



# Attention Span and Learning Experience in NUQ

Anudit Basnet, Anthony Mei, Laeba Hafiz, Maiara Lohmann, and Nousayba Fekhaoui

# Importance of the research

## Neurodivergencies

ADHD, Autism, Dyslexia, etc.

## Technology

Does the claim stand?

## Structure of Lecture

What works to grab students' attention?

## Effective Schedule

What class schedule works best?

# The 3 Main Questions:

What patterns do we see amongst students' attention span at NU-Q?

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How does technology impact the attention span of the students at NU-Q?

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What external factors impact students' learning experience in classroom?

# Initial Biases and expectations

## Morning Classes

Most students would not prefer 8:30 morning classes

## Focus Point

Students are more focused towards the end of the class

## Negative View

In general, students are expected to have a negative view towards NU-Q

## Mandatory Classes

For mandatory classes, students are expected to be less interested

# Survey

Designed by Anthony, conducted by the whole group

# Interview

Designed by Anudit, conducted by Laeba and Nousayba

# Observation Study

Conducted by Anudit, Anthony and Maiara

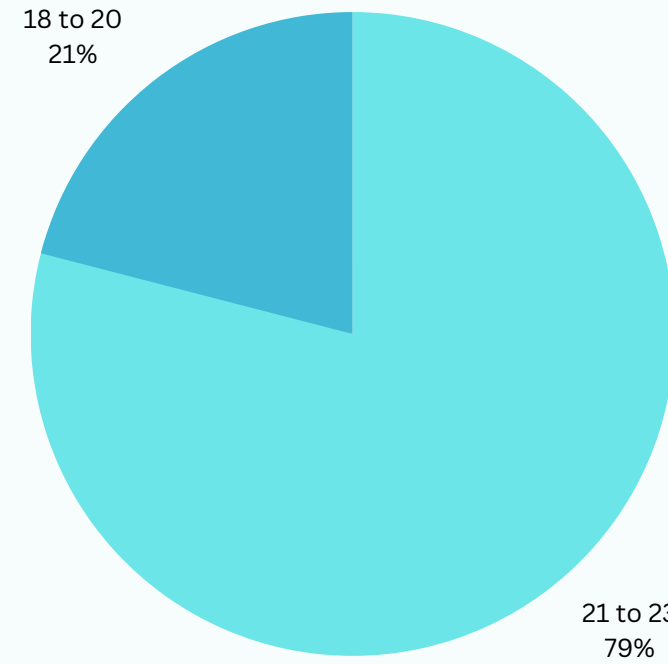
# Literature Review

Conducted by Anthony and Laeba

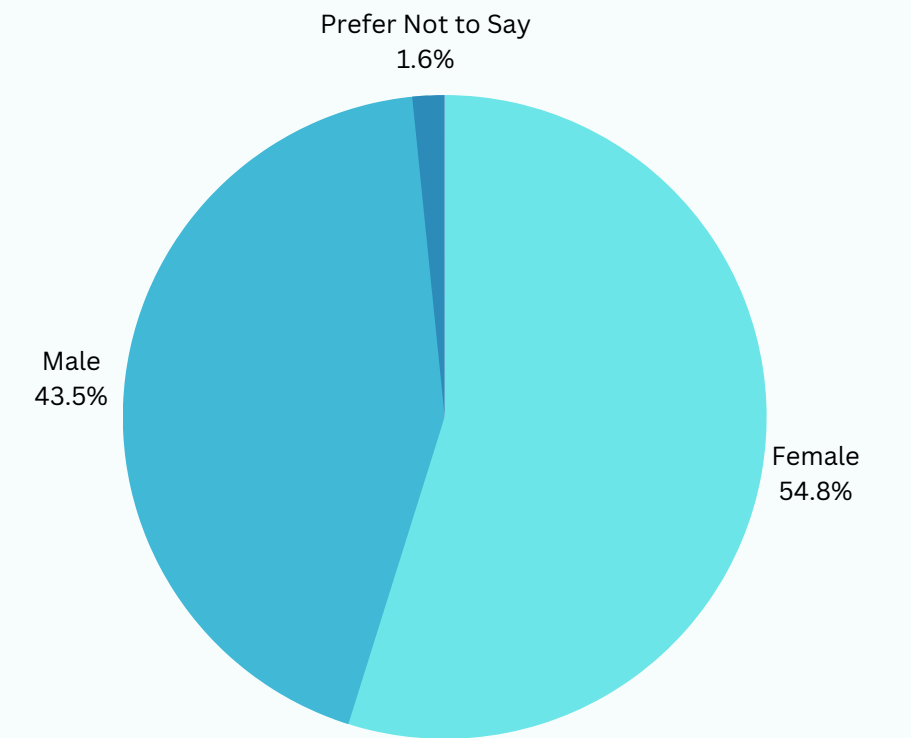
# Ethnographic Composition

Understanding our sample – Survey

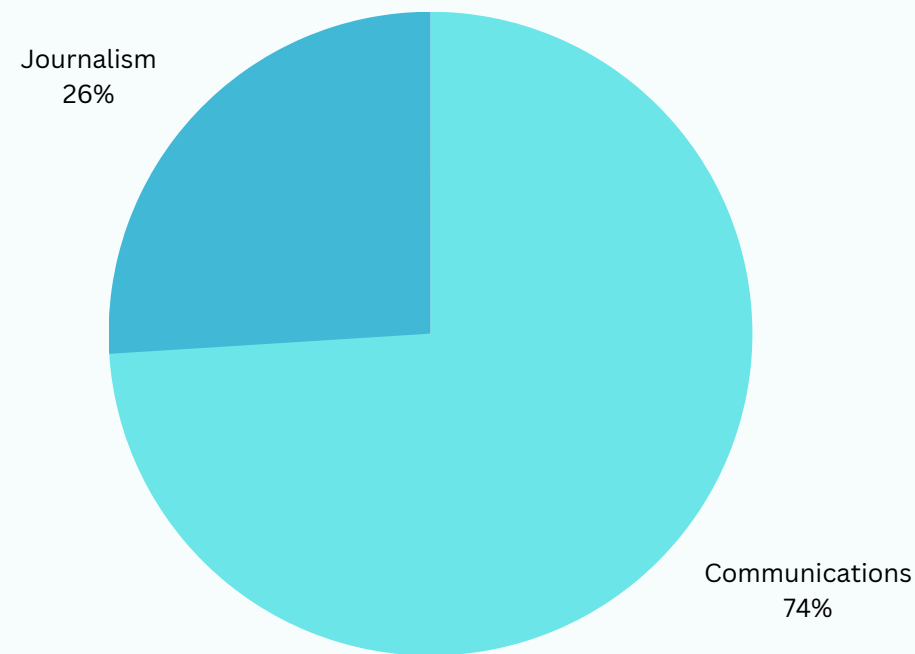
## Age



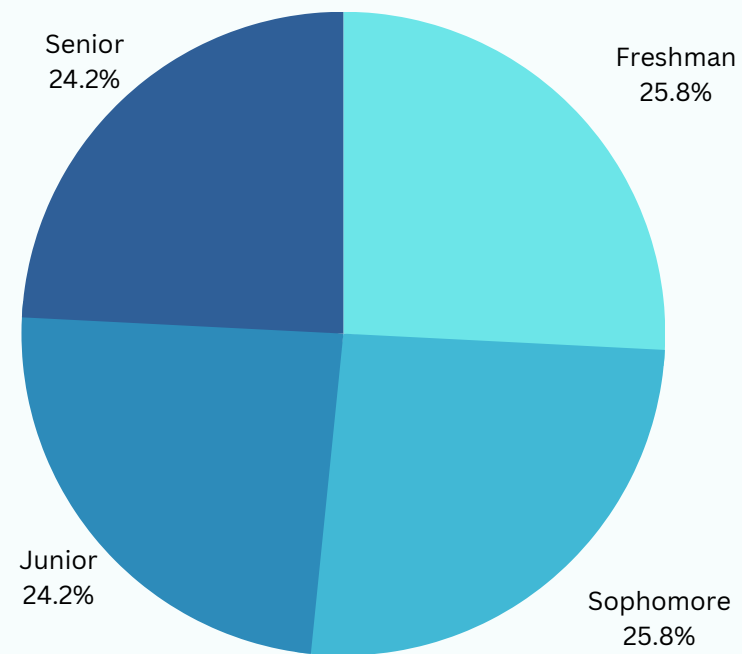
## Gender



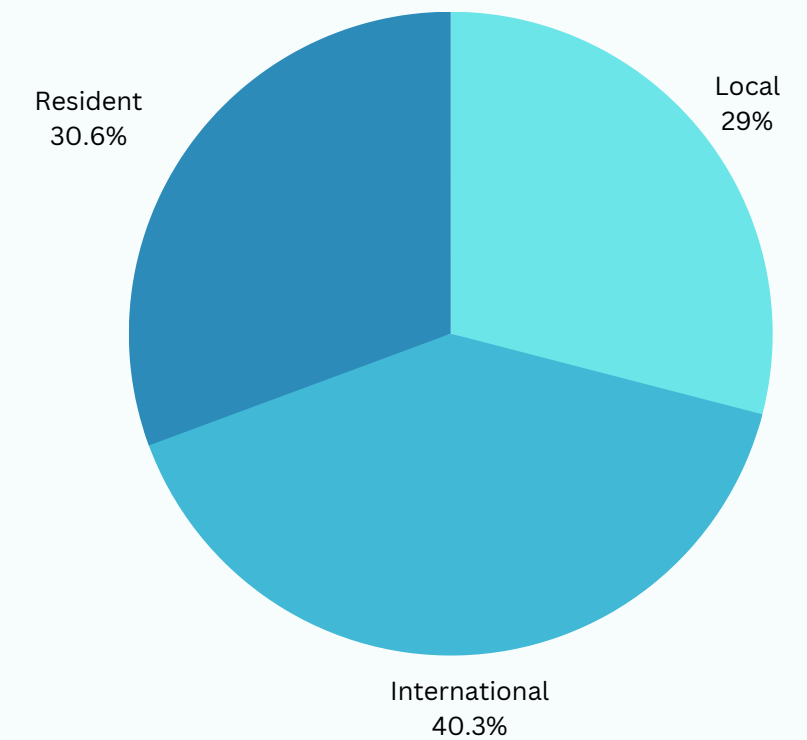
## Major



## Batch



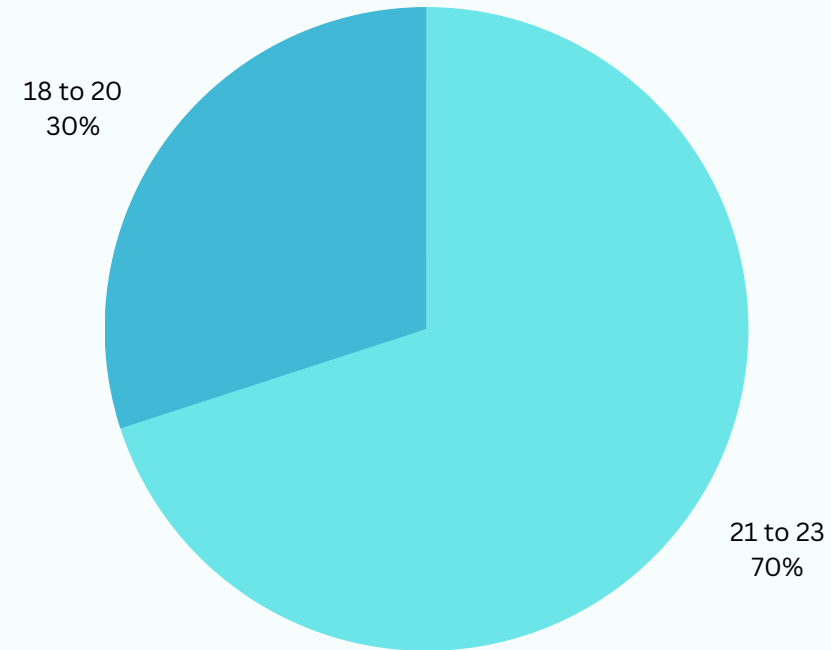
## Nationality



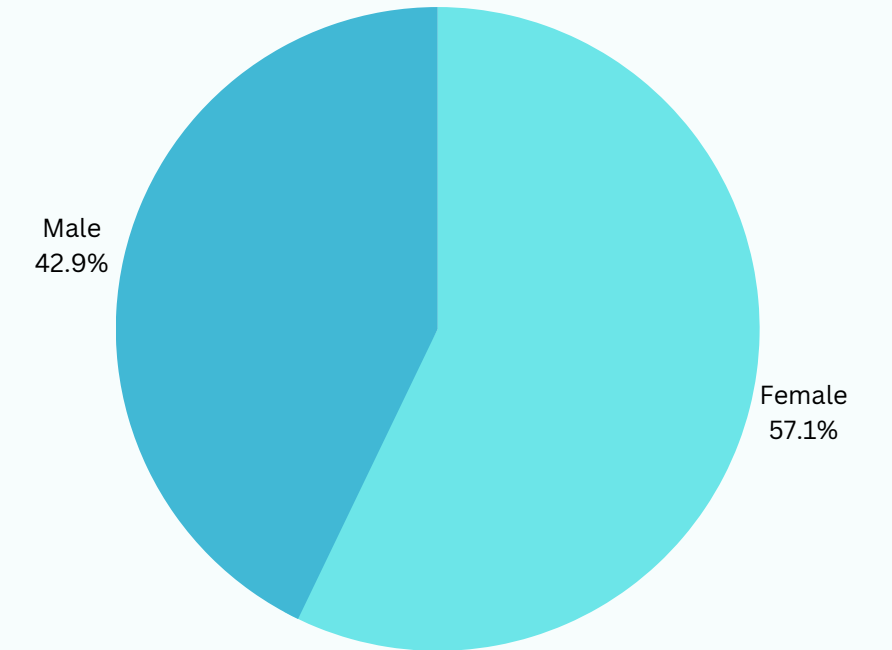
# Ethnographic Composition

Understanding our sample – Interview

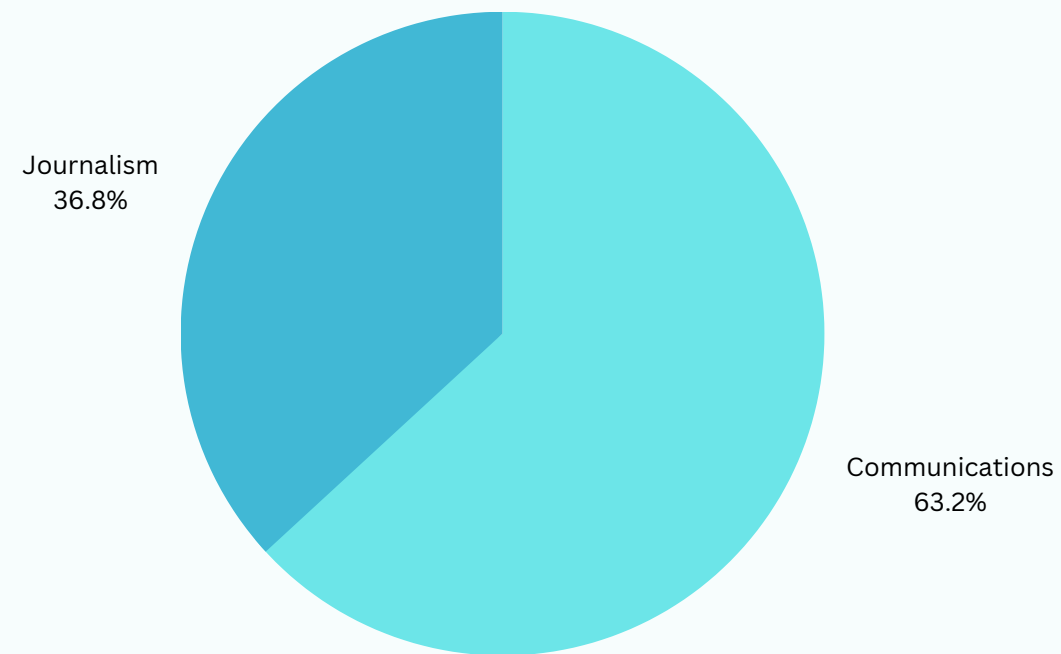
## Age



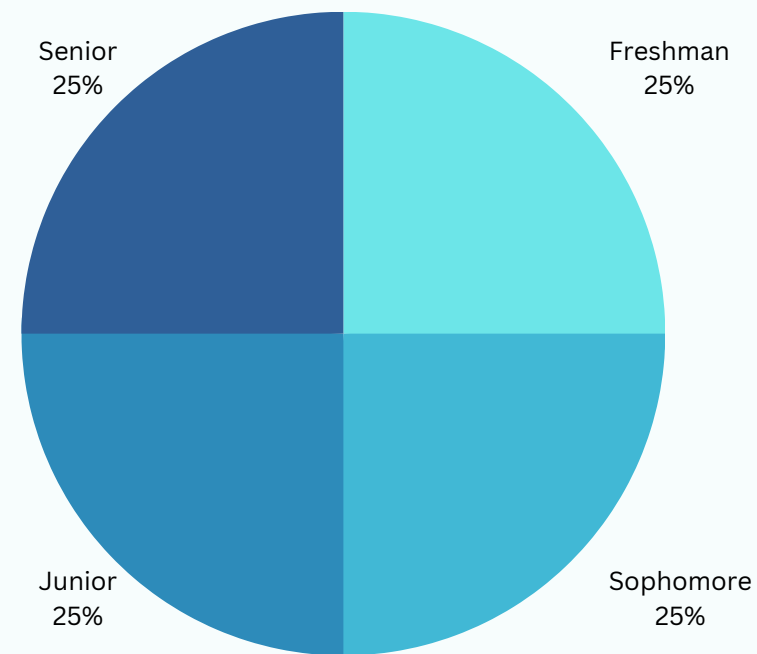
## Gender



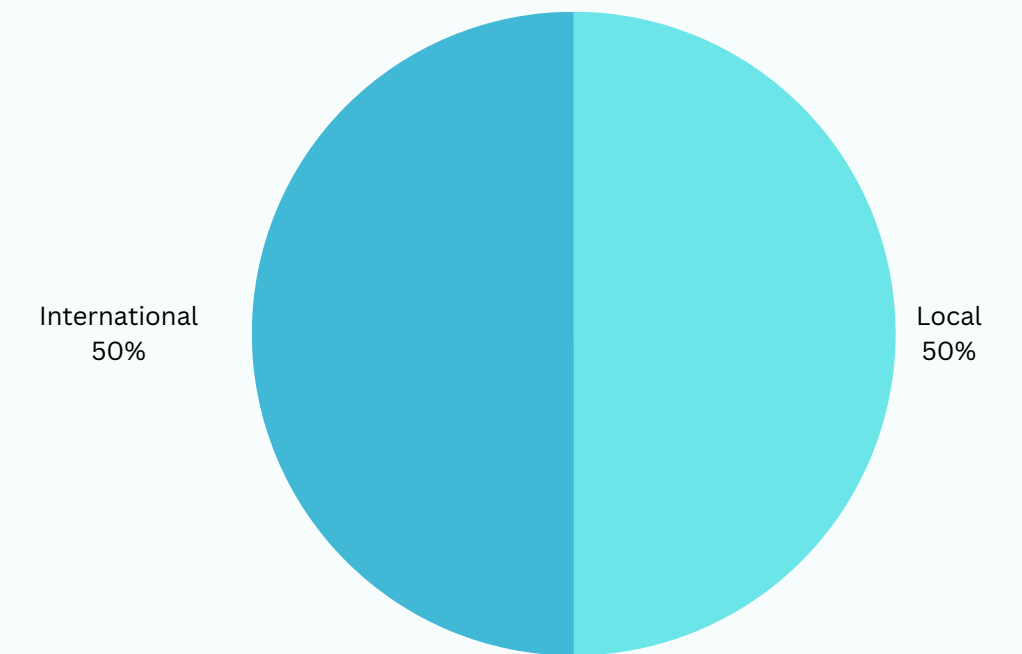
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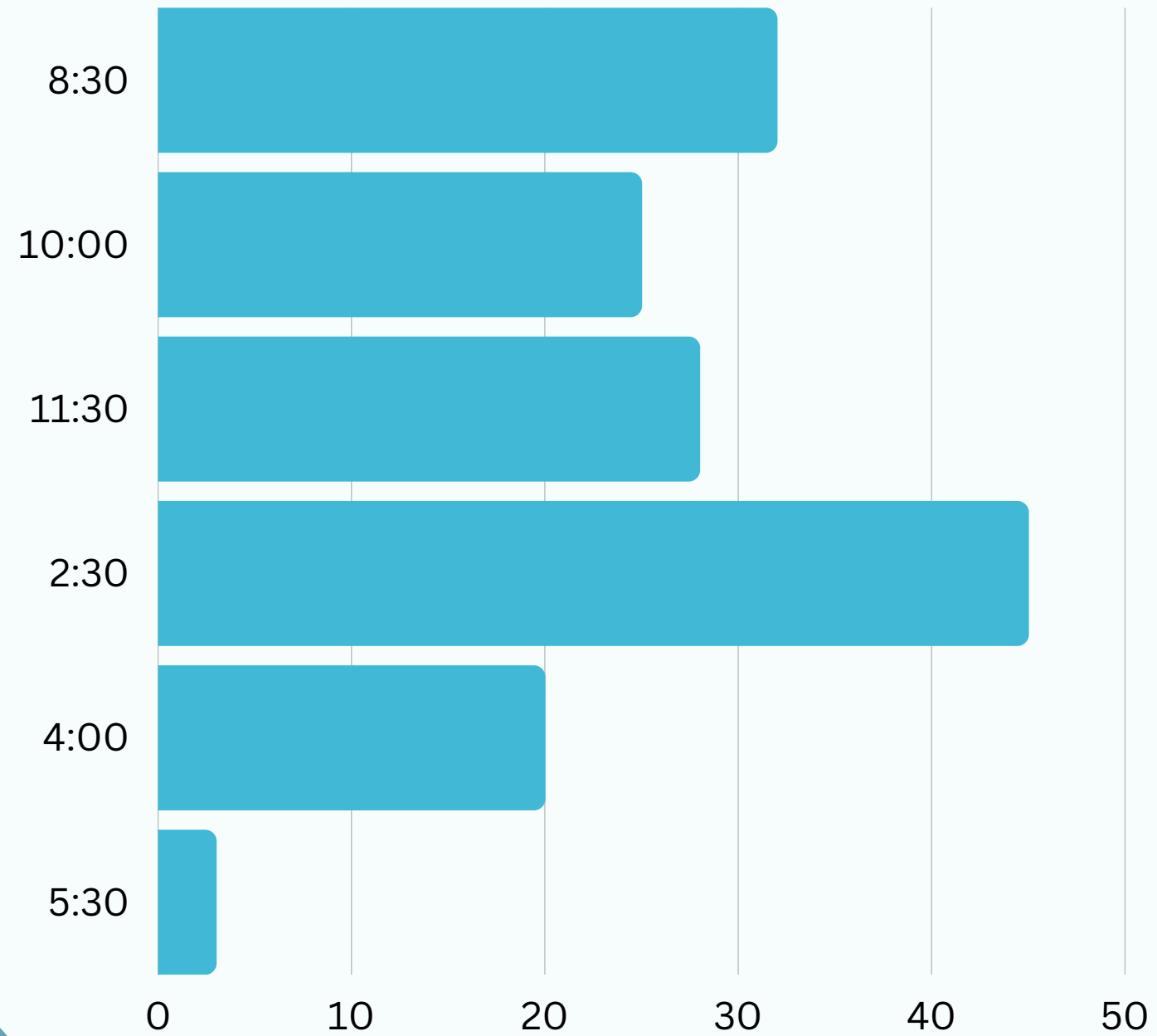


