

Student Induction



Ed Foster and Christine Hardy
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Session outcomes

By the end of the session you should:



- Be aware of the research on student induction: international/national and at NTU;
- Recognise student response to induction at NTU;
- Understand induction at NTU and how this fits with Starting at NTU;
- Identify induction methods/activities that can be used on your course.

Thinking about induction

We would like you to split into two groups – one group are to be students, the other tutors

Students

Put yourself in the place of your students, or think back to when you started university.

- What was the most important thing for you at that time?
- What was your induction like?
- What would you have wanted your course or the university to do to help you during your first week at university?



Tutors

- Thinking about the inductions you arrange for your course:
- What is the aim/are the aims of the induction?
- How do you fulfil this aim/these aims?
- What is your student feedback about the induction process?

New Student Induction

- Normally bounded up in work about transition
 - The student experience of change involved in joining the university &
 - The programmes of academic and other activities, which the university provides to support and enhance student transition (Johnson, 2010, pg. 4)
- Chronologically unimportant, but a significant rite of passage
 - Separation, transition, incorporation (Tinto, 1993)
- Induction elements
 - Social & academic domain (Tinto, 1993)
 - Social – community, belonging, membership
 - Academic – rules, expectations, standards, norms
 - Social transition tends to come first (Tinto, 1997), Hardy & Bryson (2012)
 - Initial anxieties primarily social in nature, but sense of purpose and progress extremely important (Foster, et al, 2014)

Transitions through the First Year

Support prior to entry

- Decision making
- Post-results relationship building

Extended induction

- First term
- First semester
- First year



Initial induction

- Induction Week
- Freshers Week
- Welcome Week

Induction at NTU: the research methods

Student responses to induction

- Since 2006 all first year students have been surveyed during October about Starting at NTU, including induction. For undergraduates there is a 13% response rate, with over 950 respondents; for postgraduates the response rate is 17% with just under 400 respondents.



Analysis of Course Induction timetables

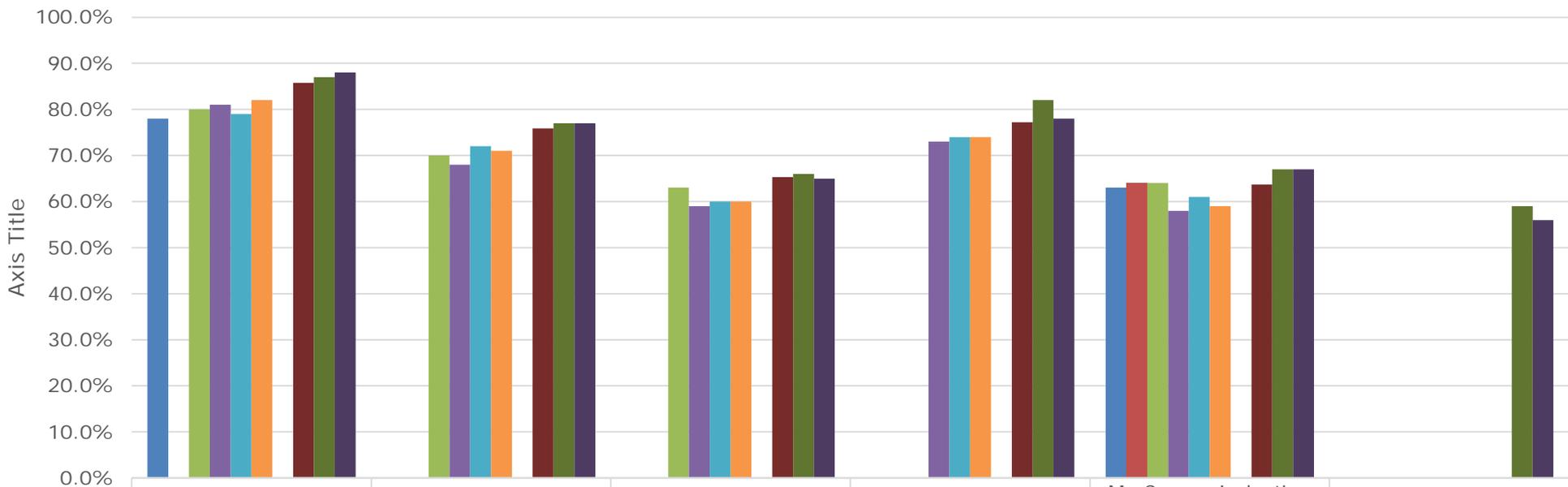
- 79 undergraduate induction timetables (representing 125 courses and all Schools) were analysed. Looked at each undergraduate course induction timetable and analysed for the total hours for the induction and the type of activities taking place in that time (lecture, guest lecture, tutorial, off site visit etc.)

