

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF THE SECOND- AND THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGIES

2020–2021 academic year

The aim of the survey: to reveal the students' attitude towards the existing study conditions and assess their general satisfaction with the studies.

The survey was conducted online from March 16 to April 16, 2021, using the LimeSurvey survey system. The questionnaire was sent to 325 second- and third-year students (excluding the final year students) of the Faculty of Technologies. The obtained data was processed using SPSS 20 for Windows software.

SURVEY RESULTS (N=83)

The total number of 83 senior students participated in the survey, of which 64 (77.1%) were second-year students and 19 (22.9%) were third-year students; 90.4% of the respondents are full-time students, and 9.6% are part-time students. The majority (92.8%) of the surveyed students study in state-funded study places. Almost a third (31.3%) of the survey participants have jobs.

1. Rating the satisfaction with studies at Kaunas University of Applied Sciences:

1 Completely dissatisfied with studies	2 Dissatisfied with studies	3 Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with studies	4 Satisfied with studies	5 Completely satisfied with studies
4.8%	12.0%	21.7%	44.6%	16.9%

2. Satisfaction with studies is impacted by:

Factors	Rating scale				
	1 absolutely no impact	2 no impact	3 neither nor	4 some impact	5 great impact
Quality of studies	0.0%	0.0%	4.8%	39.8%	55.4%
Study load	0.0%	3.6%	12.0%	45.8%	38.6%
Possibility to select freely elective courses	4.8%	7.2%	28.9%	38.6%	20.5%
Distance learning	4.8%	6.0%	22.9%	21.7%	44.6%
Possibility to participate in research activities	3.6%	13.3%	34.9%	27.7%	20.5%
Access to library services and resources	10.8%	13.3%	26.5%	32.5%	16.9%
Possibility to participate in mobility programmes (e.g., Erasmus+, other bilateral exchange programmes)	16.9%	12.0%	32.5%	21.7%	16.9%
Prevailing atmosphere of tolerance and non-discrimination	13.3%	2.4%	32.5%	30.1%	21.7%
Ensuring academic integrity	7.2%	2.4%	25.3%	43.4%	21.7%
Support for students	3.6%	3.6%	15.7%	33.7%	43.4%
Study and learning environment	3.6%	2.4%	7.2%	42.2%	44.6%
Access to sports activities	19.3%	18.1%	36.1%	19.3%	7.2%
Organization of students' leisure and occupation	22.9%	12.1%	32.5%	21.7%	10.8%

3. Sufficiency of the information about studies and services (including information about distance learning and its organisation):

Sufficient	57.8%
Partly sufficient	37.4%
Insufficient	4.8%

4. Evaluation of the personal study load:

The study load is reasonable	42.2%
The study load is too high	41.0%
The study load is too low	6.0%
No answer	10.8%

5. Rating of the organisation of studies at KUAS:

Rating scale	No answer	1 Strongly disagree	2 Disagree	3 Partly agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly agree
Statements						
Timely introduction of the timetable and information about changes to it	2.4%	9.6%	10.8%	27.7%	32.5%	16.9%
During studies, there is a possibility to individualise the study process (to choose part of the study courses, study according to an individual study plan, etc.)	20.5%	12.1%	9.6%	34.9%	16.9%	6.0%
I am satisfied with the possibility to choose freely elective courses	6.0%	9.6%	2.4%	24.1%	39.8%	18.1%
Distance learning (live online lectures, lecture recordings, learning materials on Moodle or other platforms, etc.) is well organised	1.2%	9.6%	2.4%	32.5%	31.3%	22.9%
During studies, I am/was involved in scientific, applied research, art activities (participation in research, preparation of publications with the academic staff, joint art projects with the academic staff, etc.)	20.5%	15.7%	22.9%	16.9%	16.9%	7.2%
Information sources in the library and databases are relevant for studies, with appropriate access	16.9%	2.4%	1.2%	30.1%	32.5%	16.9%
Students are provided with opportunities to participate in mobility programmes (Erasmus+, other bilateral exchanges)	20.5%	0.0%	0.0%	13.3%	36.1%	30.1%
The atmosphere of tolerance and non-discrimination prevails in KUAS	21.7%	2.4%	1.2%	19.3%	31.3%	24.1%
Academic integrity is ensured in KUAS	12.1%	2.4%	7.2%	16.9%	44.6%	16.9%
The organisation of internships is clear	10.8%	18.1%	22.9%	25.3%	19.3%	3.6%
The procedure for submitting and handling appeals and complaints available to students is clear to me	24.1%	15.7%	22.9%	16.9%	15.7%	4.8%
The Faculty provides feedback (announcement and (or) discussion of survey findings, roundtable discussions, meetings with students, etc.)	18.1%	2.4%	9.6%	36.1%	21.7%	12.1%

