

School of Social Science

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Students most appreciated the quizzes as practice and found the well organised materials helpful for exam revision particularly in Economics. The webcasts were by far the most popular resource to be nominated. Sites with good discussion, resources and organisations were rated highly.

Coursework wiki:

"It is a group based assessment exercise, and it encouraged teamwork, active researching, and ensured more effective learning of the material"

Highly Commended ECON30631 Ken Clark

Learning Modules:

"It has a variety of resources, which helped me a lot in preparing myself for the exam. It also provided me with tons of opportunity to do various exercises, with explanation for the solutions, multiple times"

Highly Commended ECON 10071 Chris Orme

Webcasts:

"Allowed you to re-listen to lectures which was useful for the exam. Great for revision and refreshing your memories of lectures anywhere, at anytime. You can also enjoy classic lecturer jokes again and again"

Highly Commended POL110601 Peter Lawler

Corrected Examples:

"Gives an idea of what is expected and how the student work is marked. Gives an opportunity of seeing different students work and learn ways to improve based on other students' work"

Shortlisted ECON10061 Adam Ozanne

Seminar Notes:

"Every seminar had someone taking notes specific to the topic we were doing. These notes were then typed up and sent to the lecturer which he then put on blackboard. It meant that we had access to notes and discussions of not only every seminar, but of the other seminars from the different groups on the course. Very useful study aid for the exam and coursework"

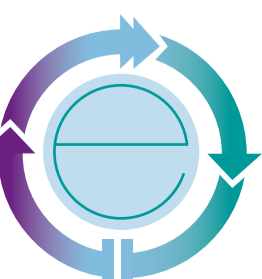
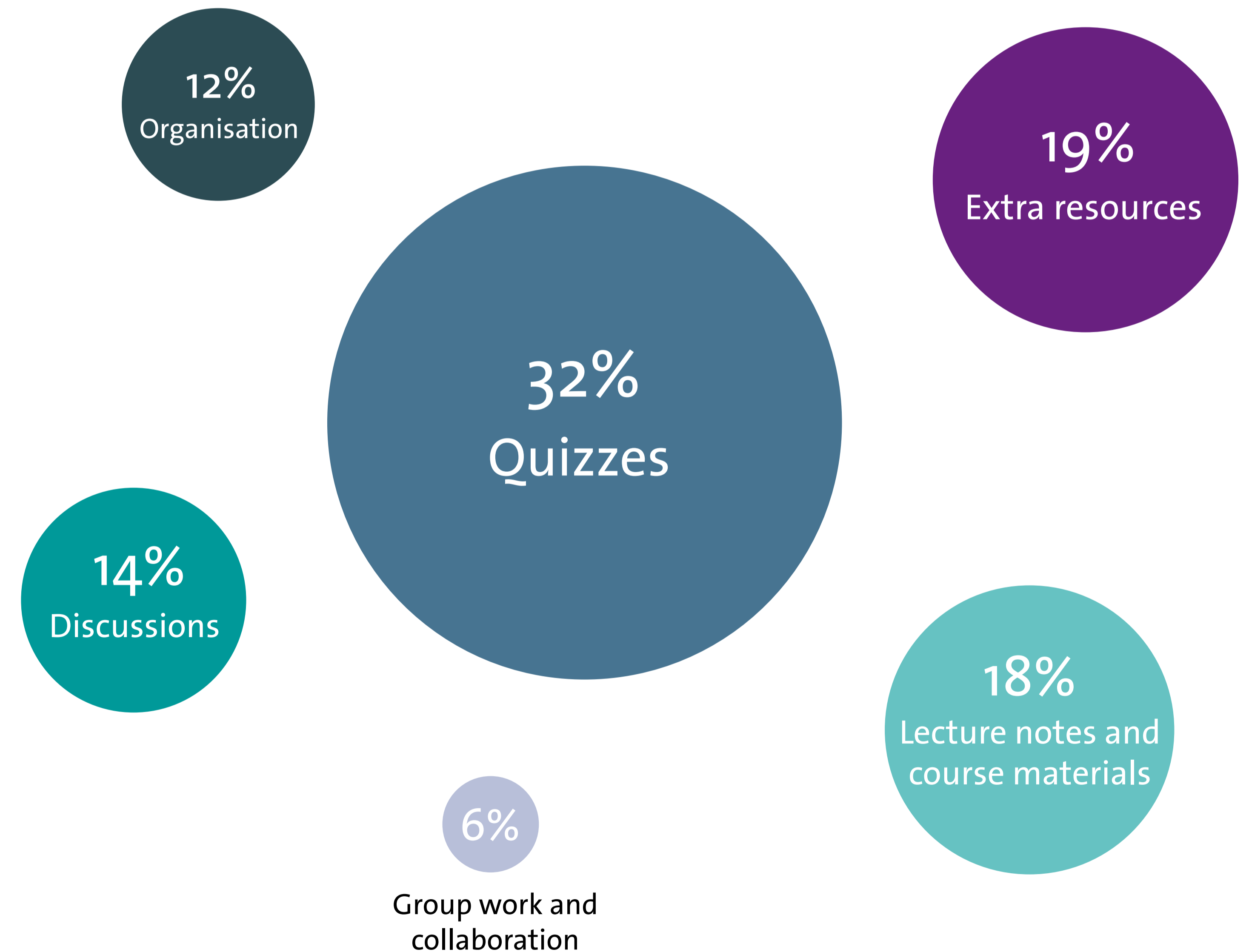
Shortlisted POL130671 Mike Moran

Resources:

"The resource provides plenty of links, scans of important weekly reading material audio/visual material and even assignment grading! Definitely the best Blackboard resource!"