What the students say



Student Feedback to the Course Induction Questions in the Week Surveys

2006 - 2015 (approx. 1,000 responses PA)



	My teachers /tutors have been approachable and supportive	My Course Induction was well organised	I found my Course Induction interesting	My Course Induction has explained what kind of learning I will engage with	My Course Induction provided me with the opportunity to make friends/ to get to know others on my course (changed in 2009)	The pre entry material helped me to prepare for my induction
2006	78.0%				63.0%	
2007					64.0%	
2008	80.0%	70.0%	63.0%		64.0%	
2009	81.0%	68.0%	59.0%	73.0%	58.0%	
2010	79.0%	72.0%	60.0%	74.0%	61.0%	
2011	82.0%	71.0%	60.0%	74.0%	59.0%	
2012						
2013	85.8%	75.9%	65.3%	77.2%	63.7%	
2014	87.0%	77.0%	66.0%	82.0%	67.0%	59.0%
2015	88.0%	77.0%	65.0%	78.0%	67.0%	56.0%



Differences between the best and worst performing Schools in each category (2015)

My lecturers / tutors have been approachable and supportive 2015

100%

90%

80%

70%

60%

50%

40%

30%

20%

10%

0%

The pre-arrival material helped me to prepare for my induction 2015

My course induction was well organised 2015

I found my course induction interesting 2015

My induction has explained what kind of learning I will engage with 2015

My course induction has provided me with the opportunity to get to know other students on my course 2015

● Min ● Max

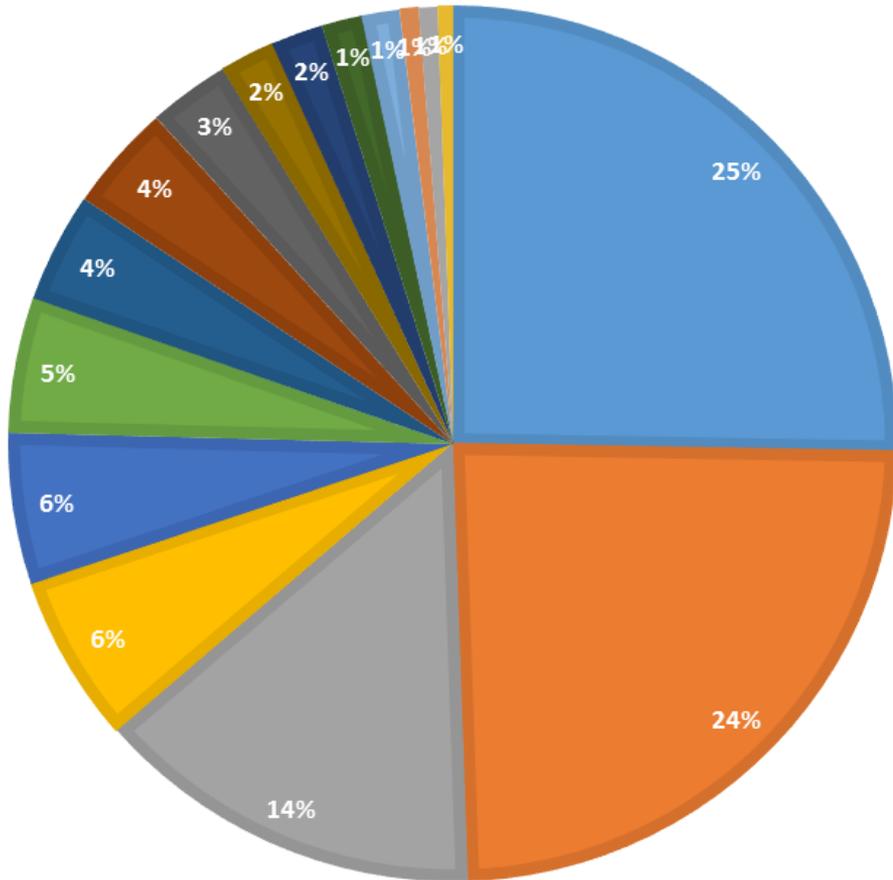


Student-identified Course Induction Priorities (2007)

