From: boerkoel@g.hmc.edu <boerkoel@g.hmc.edu> On Behalf Of Jim Boerkoel
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 3:24 PM
To: All HMC Students <students@g.hmc.edu>
Cc: The Teaching and Learning Committee <tlc-l@g.hmc.edu>
Subject: Workload & Health at Mudd -- We need your help to make HMC better!

Welcome back!

In response to the events last semester that highlighted concerns of work-life balance at Mudd, the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) has been working this summer to design a study to better understand the complex nature of workload and wellness at Mudd.

The Workload & Health at Mudd (WHAM) study works like this: once a week, participating Mudders will receive a link to a short survey via email asking the amount of time they spent outside of class on each of their classes, how they felt about their courses, and whether they had time for hobbies, sleep and other aspects of wellness. The survey takes 3-5 minutes to complete. This will allow us to understand how workload ebbs and flows over the course of the semester at Mudd, and if there are differences based on class year, major, etc.

To sign up to participate, follow this link and we will follow up with you in the coming week.

Not ready to sign up? Here is a bit more information:

Who can participate in the workload study?

All Mudd students who are currently taking classes at Mudd! In order to understand workload, we need a representative sample of students at Mudd. The more HMC students who participate, the more likely the data will accurately reflect the student experience at Mudd.

When will it start?

We will start sending the weekly surveys in the third week of the semester, after the add deadline for classes (week of September 11). Prior to that, we will send a short demographics survey so we can be sure that our participant sample is representative of the HMC student body.

When will it end?

The last week of the semester (December 16th)

How much time will it take?

3-5 minutes a week.

What about confidentiality?

By participating in the weekly surveys, you are giving the TLC the permission to use your data in the study. Your responses will not be available to instructors at any time. Data will be released in the form of statistical summaries only. Under no circumstances will information from this study be reported in ways that compromise the identity of any participant.

Who is running this study?

The TLC is running the study. Data will be housed in and analyzed by the Office of Institutional Research.

Will I see a summary of the results?

The TLC hopes to release the results of the study early in the spring semester. We will release the results simultaneously to faculty, students and staff.

If you have questions/suggestions feel free to check out the <u>FAQ page</u> or to contact me or Director of Institutional Research Laura Palucki Blake at <u>lpblake@hmc.edu</u>

Cheers! Jim Boerkoel, on behalf of the TLC.

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