## Nationality

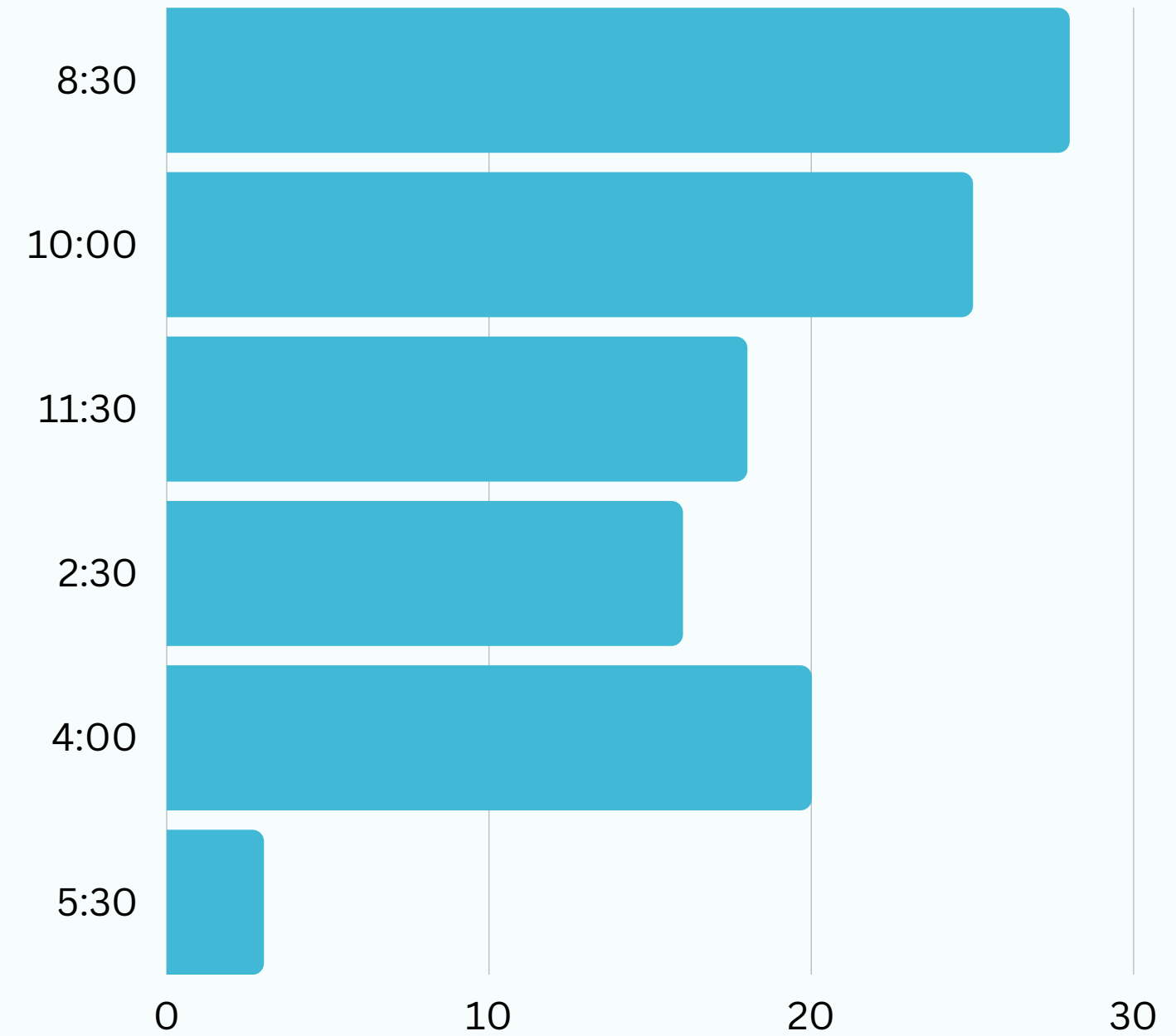


# Class Structure

## Class Timings with Mandatory Classes



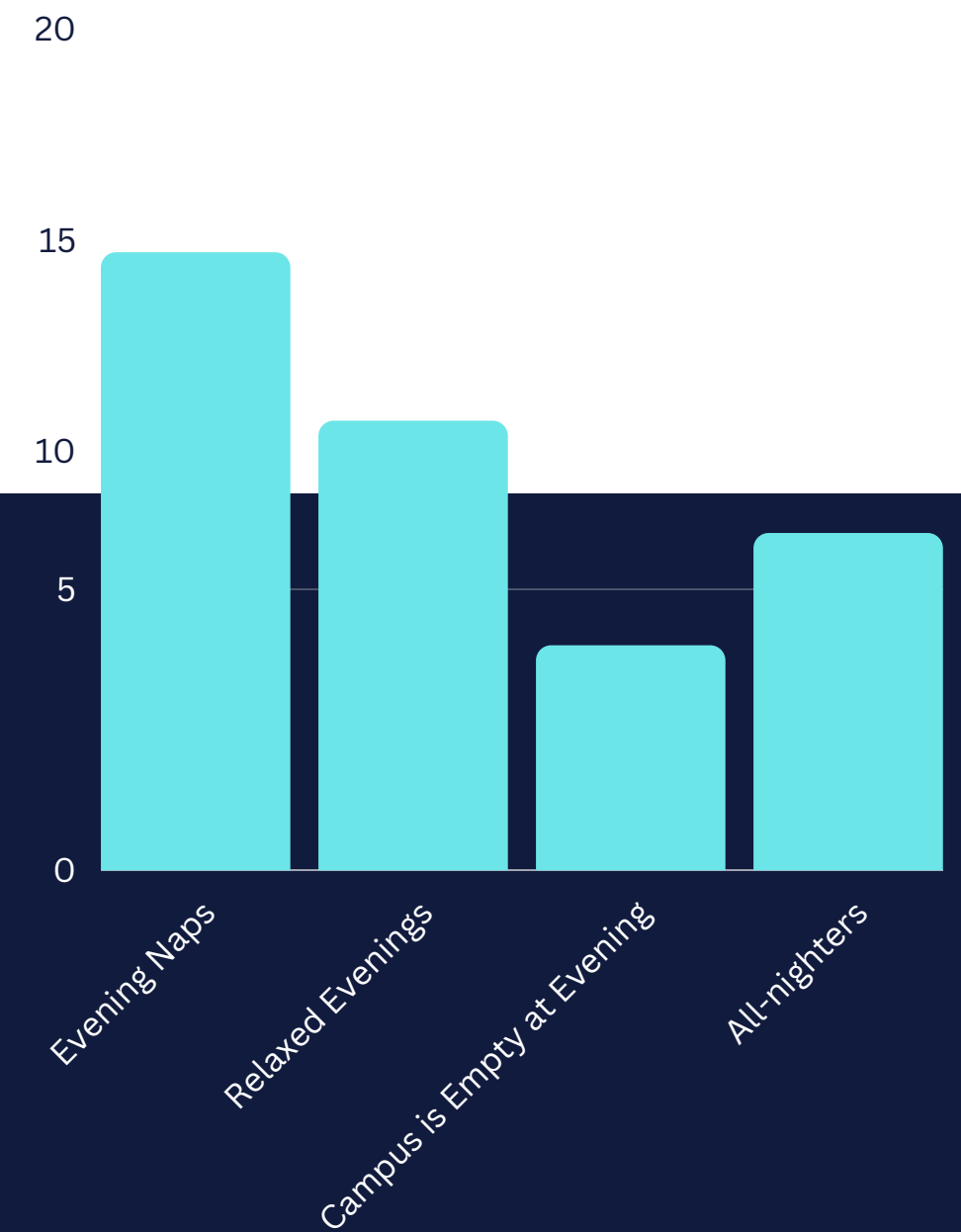
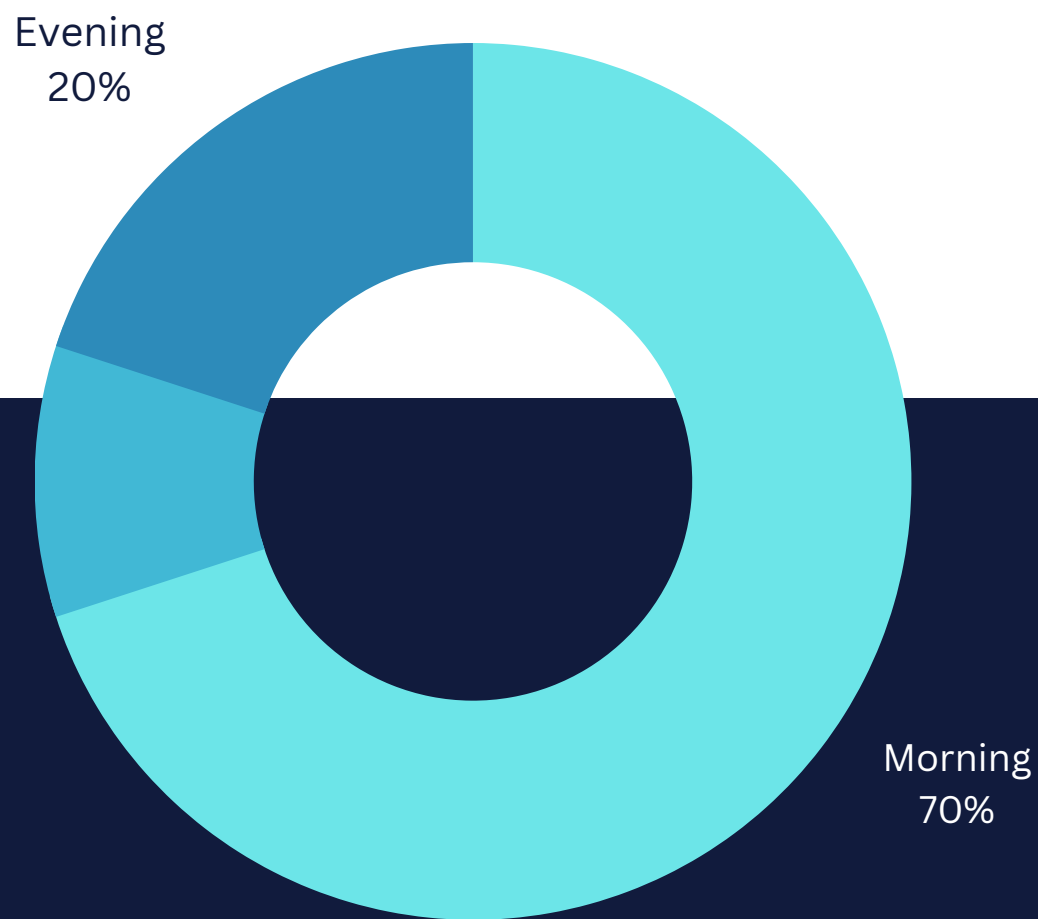
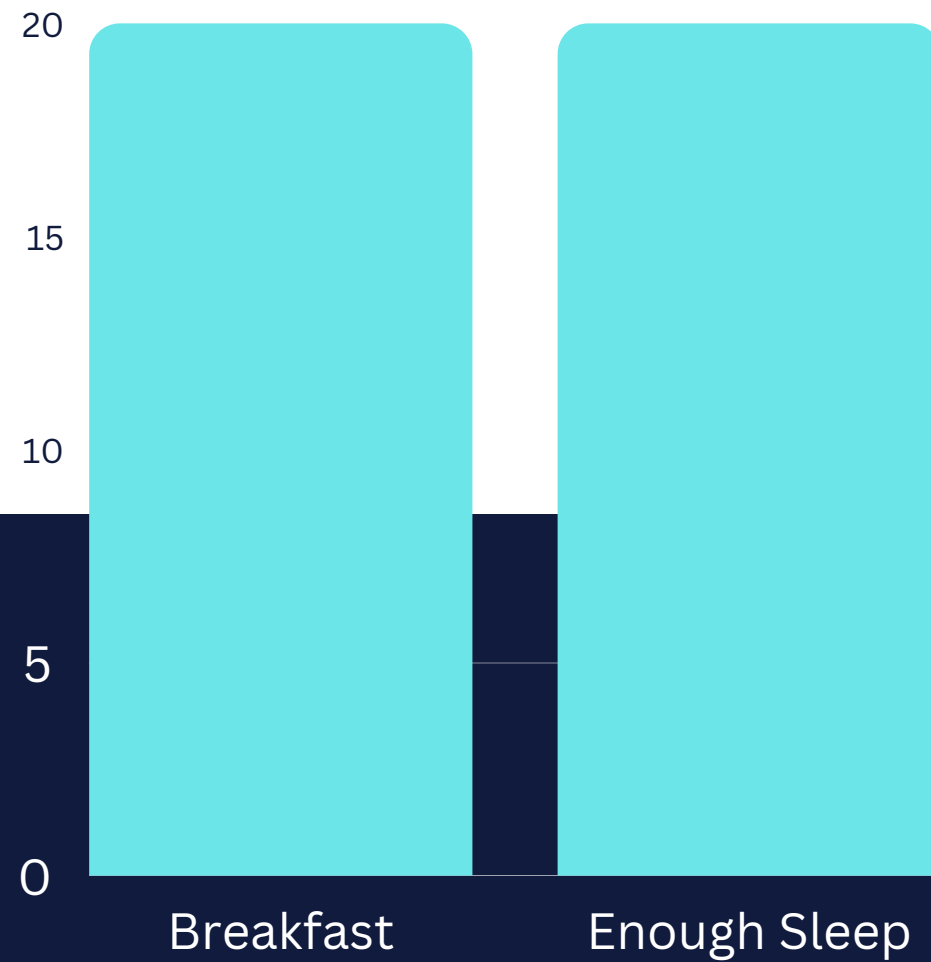
## Class Timings without Mandatory Classes