Shortlisted POL160321 Elena Barabaratseva

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



School of Education

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Students appreciated discussion space, on-line group work and well organised sites with useful resources.

Video input podcasts in arena:

"It is great seeing two heavyweights of the EFL world chew over relevant texts. Really inspiring and useful"

Highly Commended EDUC7002 Julian Edge

Resources:

"Professional design, many links within the content, use of multimedia"

Shortlisted EDUC70191 Andrew Whitworth

Discussion Board:

"The combination of all students, full and part-time on campus together with those distance learners made this an excellent course unit for me"

EDUC70191

Weblinks:

"Instead of wasting time looking around the internet, it was all in one place. Awesome"

BA (Hons) Applied Community and Youth Work Studies

Resource sharing and chat:

"We can give each other great ideas for lessons with rich activities and offer any other advice that will help with the course"

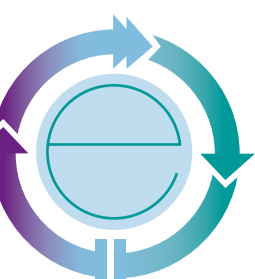
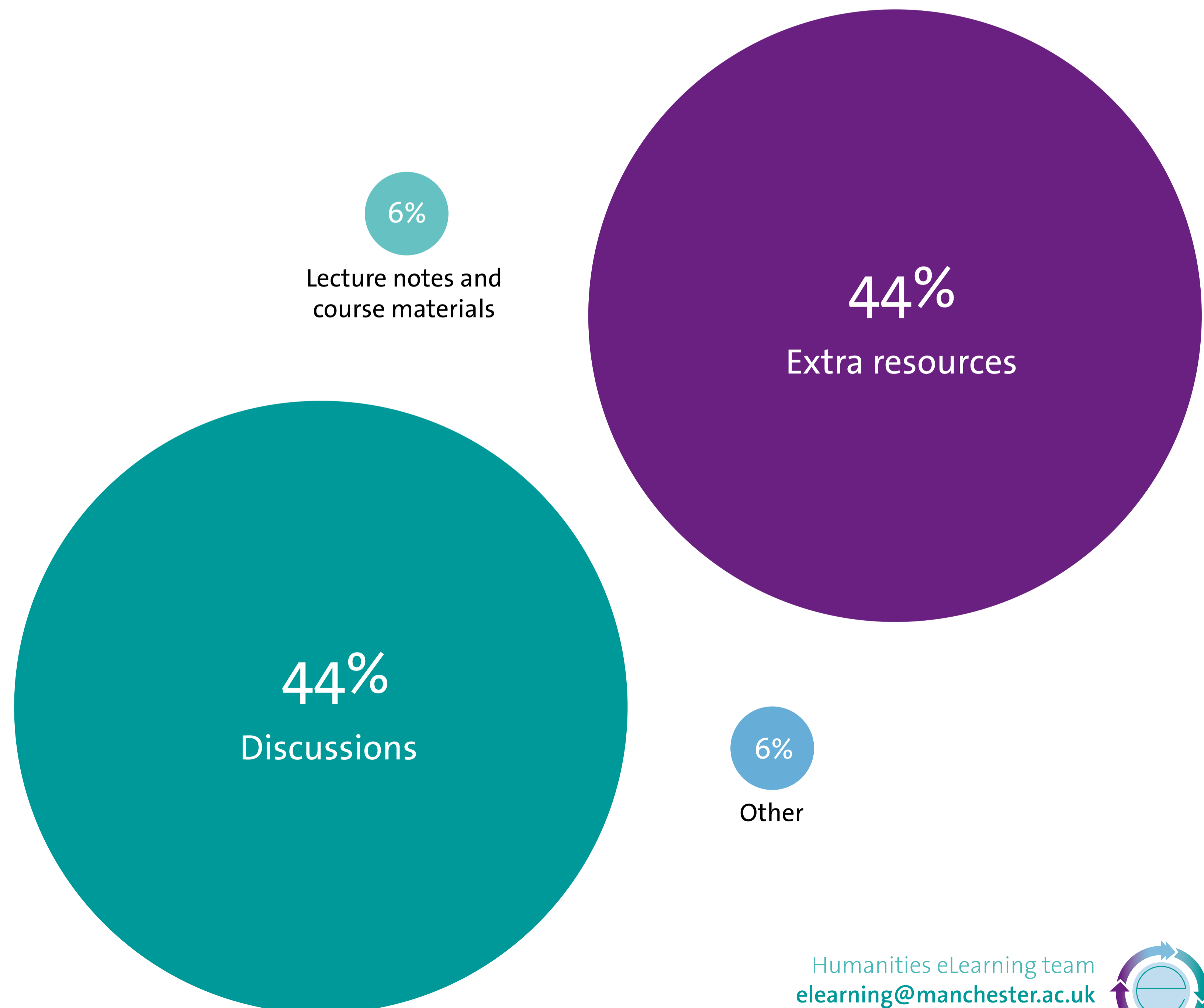
EDUC69980

Discussion Board:

"This has been invaluable when out on placement, both as a means of sharing resources and ideas and for moral support from other trainees"

EDUC69980

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



School of Languages, Linguistics and Cultures

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Linguistics sites were generally praised for organisation and feedback. Links to foreign news sites and websites were appreciated in language teaching.