1. To have opportunities to start making friends & building support networks
2. To understand what learning is like in university
3. To experience authentic learning and have some reassurance that they can cope
4. To be reminded how their course will benefit their future plans
5. To have a course induction that allows time for other commitments

Q115

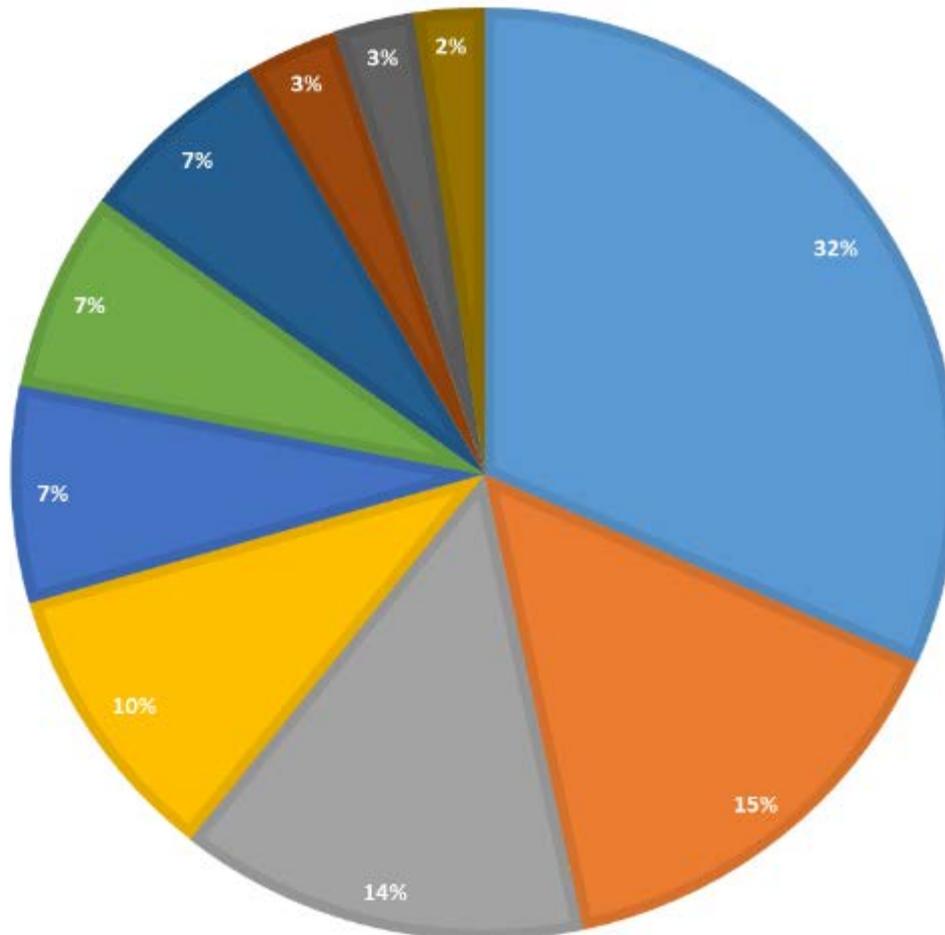
- Meeting new students/people in general
- Meeting / getting to know teaching staff
- Practical & Interactive sessions inc trips
- Other
- Knowing the way around
- Knowing what to expect
- Didn't Enjoy it
- Free stuff/food
- Getting to know the course
- Knowing what happening/ Settling in/being well informed
- Ice Breakers/tutorials/socials/lectures
- Friendly and Supportive staff
- Time/pace of it
- Don't know/ didn't answer
- Didn't attend
- Everything



Best thing about induction (2014)

