

**Dim = Dimensie (Psychology)**

**Com = Communiqué (Communication Science)**

**Str = Stress (IBA in this case, no IEM student was present)**

**Eline = Eline de Ruiter (Internationalisation project manager & Study Advisor)**

**Chris = Chris van den Heuvel (Student Assessor BMS)**

**Statement 1: Universities should prioritize active, hands-on learning over traditional lectures**

- DIM: easy statement. It is better to do active learning these days because people have a lot of stimulus because of phones and then concentration is really low, lower than before. Traditional lectures are not working for the students currently. Solving issues during lectures, active thinking.
- COM: more hands-on in relation to a job, so a different school system. More lectures about how to apply things, but we should not go too far away from traditional lectures
- COM: agrees with previous point. Discussion is important in a lecture but learning the theory as well so you should have a mix.
- STR: it doesn't really matter how you do it, as long as everything is being covered. So if the more hands-on makes it that it is more difficult to cover everything than you should combine it so it's not too much discussion, meaning too much theory loss.
- COM: if you do a lot of discussion be wary if you cover everything. If you time it good then it can work but it has to be planned well

**Statement 2: What I am studying is in line with my expectations of the study**

- STR: it aligns perfectly, both content and form of education.
- COM: it also lines up with expectations
- COM: in the beginning it was what was expected, but was not prepared for what she can do after the bachelor with the study. In B3 not everyone does things like company visits, even though those are valuable for preparing to enter the workfield. Writing a report is not necessarily what you will always be doing later in life.
- DIM: compared to other universities there is not a lot of extracurricular activities, so there are no chances to explore areas besides the study. There is just no time besides the normal curriculum.
- DIM: for psychology the expectations are limited, so he was surprised with the amount of things you learn in the first year. The expectations of what you will do after the study gets more detailed throughout the bachelor years. There was

confusion about not knowing that you need a master's degree to be able to work as a psychologist, and that a bachelor is not enough.

- COM: there is a difference between uni in Germany and here in the NL. In Germany there is an introduction week to get used to the courses of that year. They introduce the courses and what the schedule will be like. She was confused that here you are thrown in the deep immediately. Problem was thus that it was not clear what to expect.
- COM: agrees, feels like there was not a good preparation for university as a whole. Things like how to study and how to approach the tutorials etc.
- ELINE: for international programmes students come from all over the world, what kind of help would you have needed in such a week then?
- COM: could be voluntary week so that not everyone needs to go. Thinks her friends found the introduction week very helpful. Way to refresh things you learned in high school and need for the study. That prepares them well for the first few weeks of uni. It is still difficult of course but at least they know it is going to be different.
- STR: could it also be formed as an online resource instead of a physical week? Like a digital thing to guide you through the process
- COM: yes that could work. Already got emails of things to prepare before coming to the NL. That setup could be used for guiding students through how to schedule self-study and similar things.
- DIM: for psychology you have to write reports and it requires the APA style of referencing. In the first module there was a course that helps students understand this way of writing. It is good to have such helping courses when you also need to use that skill, and not like a few weeks before. Otherwise motivation will be low. Study advisors are not well-visited and they offer such trainings, but students don't seem to know about it. The trainings are during uni, not as a course before
- COM: such training could be promoted during the kick-in as most students are there. Might be too much for students as the kick-in is already very busy, but shortly mentioning that there is help for the students would be good.
- CHRIS: would you want an online explanation or really a practice course?
- DIM: practical is good, you work in smaller groups and can learn from the other students as well.
- Conclusion: expectations could be helped with more preparation beforehand
- COM: did not expect so much information about the practical stuff like living here etc. Was positively surprised by the amount of help for these kind of topics.
- ELINE: how did you feel about the amount of information coming to you?
- COM: got enough information, but also went out of her way to get the information by herself. Having this information presented to the students in an

introductory-week kind of way and make it voluntary would be good. Then people can choose themselves if it is too much or not.

**Statement 3: Last year I would have liked to know ... before I started studying and student life**

- *Already touched upon in the previous statement, so skipped this one.*

**Statement 4: My expectations about being a student and the reality are in line with each other**

- COM: no expectations at all. Just more, im just gonna study and learn and we'll see. They had a great time here, bit of corona but lets forget that. If you become a member of an association you're immediately part of a group for the parties and events and the city itself is also very nice. As an international it was really nice and a lot of opportunities here
- COM: really surprised to have so much fun hanging out with each other with the amount of events, like this, its really fun.
- DIM: agree with things that have been said. They expected to have more classes, in psychology you have less classes which is also nice for having a side job, a social life, et.c Another surprise, project group is very intertwined, they are mandatory and not so much individual work as they were expecting. It was a positive surprise.
- DIM: surprised by amount of German students, they speak German all the time and they don't so sometimes a bit left out.

**Anything else that surprised them, which has not been discussed?**

- ELINE: integration of (international) students. What information did you miss? If you look back, is there any information you would have liked to know?
- DIM: something with the kick-in and do-groups but we couldnt really hear it
- More integration within the studies during kick-in by making a groupchat.
- Associations make these groups themselves for the first-years / they are made by the students themselves