Dictation Practice:

"The students can listen to the practical exam from the web and a wide range of recordings of different accents could also be accessed. It made us better-equipped for the exam"

Highly Commended LELA10011 Rob Drummond

Quizzes:

"The quizzes related to the readings and helped with my revision at a later date; it improved upon my learning. Sometimes I read and do not take everything in; by doing the quizzes on top of the reading, it reiterated essential parts of the Sociolinguistics book"

Shortlisted LELA10051 Erik Schleef

Voice Direct:

"Brilliant for online interaction with other students. Can practice the speaking element of learning a foreign language with or without the lecturer present and from different locations"

Shortlisted ULGR10040 Emmanuela Pantelireis

Resources:

"It provides you with all links to the Portuguese speaking world such as press, television and radio websites and has excellent links to language learning websites"

ULPT20010

Learning Modules:

"There are various updated weblinks and insightful readings, also hot and interesting topics on the course"

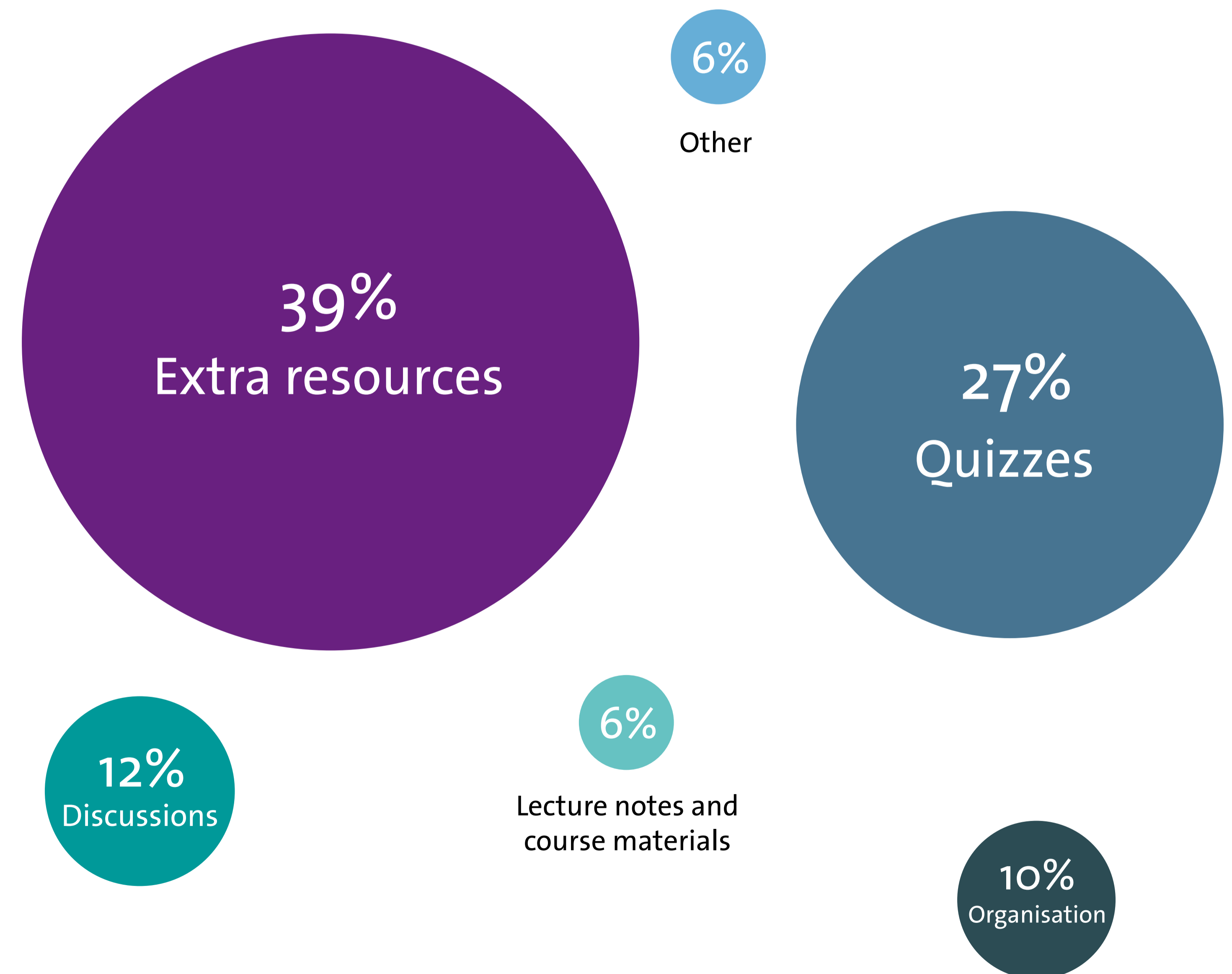
EALC10050

Sounds of English:

"Clear, concise lecture notes. Useful links to extra reading. Practice exercises offered. Good course outline"