Q116

- Nope/ Didn't Answer
- Length of induction/timing/late starts
- More/ Better Organisation
- More interactive
- More motivating/engaging/enthusiastic/interesting
- Other
- More Information about course /resources/ university in general
- Meet in Smaller groups/ bigger rooms
- More time with teaching staff/peers
- More/ better navigation

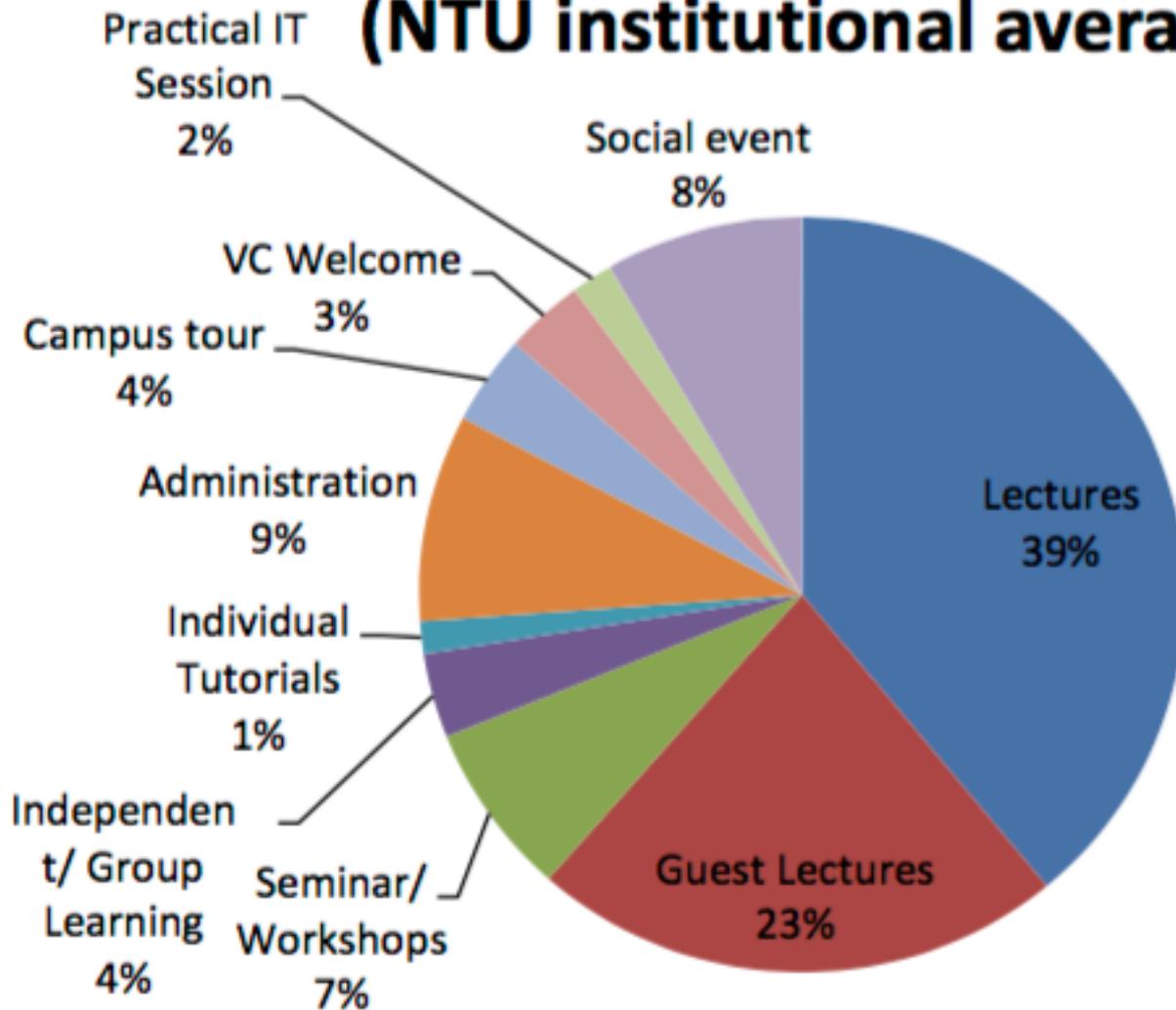


How could we improve course induction (2014)

