To verify that findings were unlikely to be confounded due to demographic differences between groups, high and low IU groups were tested for significant differences in terms of age, ethnicity, sex, and sexual orientation. An independent-samples *t*-test was computed for age, and categorical variables were tested for statistical differences using Pearson's chi-square. For categorical variables, when the assumptions required by Pearson's chi-square were met, significance values were extracted from this computation. However, in cases where the assumption of expected cell counts (no more than 20% of cells with expected frequencies < 5) was not met, Fisher's Exact Test was computed and the corrected *p*-value was extracted from this computation for those variables.

The assumption of normality was not met for age, as tested by visual inspection of Q-Q plots and the Shapiro Wilk test. However, data met the assumption of homogeneity of variances. The non-parametric Mann Whitney U was therefore computed, and revealed that there were no significant differences between groups in terms of age, U = 2585.5, p = .377. Potential group differences in ethnicity were investigated using Pearson's chi-square. The data did not meet the assumption of expected cell counts. Fisher's Exact Test therefore revealed there were no significant differences between groups in terms of ethnicity (p = .059). Group differences in sex were also investigated using Pearson's chi-square. The analysis revealed a statistically significant difference in sex between IU groups, $\chi^2(1) = 4.27$, p = .039. The observed values of each sex in each IU group were High IU: 47 female and 20 male; Low IU: 36 female and 34 male. It therefore appears there were significantly more female than male participants in the high IU group, whilst the low IU group had more equal numbers. Pearson's chi-square further demonstrated that there was no evidence of a statistical difference in sexual orientation between IU groups, $\chi^2(1) = 0$, p = .1.

Overall, these analyses demonstrated that sex should be controlled for in statistical analyses, as IU groups differed in terms of this demographic variable and it could potentially confound results.