LELA10011

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



6%

Other

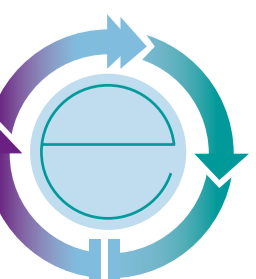
39%
Extra resources

27%
Quizzes

12%
Discussions

6%
Lecture notes and
course materials

10%
Organisation



Manchester Business School

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Podcast:

"The podcasts were a great way to summarise each lecture or topic, clearly identifying the areas that needed revising"

BMAN31451

Discussion:

"I have never seen such an active discussion board like this within the Blackboard course in my 3 years of university life"

BMAN31031

Quizzes:

"All those quizzes are actually more difficult than the questions turned out on the exam paper, so by doing them I learnt a lot more things than I needed for the exam, hence I was more prepared"

BMAN10621

Resources:

"It provides exhaustive and up-to-date information about current and significant events in the financial world"

BMAN10770

Course Content:

"Very user-friendly and the content has automatically been arranged in 4 pages per sheet which is very convenient"

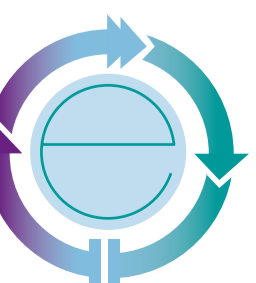
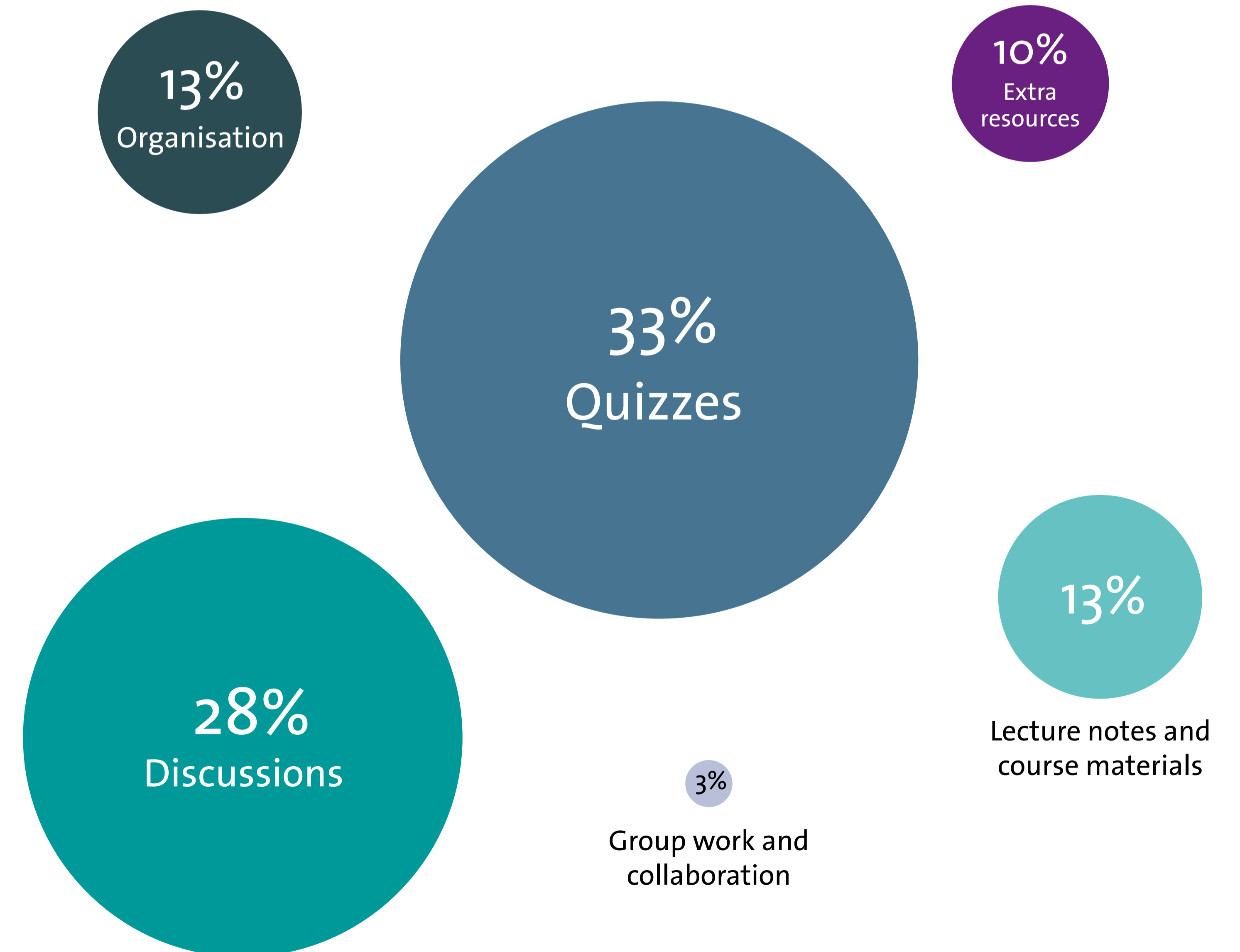
BMAN30722

Course Content:

"It provides details of course material in advance, the discussion is excellent and it provides useful website links and other resources"

BMAN20120

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



School of Arts, Histories and Cultures

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Students particularly enjoyed access to reading materials, seminar notes, and on-line resources. There was also praise for the study skills essay writing help in English.