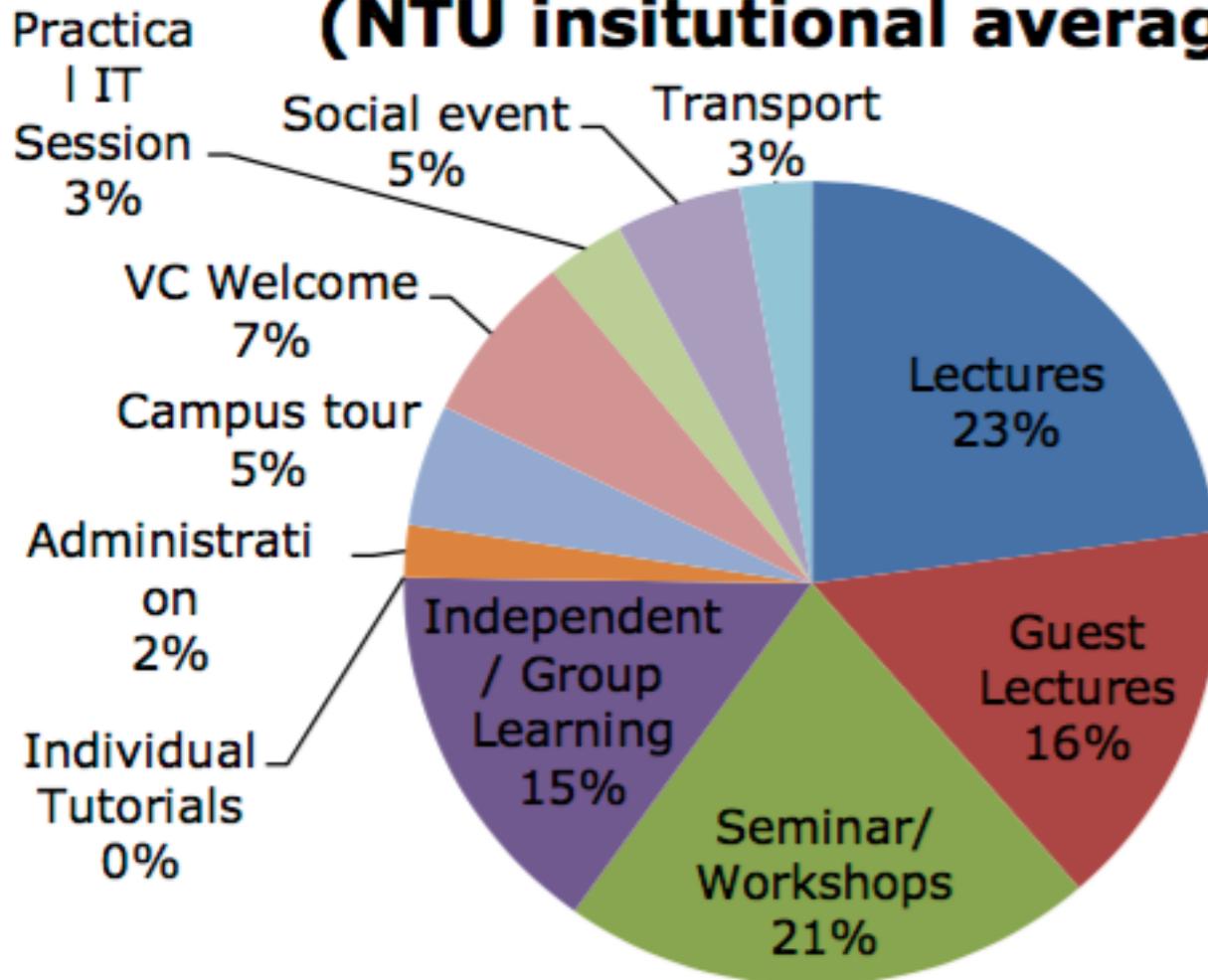
Contents of NTU inductions ...



