

## **MA DTCE Student voice meeting semester 2\_2026**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 3:30 pm

### **Attendees:**

Mike O'Donoghue, Skye Zhao, Taslima Ivy, Helen Beetham, Huran Mirillo, Ignacio Wyman, Mark Carrigan, Drew Whitworth, Martyn Edwards, Susan Brown, Richard Procter (online), and Louis Major (online).

### **Student rep attendees:**

Rafael Camperchioliarguello, Huimin Yang, Guoyu Liu, Peiyao Han

### **Students' reps survey feedback:**

1. 62 responses (out of 136), which is a good number, and higher than the response rate in semester one.
2. Overall, 80% students are happy with the programme/experience, particularly about teaching staff and learning resources. The lowest ranked aspects are assessment criteria and professional development. Overall, there is a good sense of community within DTCE.
3. Other identified strengths in the programme: drop-in sessions, teaching team, teaching resources, and academic advising. ETC and DER were particularly mentioned as being helpful for small seminar style learning opportunities.
4. Areas for improvement: Clarity in assignment guidelines, feedback. Classes sometimes feel too theoretical and there is scope for more practical examples. Sometimes all feedback comes at once. Want academic advisors to be more proactive. More support on how to write a dissertation. Cohort size is too large which can sometimes hamper engagement. More support for professional development.

### **Agreed actions:**

1. Ivy- will remind students of the role of academic advisors and encourage students to contact advisors at specific times across the semester for writing/feedback /careers support.
2. Mark and Ivy- will arrange careers support session focusing on professional development.
3. Huran- will send different dissertation support links- Ivy will signpost these and other library resources to students to help with academic writing and interpreting feedback

4. Ivy- Cohort size is not something we can control, but we can work to change the in-class experiences.
5. Helen B-Students participation: working in small groups and around artefacts and materials seems to work better. Still, it is important to make clear what the expectations are for students' engagement.
6. Student engagement and work over summer time: Students suggest booking a room (once a month or every two weeks) for independent work on their dissertations. The presence of teaching staff is also appreciated. Martyn will book the room and organise a staff rota (will explore if WAM can be allocated for staff).
7. Additional social event probably on 29th March: Ivy and reps will organise this.
8. Students asked about the implications of the unit evaluation surveys they answer every semester. It is explained that these are taken seriously, every voice matters at the unit level, and changes in units from year to year are often informed by students views.