reason the colors are also inverted

Training	
<i>N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 2 in Section A indicated their level of agreement with the statements of the sub-section "Training".</i>	
Statements	Average level of agreement
1) Training activities were exhaustive and in line with the main topics of the PhD programme.	 6,69
2) Topics covered by training activities were up to date and explored in depth.	 7,25
3) Training activities were useful for drafting the PhD thesis.	 5,69
4) The workload required by structured training activities (courses, seminars, workshops) allowed me to dedicate enough time to my research activity and thesis.	 6,94
5)** Assessments during the programme (exams, presentations, papers) were just a formality, or non-existent at all.	 5,25
6) External instructors and experts were extensively involved in the activities.	 5,81
7) International instructors and experts were extensively involved in the activities.	 5,38
8) I am overall satisfied with the training activities offered.	 6,31

PhD thesis	
Statements	Average level of agreement
9) My thesis supervisor was helpful and always available.	 7,69
10) My supervisor helped me build a scientific collaboration network.	 7,06
11) Drafting the thesis helped me in learning to organise and communicate the results of my work.	 6,56
12) Working on my thesis helped me build a scientific collaboration network.	 6,63
13) I am overall satisfied with the research activities linked to my PhD thesis.	 6,94

Research	
Statements	Average level of agreement
14) Other research activities I carried out were linked to the main topics of my PhD thesis.	 6,69
15) Research activities were useful for drafting the PhD thesis.	 7,69
16) The workload required by these research activities allowed me to dedicate enough time to my training and thesis.	 6,13
17) Research activities helped me in learning to organise and communicate the results of my work.	 8,38
18) Research activities helped me build a national scientific collaboration network.	 7,13
19) Research activities helped me build an international scientific collaboration network.	 7,31
20) Thanks to the PhD programme, I am now more independent in conducting research.	 8,44
21) I am overall satisfied with my research activities.	 7,63









Experiences abroad

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 11 in Section A indicated their level of agreement with the statements of the sub-section "Experiences abroad".

Statements	Average level of agreement
22) During the PhD, I received adequate information and support from my instructors concerning experiences abroad.	● 6,64
23) I am satisfied with the support I received from my home university/institution for my study or research period abroad	● 6,79
24) I am satisfied with the support I received from my host university/institution for my study or research period abroad.	● 9,07
25) During my stay abroad, I was properly supervised while working on my thesis.	● 7,71
26) My stay abroad was useful for drafting the PhD thesis.	● 8,00
27) My research activities abroad helped me in learning to communicate the results of my work.	● 7,71
28) My research work abroad helped me build a scientific collaboration network.	● 9,00
29) I am overall satisfied with my study or research period abroad.	● 9,07



Experiences at other national research institutions/companies/public administrations








N.B. Only those who answered "Yes, ..." to question 14 in Section A indicated their level of agreement with the statements of the sub-section "Experiences at other national research institutions/companies/public administrations".




Statements	Average level of agreement
30) During the PhD, I received adequate information and support from my instructors concerning experiences at other institutions.	 7,00
31) I am satisfied with the support I received from my home university for my study or research period at other institutions.	 6,89
32) I am satisfied with the support I received from my host institution for my study or research period at other institutions.	 6,78
33) I was properly supervised for my research or thesis work during the time I spent at other institutions.	 7,33
34) The experience was useful for drafting the PhD thesis.	 6,89
35) My research activities at other institutions helped me in learning to communicate the results of my work.	 6,67
36) My research work at other institutions helped me build a scientific collaboration network.	 7,11
37) I am overall satisfied with my study or research period at other institutions.	 7,44







Teaching activities

N.B. Only those who answered "Yes" to question 18 in Section A indicated their level of agreement with the statements of the sub-section "Teaching activities".

Statements	Average level of agreement
38) The teaching activities I undertook were useful for my training.	 7,71
39) The workload required by my teaching hours allowed me to dedicate enough time to my training, research activities and thesis.	 7,29

Facilities and equipment	
Statements	Average level of agreement
40) Classrooms and spaces used for training activities were satisfactory (enough seats, you could hear and see the instructor).	 8,38
41) Areas used for research activities were fit for purpose (in terms of size, light, safety etc.)	 7,81
42) The space allocated to each PhD student was fit for purpose (in terms of size, equipment etc.).	 6,38
43) Library services were suitable to my needs.	 7,75
44) IT equipment and Internet connection were suitable for all activities.	 7,13
45) Research equipment was fit for purpose and accessible.	 6,44
46) I am satisfied with the support I received from the administrative offices.	 5,94

Transparency and engagement	
Statements	Average level of agreement
47) Information on research and training activities was always up to date.	 5,94
48) PhD students took part in the planning of training and research activities.	 6,25
49) I was always properly informed about deadlines and administrative procedures.	 6,13

Overall satisfaction	
Statements	Average level of agreement
50)** The PhD programme was too focused on theoretical/abstract training.	 3,69
51)** The PhD programme was too focused on technical/practical training.	 4,19
52) I am overall satisfied with the PhD programme.	 6,75
53) If I could go back, I would still enrol in this PhD programme.	 6,81
54) If I could go back, I would still choose this University/Institution.	 6,94
55)** If I could go back, I would opt for a PhD in another country.	 6,31

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