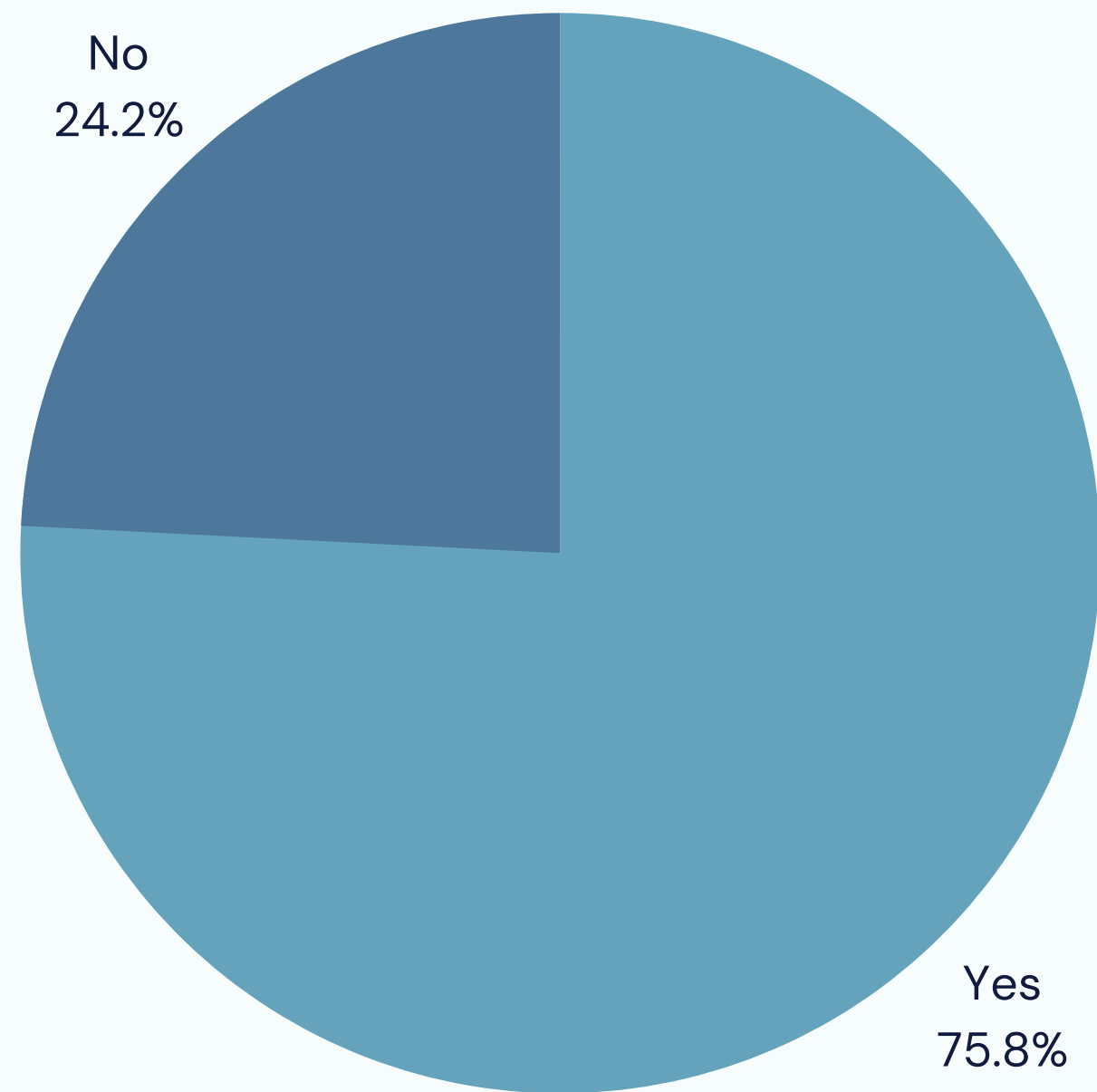




# Reasons

## Interview



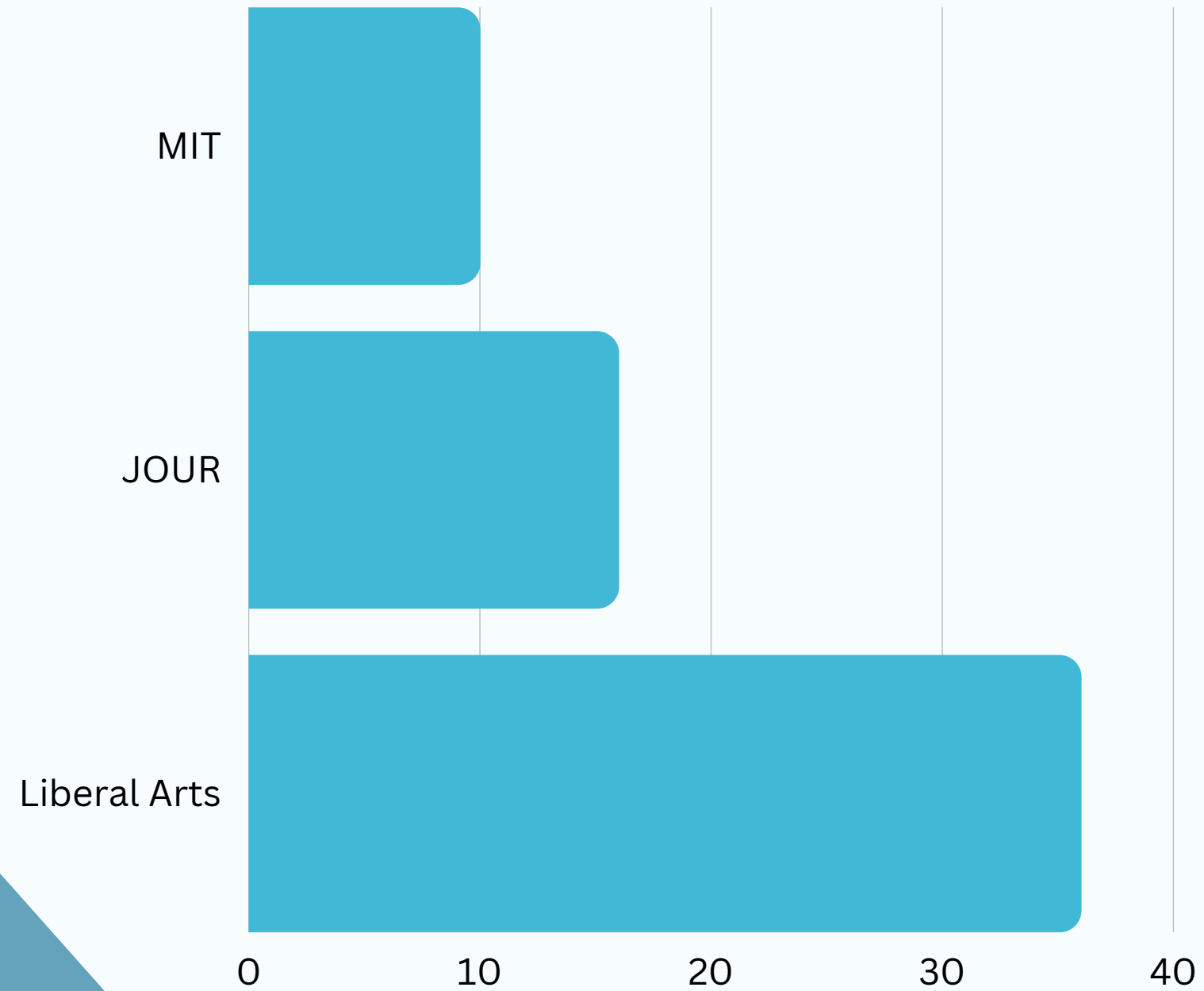


# Do you lose focus in class?

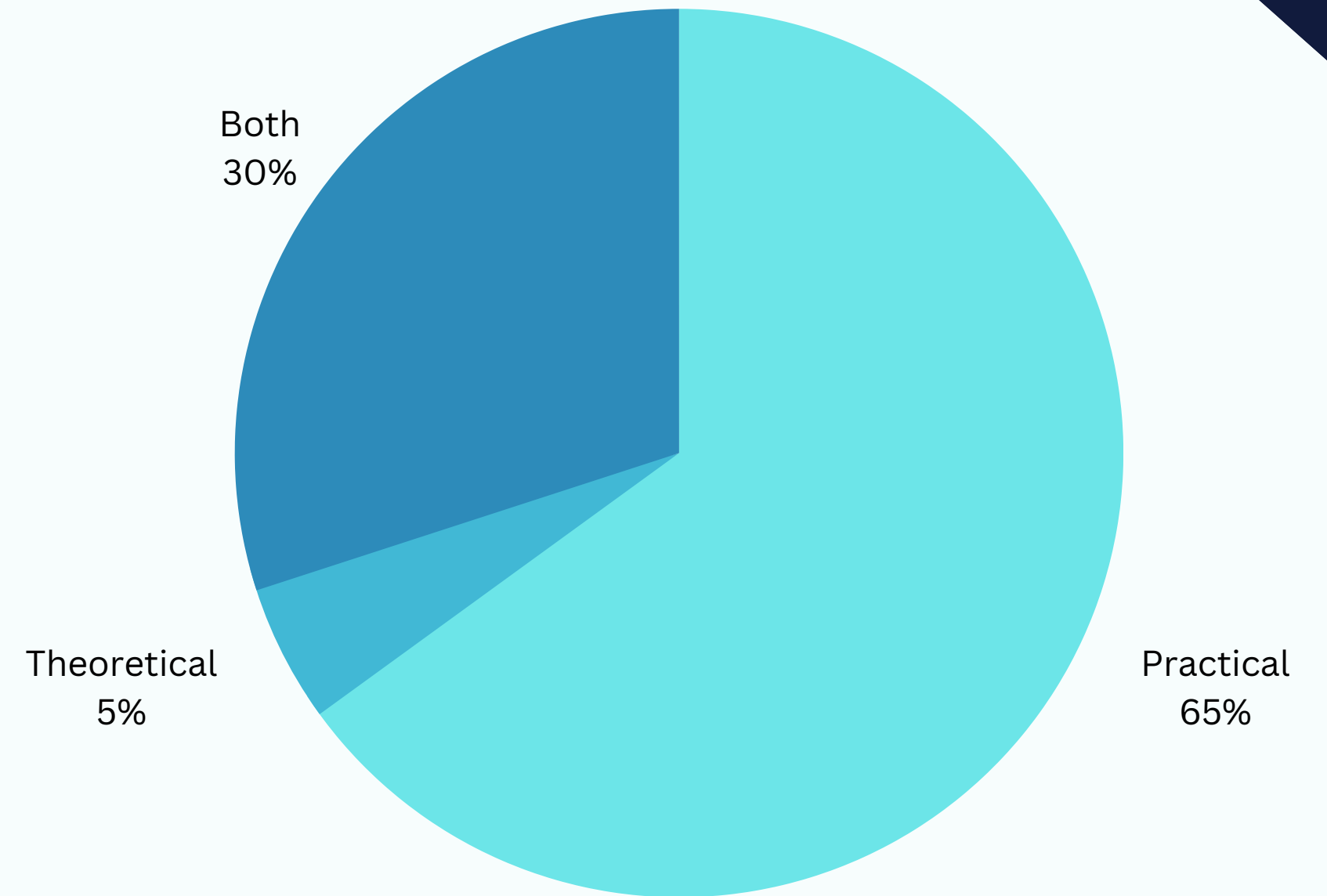
This is what our survey showed

# Theory vs. Practical Classes

Classes to Easily Lose Focus (survey)



Student Preference (interview)