Quizzes:

"Condenses lectures and seminars into a few questions- encourages you to do background reading. Very easy to revise from"

Short-listed CLAH1001 Polly Low and Peter Liddell

SLD Peer Assessment - anonymous feedback form:

"This was a really useful resource because it allows students to evaluate and reflect on the learning process in a safe and constructive way"

Short-listed RELT2012 Katja Stuerzenhofecker

Weekly Assessments:

"Instead of writing one long non-assessed essay we were set short written tasks each week. This meant that we were able to get constant feedback"

Short-Listed HIST31211 Laurence Brown and Paulo Drinot

Learning Modules:

"Arranged in an accessible and easy way, but particularly useful for web links to resources such as podcasts"

Shortlisted HIST20182 Stuart Jones

MP3 Audio:

"Can't miss a single word, idea, phrase, scholar, title of book or reference as we could log into Blackboard and listen to lecture. Fantastic!"

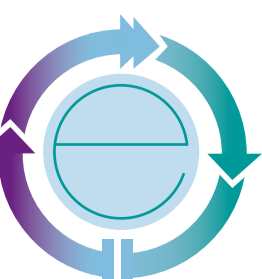
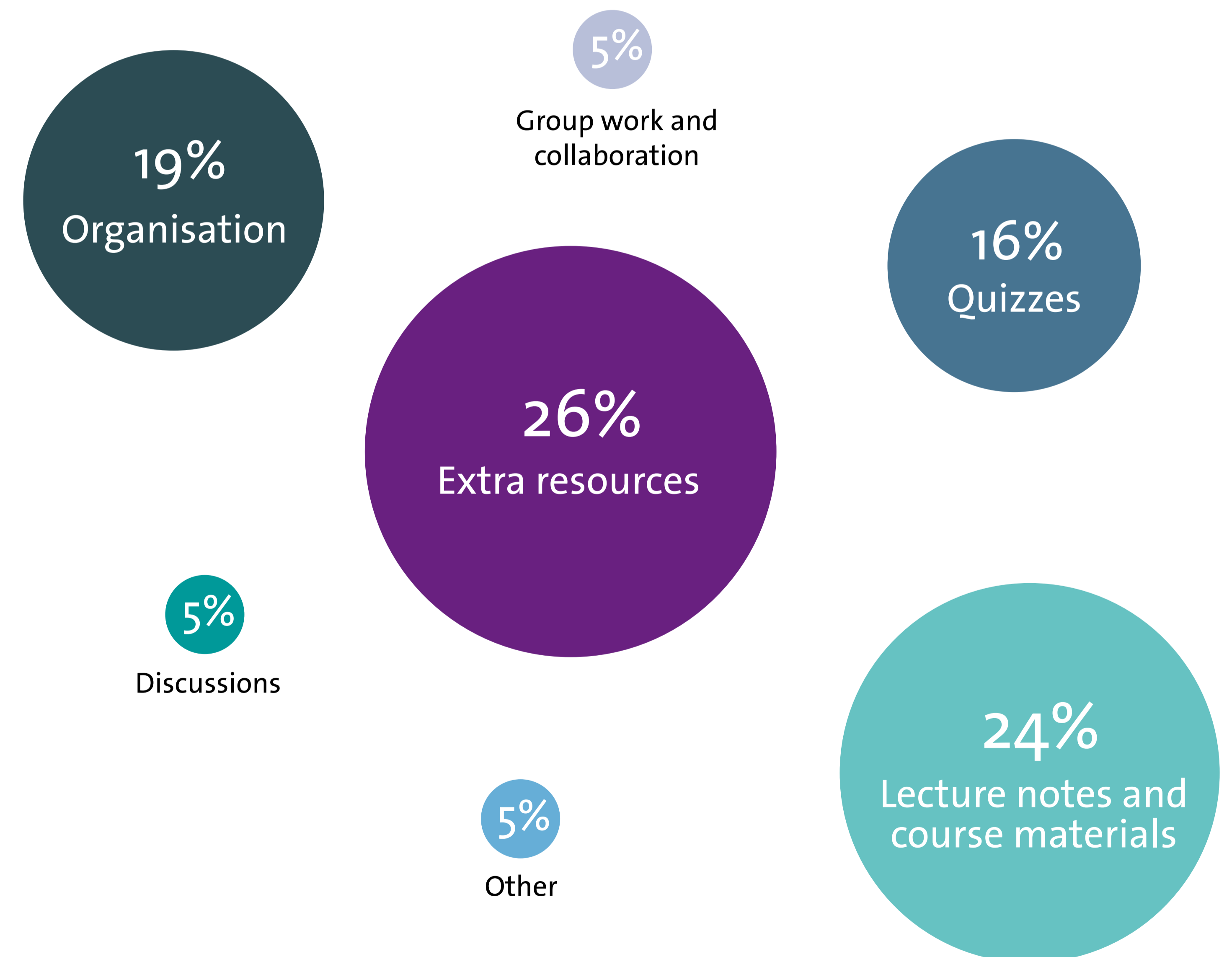
REL10311

Turnitin:

"Made submitting non-assessed essays very easy and was a great way to receive feedback"

HIST20151

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



School of Law

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

The most valued resources were links to websites, reading materials, discussion boards and video/audio recordings.

