



St Mary's
University
Students'
Union



Online Lecture Capture

Report May 2023

Who responded to the survey?

SMSU ran this survey between January and March 2023, to improve our understanding of students' attitudes towards online lecture capture and how they utilise lecture capture technology.

265 students responded, with all levels of study represented. 6 respondents were studying at level 3 and 10 were studying on PGR courses.

32% of respondents considered themselves to have a disability, mental health condition or long-term health condition. 62.5% of respondents did not, and a further 5.3% said they were "not sure".

Responses were received from all four faculties/institutes. 99 respondents were from SHAPS, 69 were from FoBL, 60 were from IOE and 37 were from lotLA.

74% of respondents had previously viewed a lecture recording at St Mary's while 26% had not.

What do students think about online lecture capture?

Responses to this question showed strong support for the use of online lecture capture among students. Over 75% of respondents agreed that lecture capture makes or would make a positive contribution to their academic experience. 15% Selected "Neither agree nor disagree", and just under 10% of students selected "disagree" or "strongly disagree".

Students with a disability, mental health condition or long-term health condition were significantly more likely to agree. 81% of these students agreed that lecture capture makes or would make a positive contribution to their academic experience. 12% selected "neither agree nor disagree" and 7% selected "disagree" or "strongly disagree".

Support for lecture capture was highest from students in SHAPS and lotLA, with demand in IOE and FoBL sitting around 10% lower. Students in IOE were most likely to disagree that lecture capture makes or would make a positive contribution to their academic experience.

Faculty/Institute	% Agree/Strongly Agree	% Neither agree nor disagree	% Disagree/Strongly Disagree
SHAPS	81%	13%	6%
IOE	70%	13%	17%
FoBL	70%	23%	7%
lotLA	79%	8%	13%

Undergraduate students were slightly more likely than postgraduate students to agree that lecture capture makes/would make a positive academic contribution to their academic experience.

Level of Study	% Agree/Strongly Agree	% Neither agree nor disagree	% Disagree/Strongly Disagree
Undergraduate (Including L3)	76%	15%	9%
PGT and PGR (L7 and L8)	72%	15%	13%

Students who had previously watched a lecture recording were significantly more likely to agree.

Level of Study	% Agree/Strongly Agree	% Neither agree nor disagree	% Disagree/Strongly Disagree
Had previously viewed a lecture recording	77%	14%	9%
Had not previously viewed a lecture recording	68%	19%	13%

What do students want from online lecture capture?

"I use (or would use) online lecture capture to..."

For this question respondents were asked to select the reasons they use/would use lecture recordings. Respondents were free to select as few or as many reasons as they wished.

Students - Overall

Reason	Overall % selected	SHAPS % selected	IOE % selected	lotLA % Selected	FoBL % Selected
Revisit content I missed in the live lecture.	63%	67%	58%	65%	59%
Help me write an assignment	59%	58%	72%	68%	46%
Catch-up on missed lectures	53%	54%	42%	65%	59%
Go over complex content from the lecture,	48%	56%	40%	49%	45%
Revise for an exam	48%	60%	32%	43%	48%
Watch the lecture back at a slower pace,	47%	49%	52%	46%	41%
Make more comprehensive notes	38%	38%	33%	46%	38%

“These features are important to me when watching a lecture recording...”

For this question respondents were asked to select the software features they found important when viewing a lecture recording. Only students who had previously viewed a lecture recording were asked this question.

All students

Feature	Overall % selected	SHAPS % selected	IOE % selected	lotLA % Selected	FoBL % Selected
Ability to speed up/slow down the recording	74%	79%	70%	65%	72%
Timestamps (recording broken down into sections),	54%	52%	54%	59%	57%
Live transcript (captions) alongside the recording,	49%	48%	38%	65%	52%
Ability to create a bookmark on the recording for future reference,	30%	27%	32%	53%	26%

Students with a disability, mental health condition or long-term health condition were more likely to value all the features mentioned.

Students with a disability, mental health condition or long-term health condition.

Feature	% Selected
Ability to speed up/slow down the recording	78%
Timestamps (recording broken down into sections),	64%
Live transcript (captions) alongside the recording,	53%
Ability to create a bookmark on the recording for future reference,	31%

Our Recommendations

As a result of this survey, SMSU has written a policy proposal to the University requesting that an "opt-out" policy is introduced at St Mary's.

Under an "opt-out" policy, recording of lectures takes place by default, unless one or more "opt-out" reasons apply. The university currently has an "Opt-In" policy, where lecture recording takes place at the discretion of academic staff. SMSU believes changing to an "opt-out" policy would ensure all students are able to benefit from lecture capture technology while also ensuring the technology is only used when appropriate.

If you would like more information on the policy proposal, please get in touch!