# Why?

## Practical

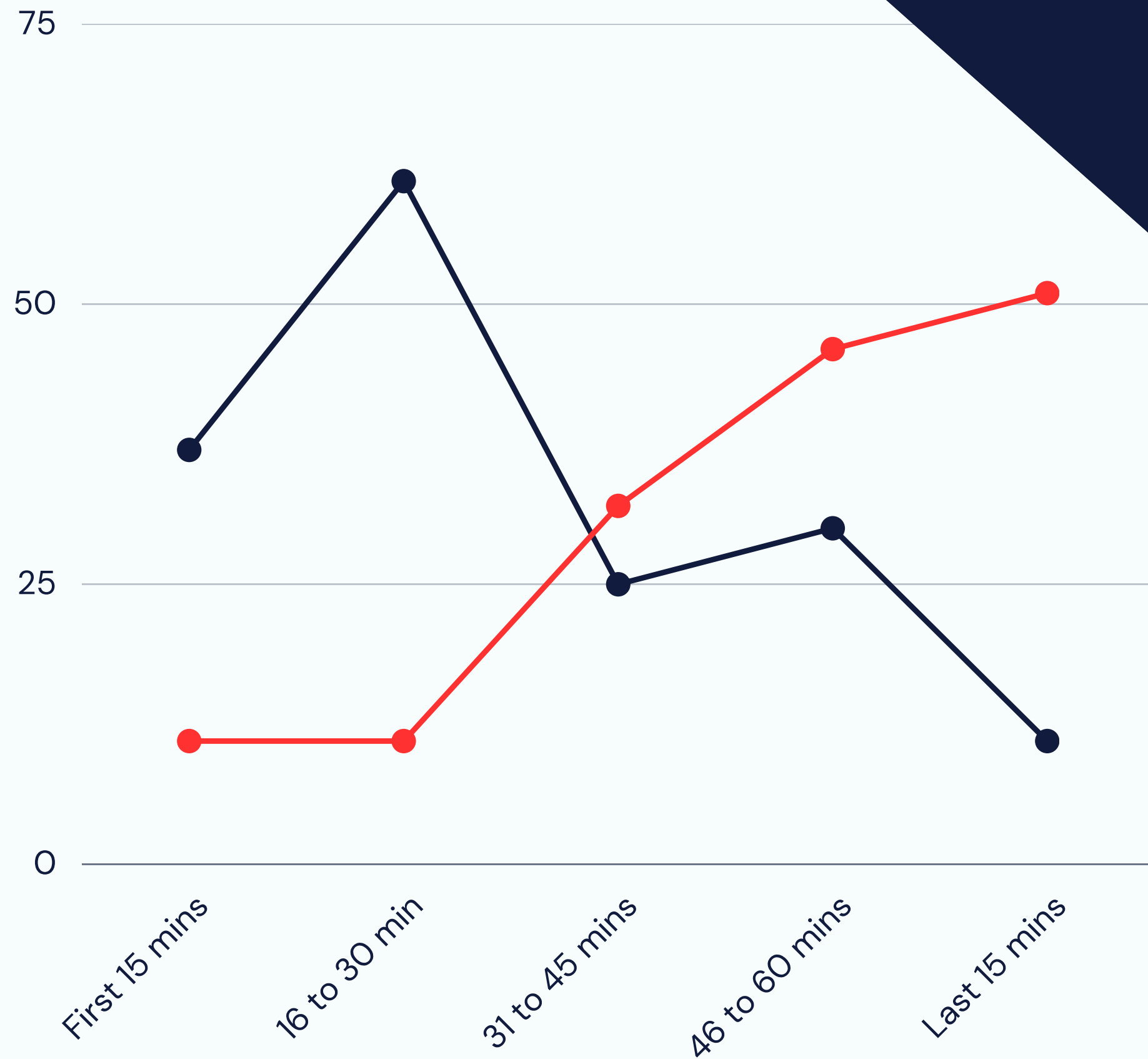
- More Engaging
- Has Nice Pace
- Improved Skill Set
- Experience

## Theoretical

- Intellectually Challenging
- Concept Formation
- Future career/ goals

# Focus in Class

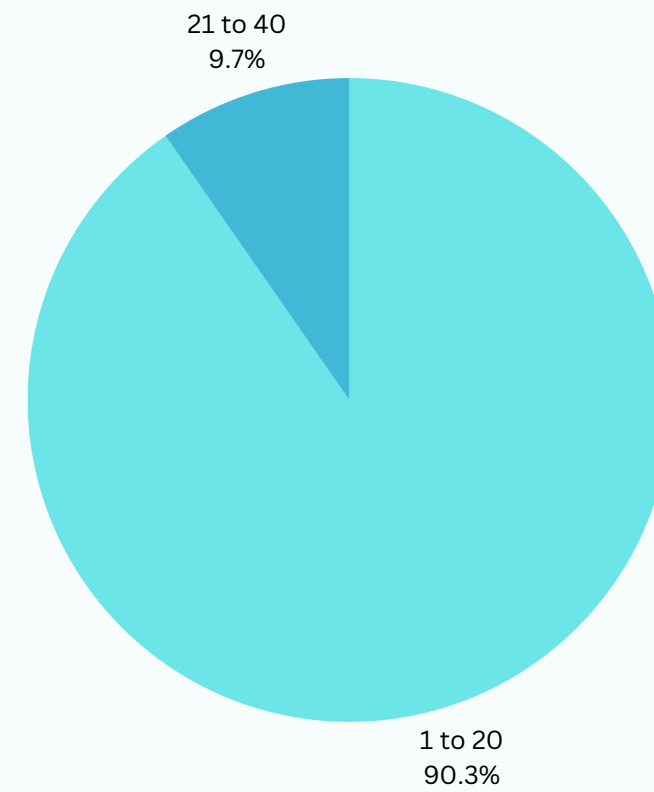
When are students more and least focused?