Assessment:

"Convenient and fast to submit the work done and it automatically goes into turnitin which further saves time for the lecturer"

LAWS10051

Study Materials:

"Much material for further reading and study was provided that was both beneficial and interesting. There was also the use of video links for visual learning!"

Laws30471

Discussion Board:

"It is basically a continuous discussion board in which the students and the lecturers can post questions, answers, and have general discussions on land law issues outside of the lecture"

LAWS20022

Audio Files:

"Excellent revision tool as well as allowing students to repeat lectures at their own speed in conjunction with textbooks to get the best detail"

LAWS20091

Lecture Notes:

"The diagram on the last slide was genius. It brought together all we had learned about the free movement of goods and really helped to make sense of a notoriously difficult area of EC law. It prepared me well to answer any questions on this"

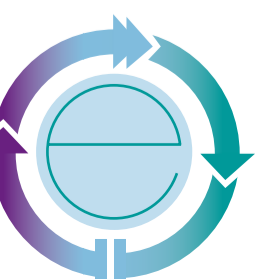
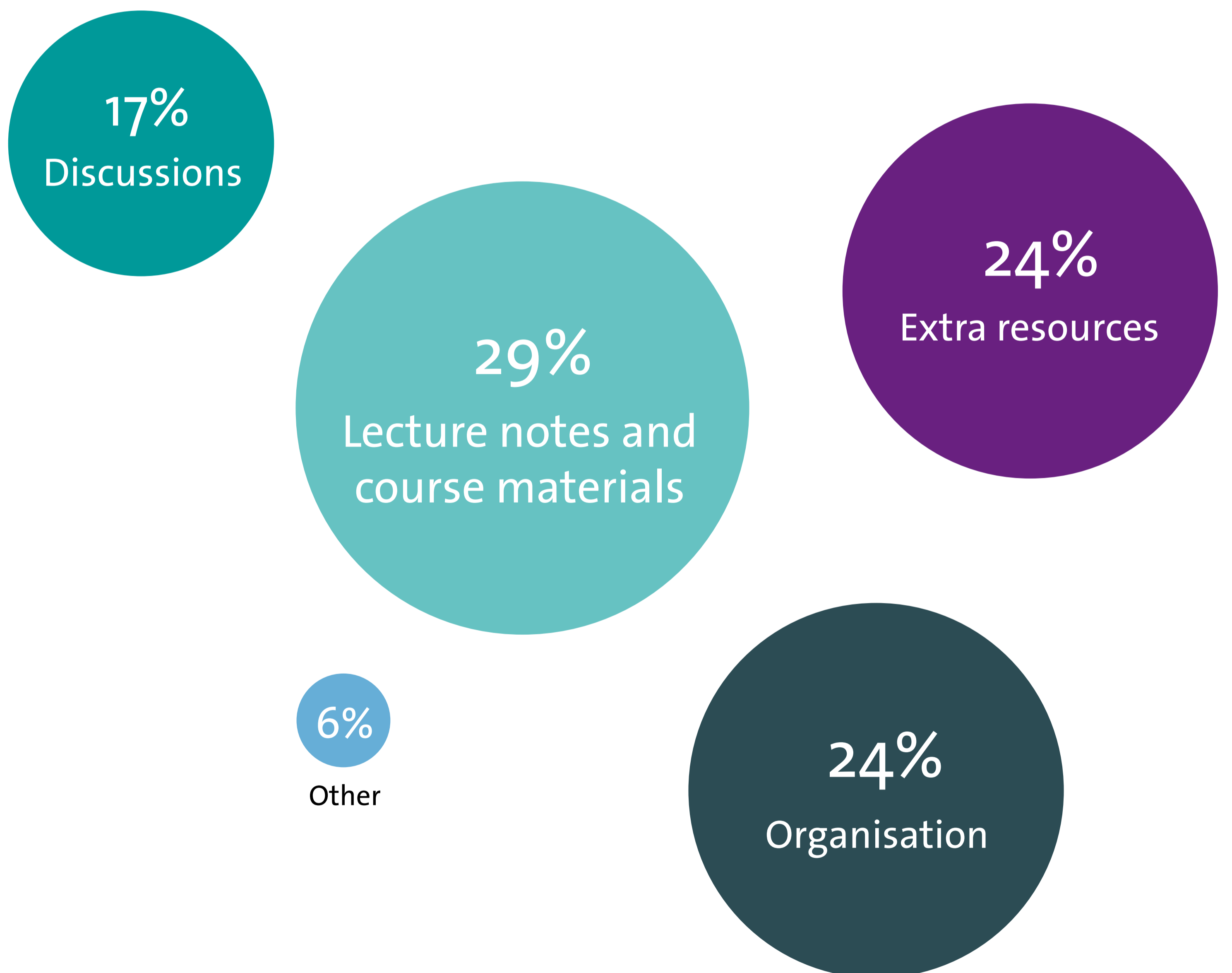
LAWS20091

Course Content:

"Most importantly, all fundamental lecture notes are up-to-date and can be posted in advance. This enabled us to prepare for lectures, at least have some basic understanding and familiarize ourselves to future lectures. Also, all external reading lists and related topics and some online articles are posted in advance and are well organized and easily accessible"

LAWS20102

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



School of Environment and Development

Results from the Best on Blackboard competition 2010

Lots of team teaching in the first and second years in Geography means that the sites all have consistent organisation. The students also appreciated the key readings and the extra reading list, prompt lecture notes and quizzes pitched at the right level. For IDPM, web links, tutorial preparation and announcements were the favourite resources and in Planning the students particularly liked interactivity and video links.