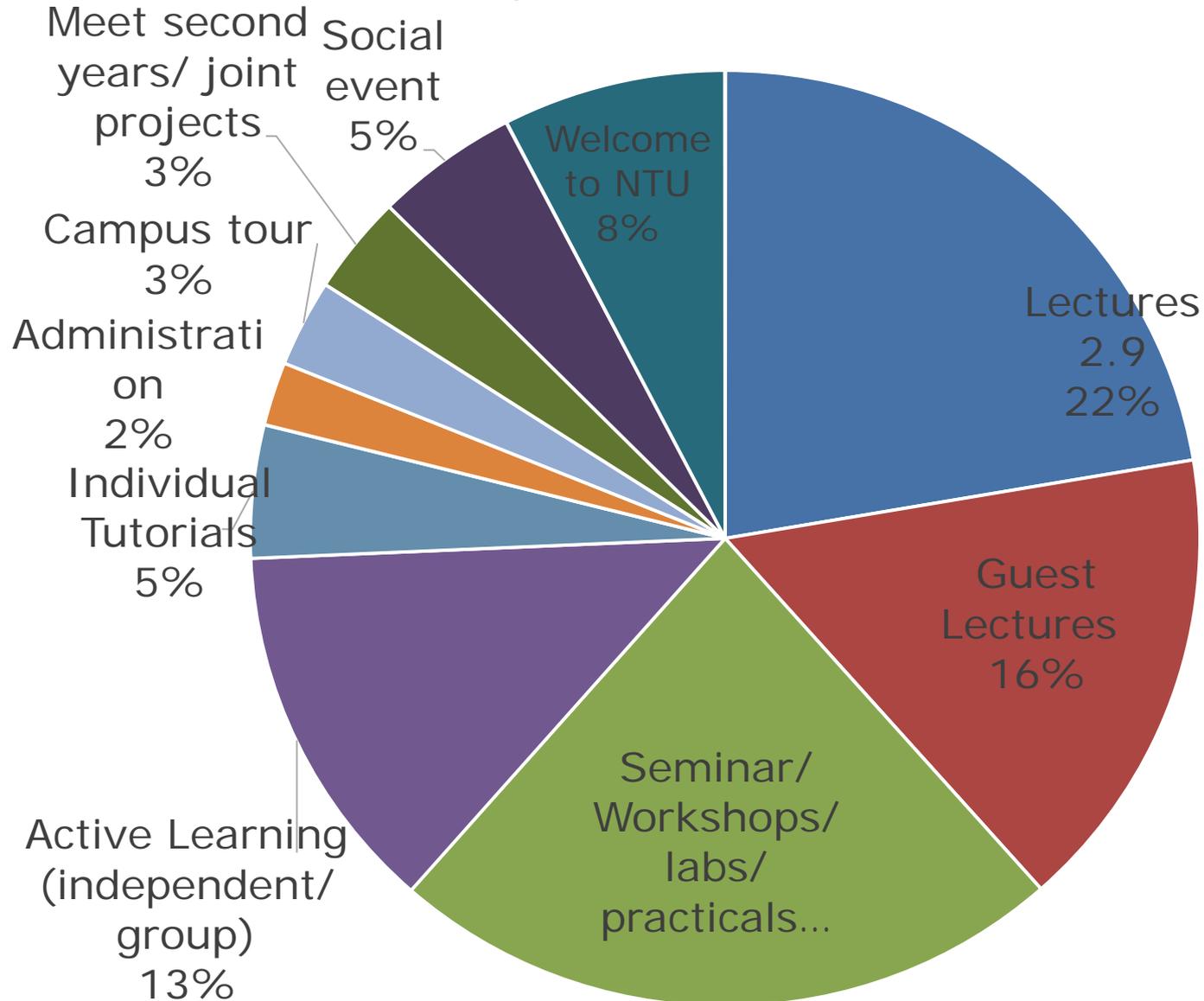
Course inductions 2005 (NTU institutional average)



Course inductions 2009 (NTU insititutional average)