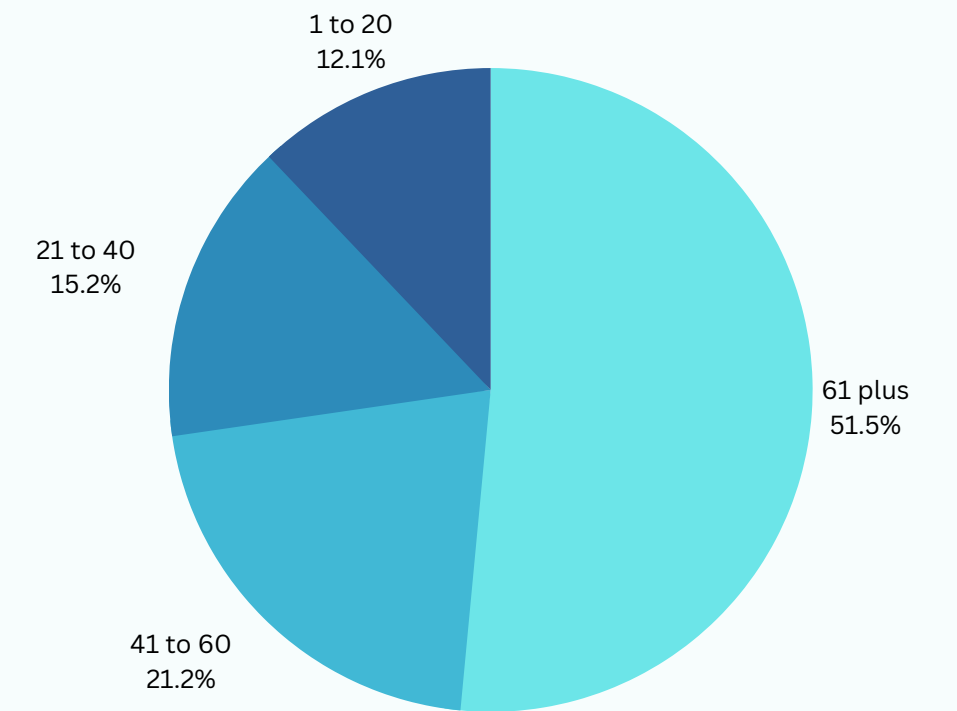
# What About Class Size?

According to Our Survey

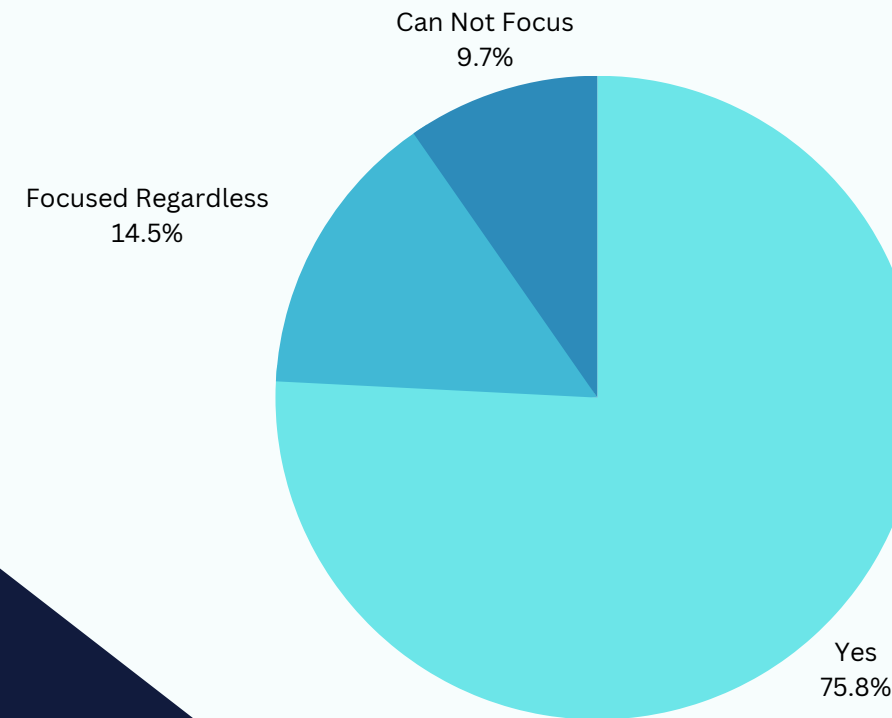
### Class Size to Focus the Most



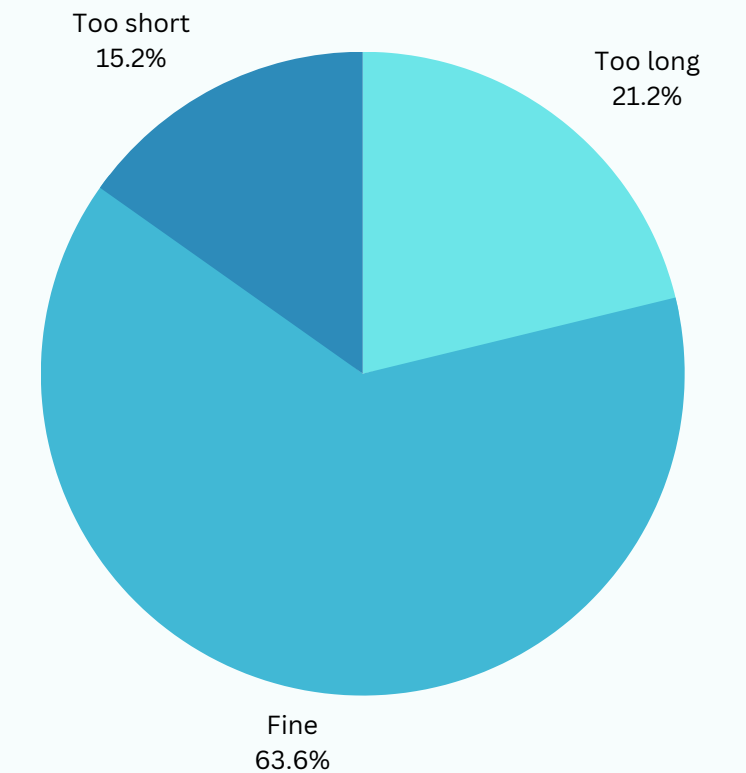
### Distractable Class Size



### Does the Subject Matter?

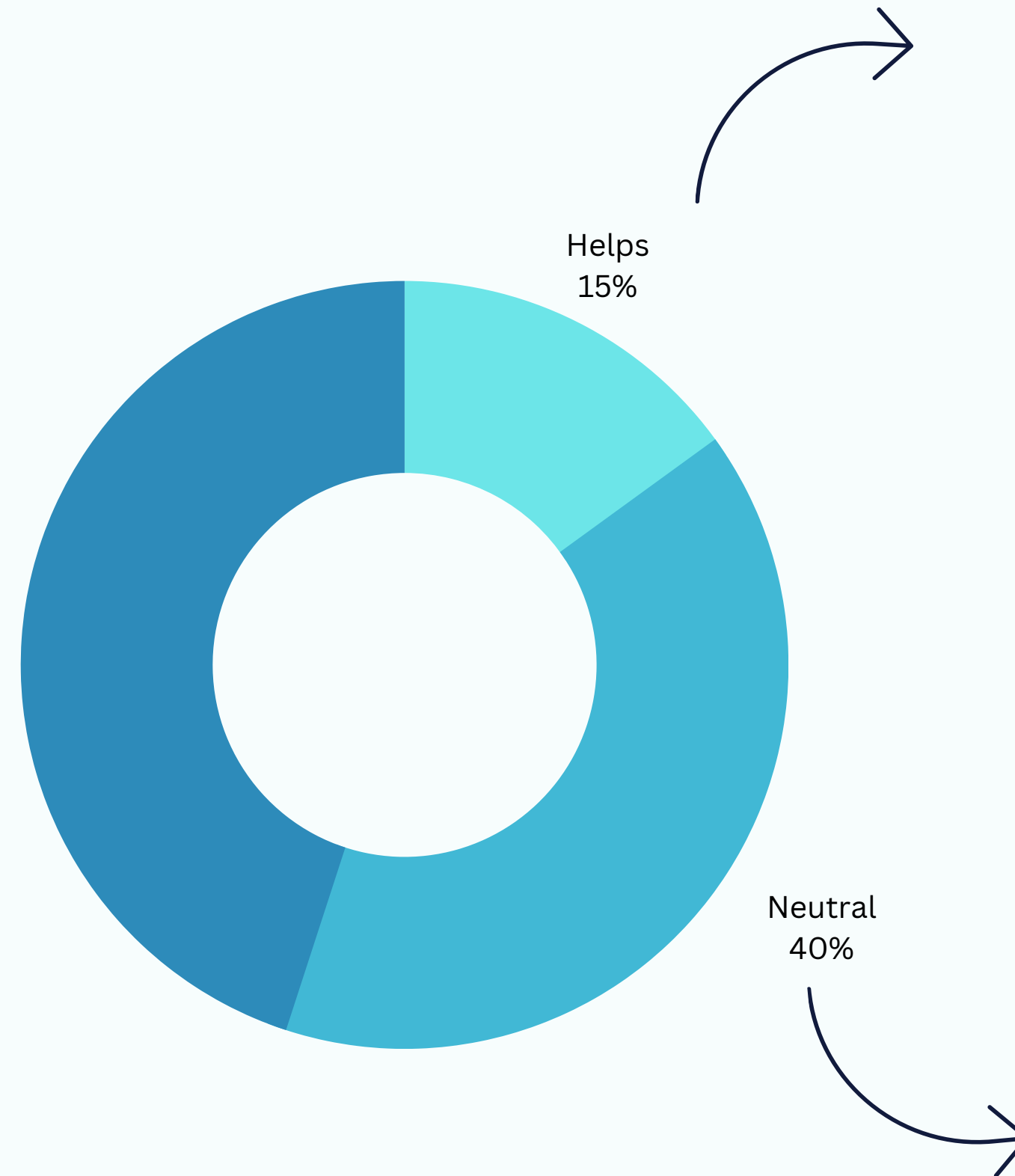


### Are Class Lengths Fine?



# Technology

How Does it Impact Students?