Lecture Notes:

"Although it is a very brief summary of the lecture, it adds things to think about to just being given information. I came to uni to THINK as much as I came to LEARN"

GEOG10121

Practice Exam Questions:

"Allowed me to assess the level of depth needed for the exam preparation and give a quantitative measure to my work to date"

GEOG10401

Field Trip Video Resource:

"This video is fantastic at giving supporting information to backup the field trip. It is a great visual aid and really helped with my learning"

GEOG20390

Appropriate Readings:

"There are some readings allocated specifically for each week to help you look at things in different ways, create a broader perspective and better understanding of the lecture just gone or coming up"

GEOG20330

Learning Modules:

"Totally comprehensive coverage of all the topics - not just notes, but interactivity, movies, interviews and other readings"

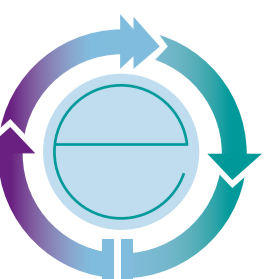
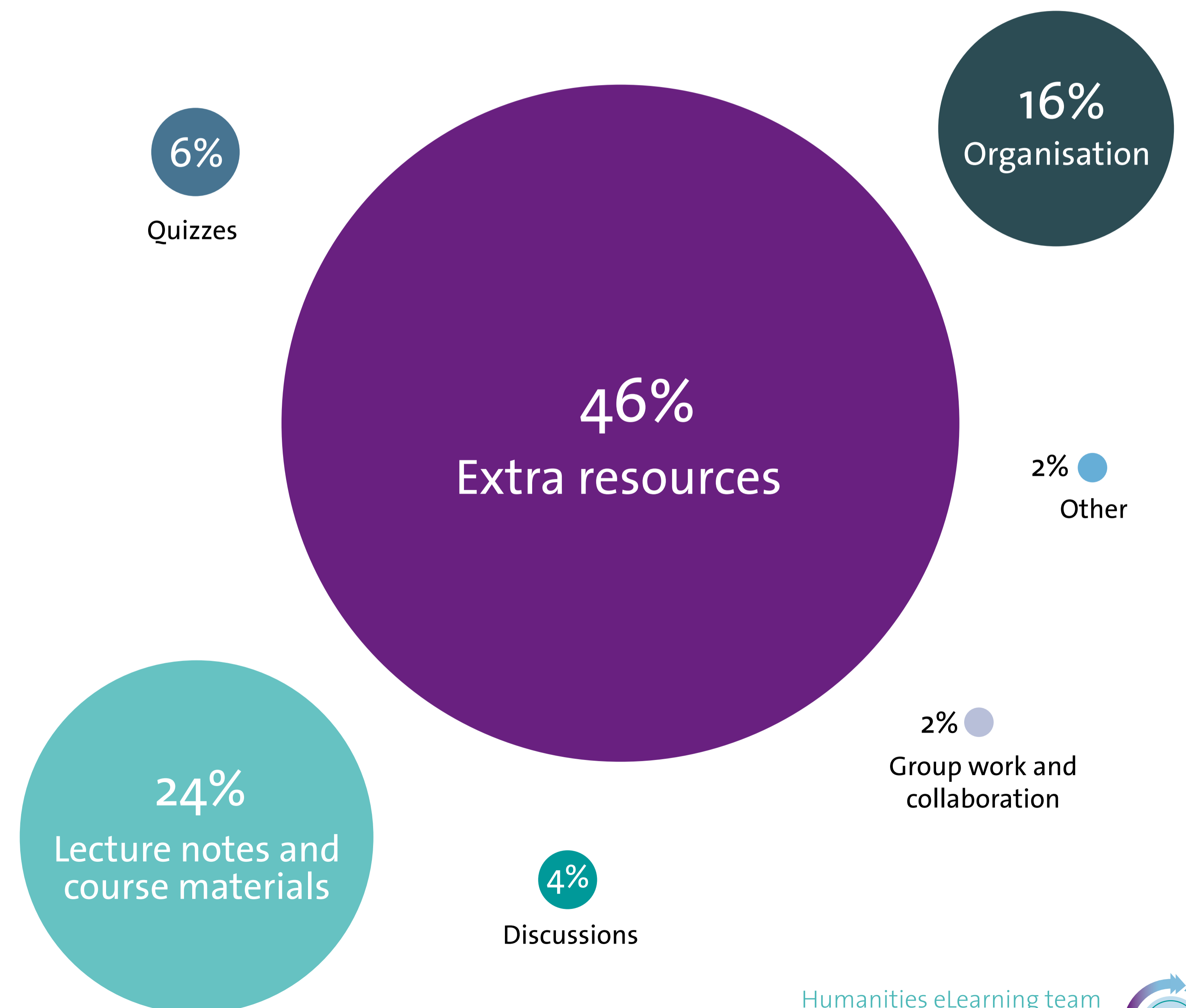
PLAN10041

Announcements:

"Popup announcements are the best way to communicate info in a way that students are sure to get if they use Blackboard. The per course email system is a good backup mechanism, but pop-ups are more evident. This course used both, as well as putting up lecture notes and additional resources for you to print out prior to class"

IDPM60711

Students' favourite type of Blackboard resource



What makes a good eLearning resource?