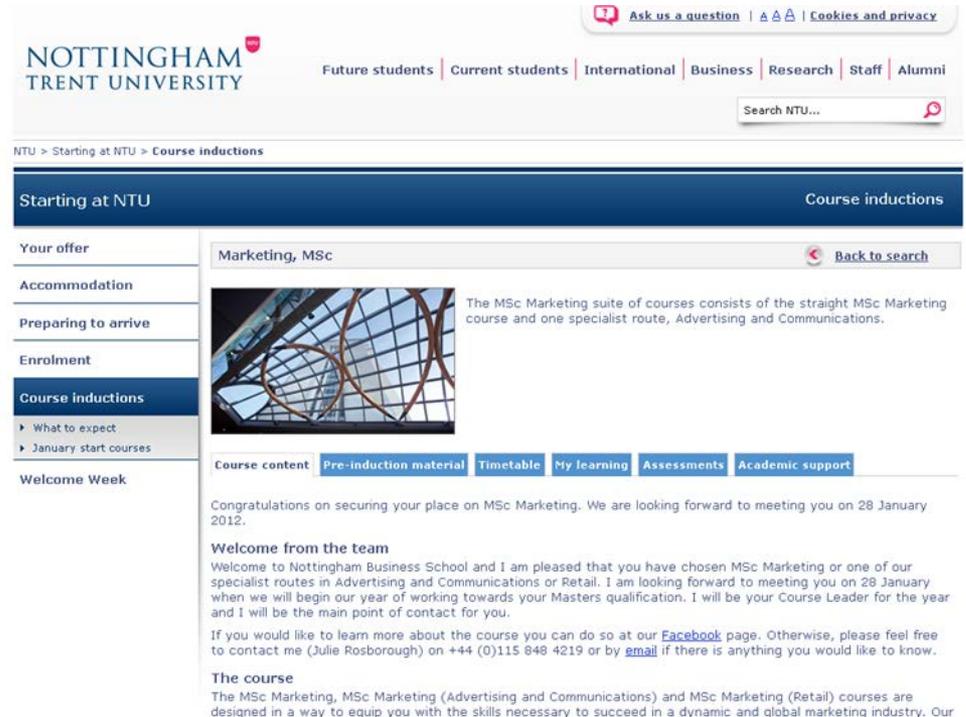


Average of all course inductions 2015



Starting at NTU

- Started in 2011 to give students information that they need to complete enrolment and also about their first week at NTU, including induction.
- Students get access to the site with their offer letter (August for undergraduates).



The screenshot displays the Nottingham Trent University website. At the top, the university's logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Future students', 'Current students', 'International', 'Business', 'Research', 'Staff', and 'Alumni' are on the right. A search bar is also present. Below the header, the breadcrumb trail reads 'NTU > Starting at NTU > Course inductions'. The main content area is titled 'Starting at NTU' and 'Course inductions'. A sidebar on the left lists navigation options: 'Your offer', 'Accommodation', 'Preparing to arrive', 'Enrolment', 'Course inductions' (with sub-links for 'What to expect' and 'January start courses'), and 'Welcome Week'. The main content area is for 'Marketing, MSc' and includes a 'Back to search' link, an image of a building's interior, and a description: 'The MSc Marketing suite of courses consists of the straight MSc Marketing course and one specialist route, Advertising and Communications.' Below this is a 'Course content' section with tabs for 'Pre-induction material', 'Timetable', 'My learning', 'Assessments', and 'Academic support'. The text continues with a congratulatory message and a 'Welcome from the team' section, followed by contact information and a 'The course' section.

http://www.ntu.ac.uk/starting_at_ntu/index.html

Does your induction ...

Link to
induction
principles

1.	Provide opportunities for students to develop friendship groups & support networks?	1
2.	Provide opportunities to sample/ practise normal first year learning?	2, 3
3.	Provide students their first tutorial during induction week?	1, 2, 3
4.	Integrate the pre-arrival task into the induction programme?	1, 2, 3
5.	Last at least as long as a normal teaching week?	5
6.	Use second or final year students, for activities such as campus tours?	1, 2, 3, 4
7.	Minimise the number of guest lectures (preferably integrate them into normal teaching at other appropriate times later in the year)?	5
8.	Treat the induction week as the first week of induction and induct students to new elements and concepts throughout the first term?	1, 4, 5





Induction

- You are the course team for a BSc in Unicorn husbandry. You are expecting 120 students to arrive for their induction on Monday 26 September 2016. The student welcome meeting with the VC is at 10am on this morning at the Concert Hall and Fresher's Fair is 10.00 to 16.00 on Thursday and Friday of that week at the City site.
- Discuss what you feel should go into the induction programme for this course and make a plan for the week.
- What do you feel should go into an extended induction and sketch out this period with content and rough timings.

That's all Folks!