“  
Note taking (3)  
Refreshes mind (2)  
”

“  
Urge to play games (2)  
Visual Sensitivity (8)  
”

“  
Depends on you (8)  
Essential for class (6)  
”

# Dopamine

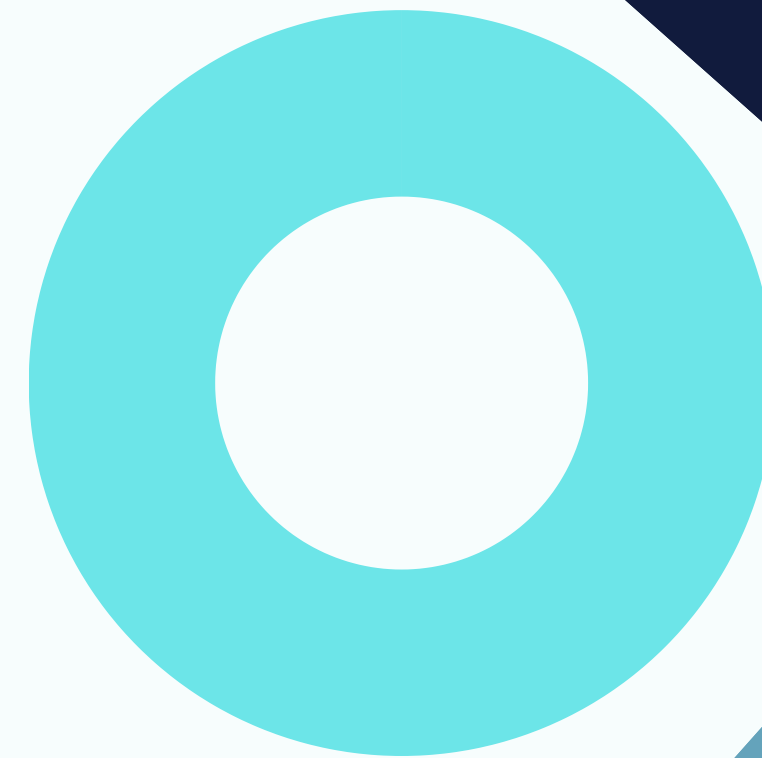
Helps Concentrate; Random Bursts; Easily Lost

# Evolution

Multitasking as a survival instinct; Subconsciously Multitask

# Social Media

Dropped attention span to 10 to 20 minute cycles; Intolerable to long content; No instant gratification



Yes  
100%



# Observation Study

● Have Laptops Open Even if There is No Need

● Equal Screen Time

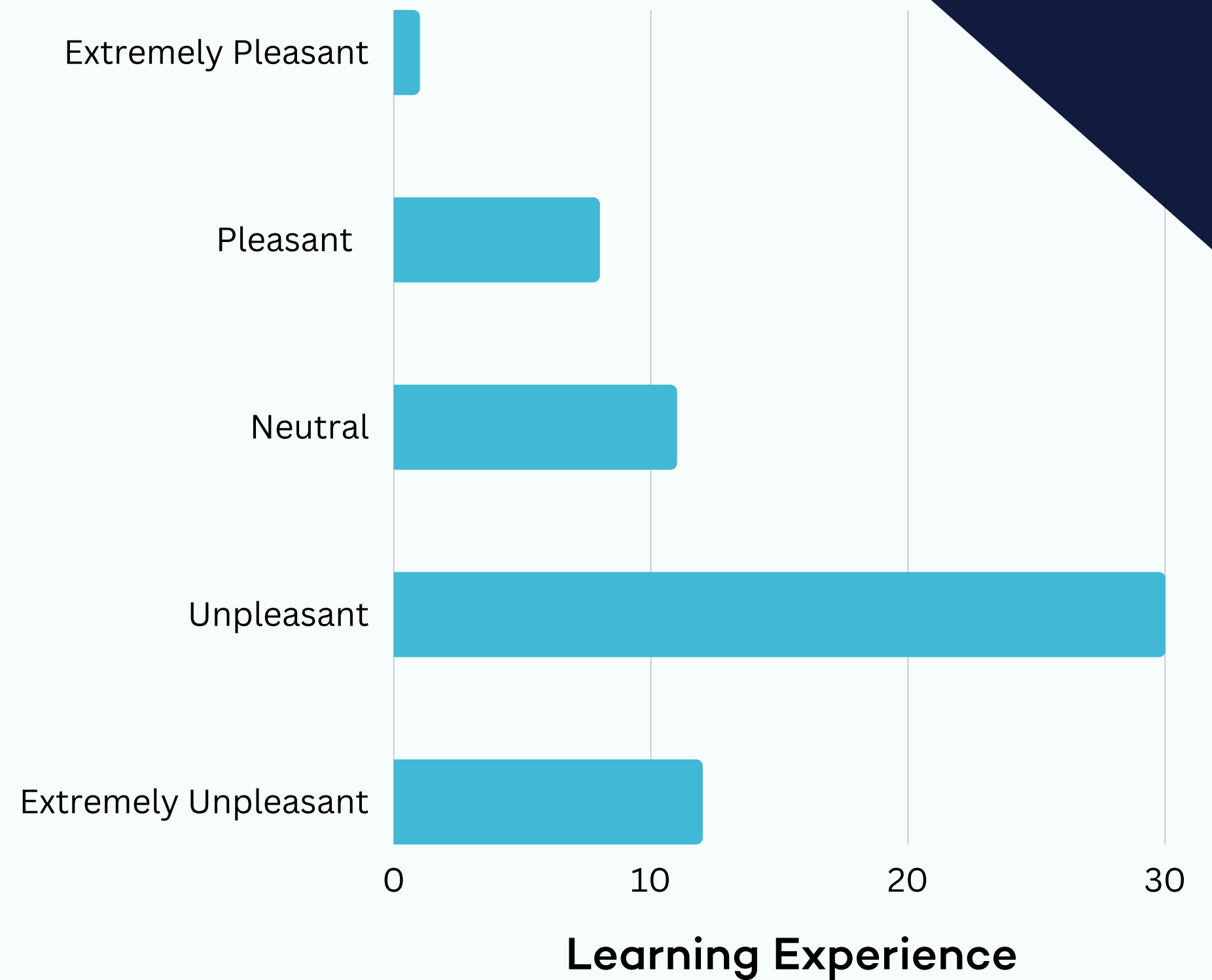
● Most Students Use It for Non Class Related Purposes

● All Students Come to Class with Laptop

# External Factors

# Factors

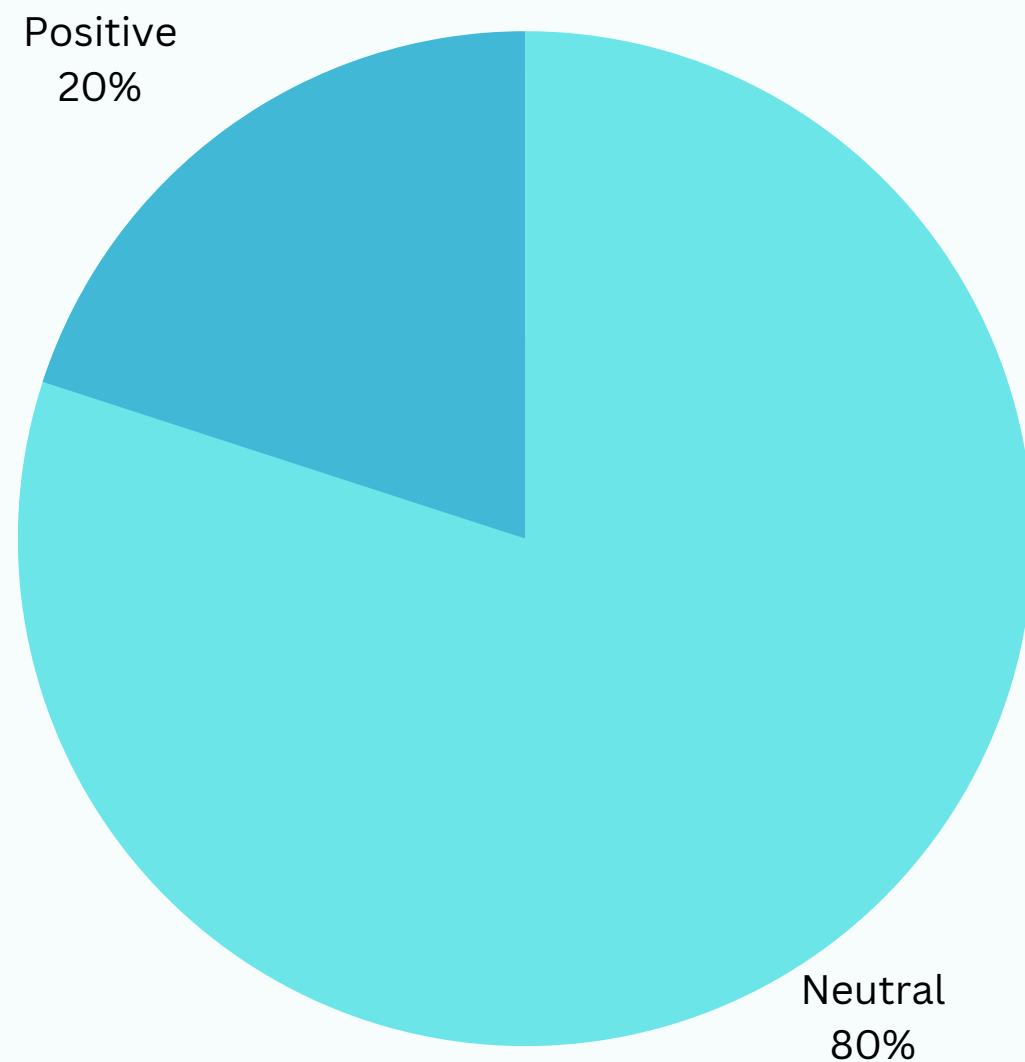
And its Impacts on Students' Learning Experience



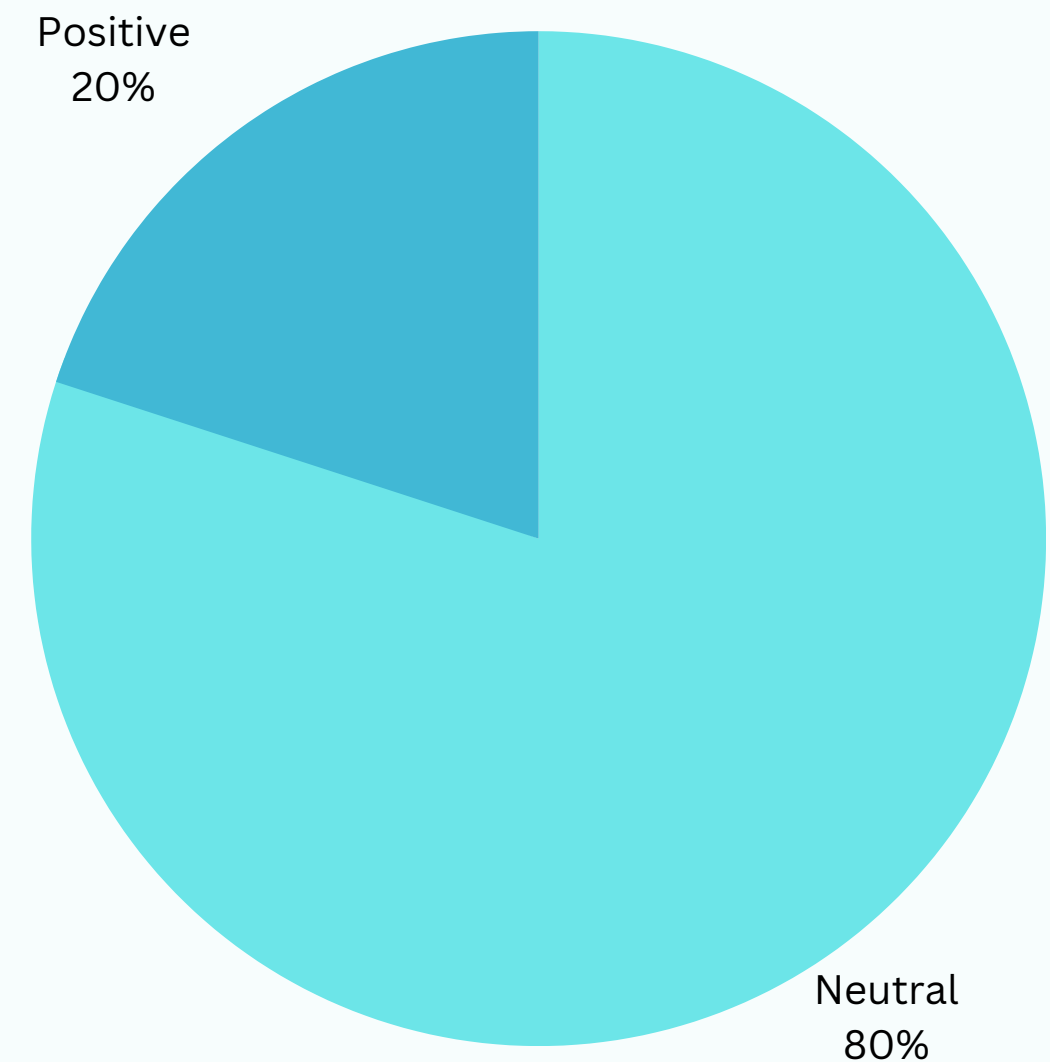
# When It Comes to Local Students

- All of them said the case for international students is different
- Do not need to worry about housing food and basic necessities
- Positive experience due to friend circles

Do External Factors Bother You?