6. Rating study and leisure conditions at KUAS:

Rating scale	0 Do not use	1 Poor (do not meet expectations)	2 Satisfactory	3 Good (some improvement needed)	4 Excellent (no changes needed)
Study and leisure environment					
Lecture rooms	13.25%	4.82%	14.46%	40.96%	26.51%
Laboratories	16.87%	3.61%	13.25%	42.17%	24.10%
Library	22.89%	0.00%	27.71%	14.46%	59.04%
Self-study environment	30.12%	1.20%	6.02%	32.53%	30.12%
Virtual learning environments (Moodle, Intranet, etc.)	1.20%	6.02%	18.07%	46.99%	27.71%
Wi-Fi	30.12%	7.23%	19.28%	25.30%	18.07%
Sports and wellness complex	62.65%	2.41%	6.02%	12.05%	16.87%
Canteen	44.58%	1.20%	16.87%	16.87%	20.48%
Dormitory	63.86%	6.02%	13.25%	9.64%	7.23%
Recreation areas	26.51%	3.61%	4.82%	38.55%	26.51%
Services of organising students' occupation (art groups, sports activities, events, etc.)	63.86%	3.61%	12.05%	8.43%	12.05%

7. Rating support for students:

Rating scale	0 Not sure	1 Strongly disagree	2 Disagree	3 Partly agree	4 Agree	5 Strongly agree
Statements						
The necessary support and/or assistance is readily available	40.96%	1.2%	6.0%	16.9%	22.9%	12.1%
Necessary support and / or assistance is provided in a timely manner	46.99%	0.00%	4.8%	18.1%	20.5%	9.6%

8. Recommending the programme being studied to a friend:

Yes	61.4%
No	16.9%
Not sure	21.7%

During the survey, it was revealed that 61.5 percent of the students of the faculty are satisfied or completely satisfied with their studies at Kaunas University of Applied Sciences. According to students, the most important factors influencing study satisfaction are: quality studies, distance learning and support opportunities, appropriate study load and study environment. Opportunity to attend sports and students' leisure and employment conditions have the least impact on study satisfaction.

42.2% of the students who participated in the survey indicated that the study load is appropriate for them, while for others the load is too high or too low. No correlation was found between students' opinions about study load and their satisfaction with studies. Students

appreciate the opportunities to participate in international exchange programs, but they are not sufficiently involved in applied research; the procedure for submitting and examining appeals and complaints is not clear enough; there is a lack of clarity about the organization of internships; there should be more opportunities to individualize the study process, and more attention should be paid to providing feedback.

The majority of students rate study and learning environments, with the exception of dormitories, as very good or good. It should be noted that more than half of the students who participated in the survey indicated that they do not use the services of the sports and health complex or the organization of student employment (do not participate in the activities of art groups, events, etc.). However, these activities are the least associated with satisfaction with studies

95.2% of senior students state that the information about their studies is sufficient or partially sufficient. Students want more information about the career planning services provided by the Career Centre as well as the possibilities to receive financial support.

In order to improve the study and leisure conditions at Kaunas University of Applied Sciences, some students suggest the following: to install air conditioners in the classrooms; monitor the work of teachers; provide information not only on the possible activities or work required (such as preparation of the final work) and the deadlines for them, but also explain why and how various activities take place; make videos of lectures; teachers should follow the assessment system provided in the descriptions of study subjects; ensure the required number of software licenses; demonstrate examples of well-done student work; assign more creative tasks to students; pay attention to the number of assignments; take into account students' complaints about lecturers.

Almost two thirds of students (61.4%) would recommend the study program to their friends.

For more information on the measures being implemented in the light of the views expressed by students, see the *You said, we did* section.