The **Best on Blackboard** competition had over 350 nominations — that covered approximately 250 courses within the Faculty of Humanities — for *‘the most useful resource in Blackboard’* this academic year

Organisation, up to date information, ease of navigation

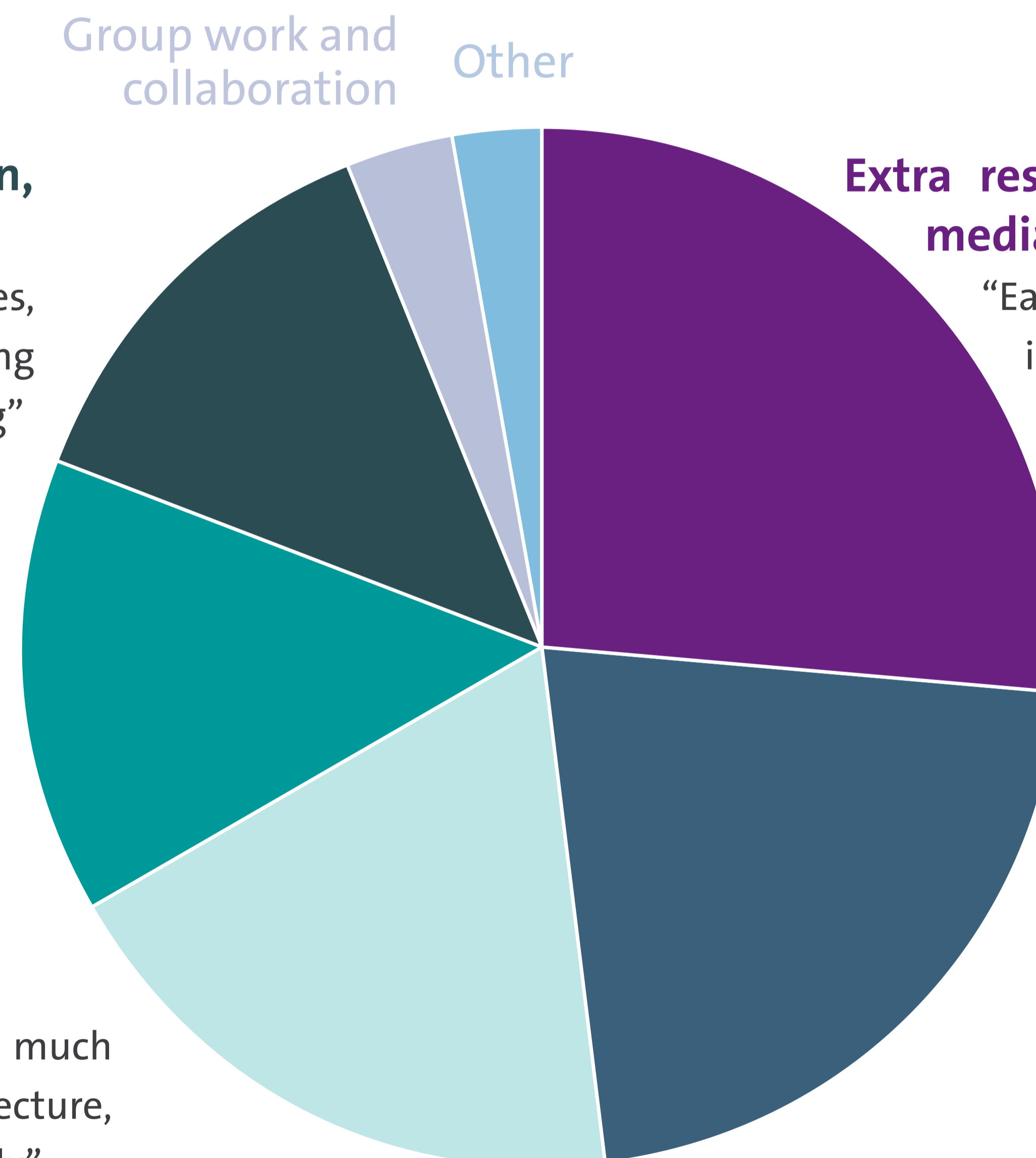
“Really good layout of lecture by lecture notes, key readings and extra readings. Made learning easier and each topic much more interesting”

Discussions and communication

“It’s a fantastic way for students to discuss course issues and for everyone to help each other out — makes communication between course members really easy”

Lecture notes, course materials and tutorial presentation

“Extremely detailed lecture notes, covering much more than could be covered in a 1 hour lecture, explaining all hard topics in the course clearly”



Extra resources, links and media rich materials

“Easy to access extra supporting information, including research websites, video and media links related to subject and a link to useful study skills websites”

Quizzes, assessments, interactive exercises

“Questions pitched an appropriate level for the amount of work we had studied to this point. Good helpful answers, fun to complete.”