View Towards University



# International Students

Do External Factors Bother You?

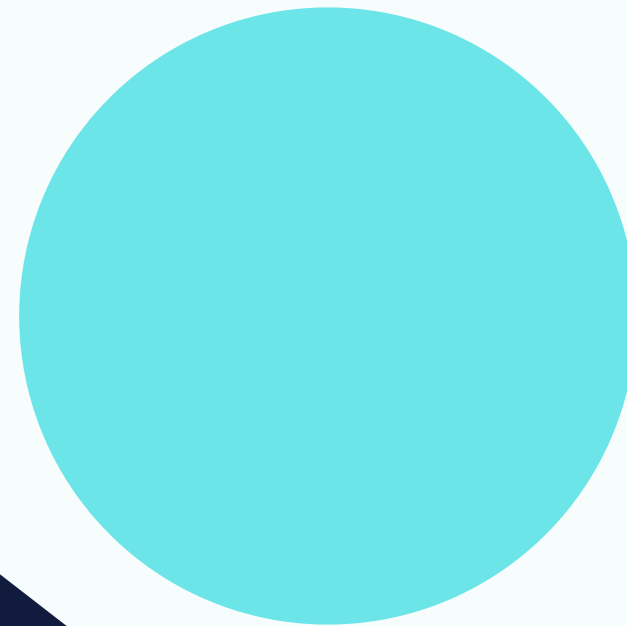
80% said They Dislike The Administration and The Only Positive Thing Are Their friends



70% Said The Campus's Quality of Student Life is Degrading Every Semester



100% Students Said They Feel Homesick



100% Students Said The Financial Policy Changes Bother Them a Lot



# For International Students

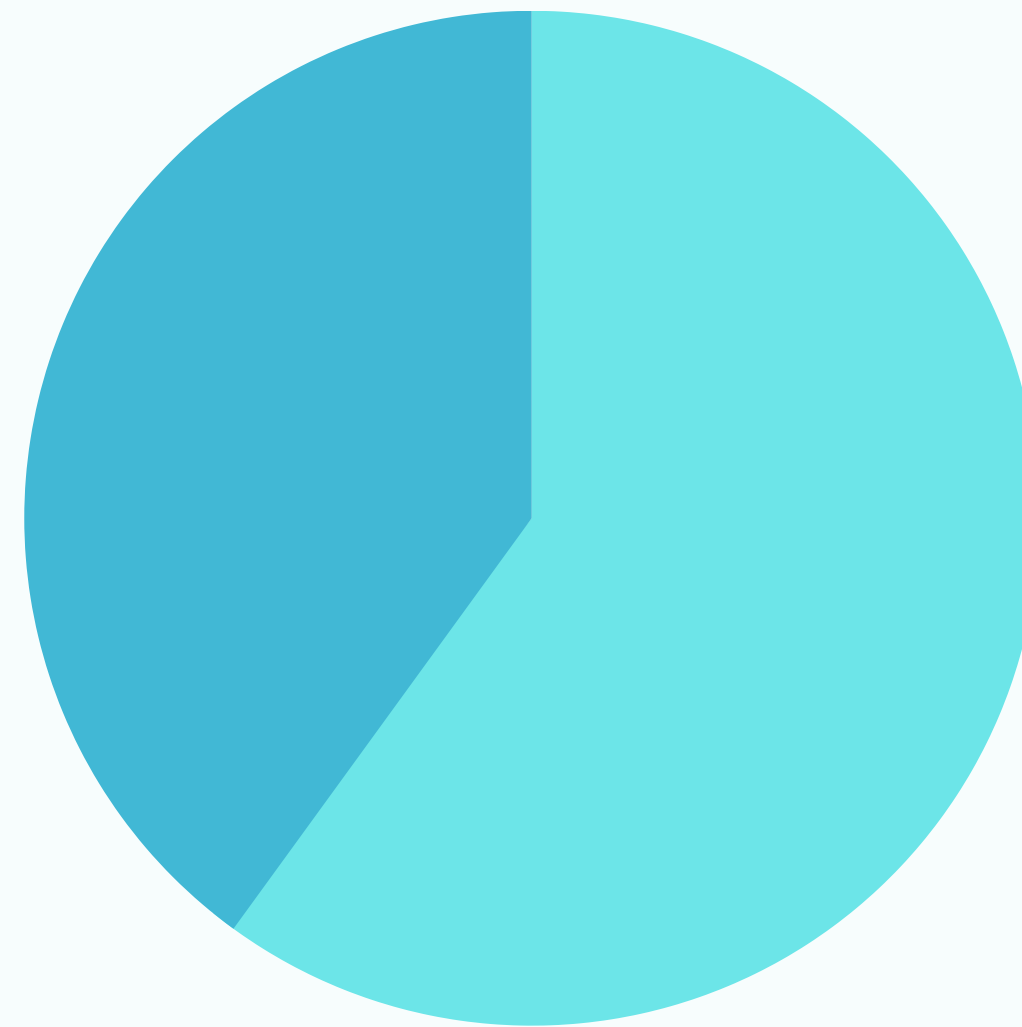
- Concerns are not heard
- They feel alienated and that they do not belong
- They are distracted in class by such issues and find it hard to focus

Views Towards University



Negative  
100%

Might Not Return  
40%

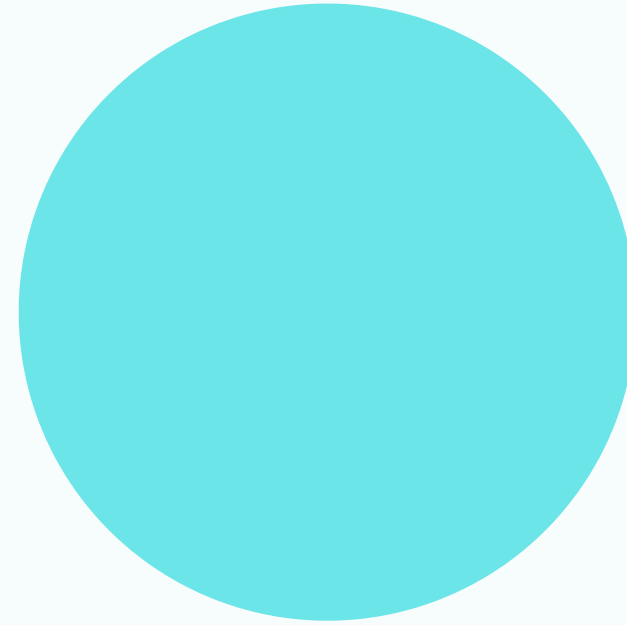


Worried About Affording Food  
60%

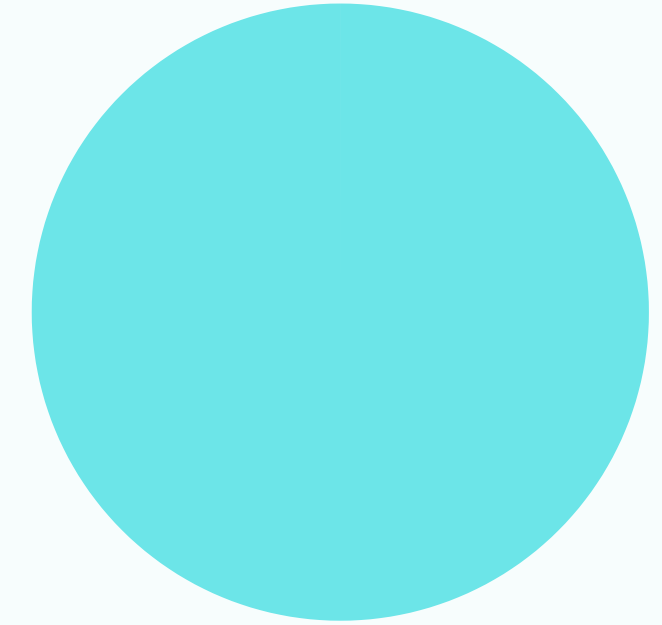
# Mandatory Classes

Frustration and Communication Error

100% Students Said "Why  
should I Take These Classes



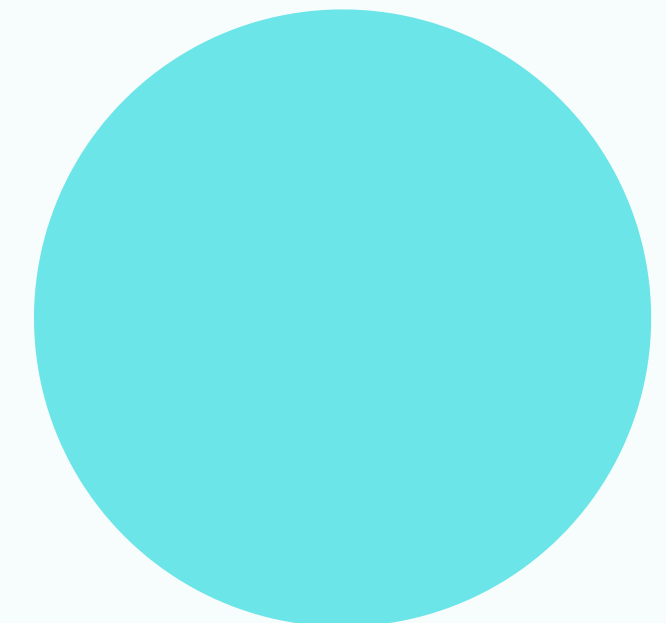
For 100% of The Students,  
They Are Unnecessary



80% Students Said it Stops  
Them From Taking Preferred  
Classes



100% Journalism Students  
Said They Have Too Many  
Requirements



# Conclusions and Recommendations

From Our Research



Things students look for in Professors

# Recommendations

- Start listening to international student body
- Proper communication regarding mandatory Classes
- Asking questions every 15 minutes to provide instant gratification
- Meal card and better financial policy



# Conclusion

Technology is a hinderance, but the students have the control

Students lose attention as the class progresses

Morning classes are more popular

There is a huge dissatisfaction with the administration

International students view the university negatively

# Thank you!

Any Questions?