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HESA Data (United Kingdom)

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HESA Data (United Kingdom)

2 days ago · Updated

The Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) is the official dataset of quantitative information about higher education in the United Kingdom. The dataset is managed by Jisc, our data partner.

To ensure HESA data aligns with our definitions of faculty staff and students numbers, we apply the following filters to the HESA data sets. All HESA data (except for Graduate Employment Rate) are provided as FTE (full-time equivalent) numbers.

Faculty staff:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded
Academic employment function	Research only / Teaching & research / Teaching only	Neither teaching nor research
Contract levels (grouped)	Assistant professional staff, Administrative staff / Function head / Head of Schools / Senior Function	Routine task provider / Simple task provider

	head / Junior Administrative Staff, Clerical Staff, Technician/Craftsmen, Operative / Non-Academic section manager, Senior/principal lecturer, Reader, Principal Research fellow / Professor / Senior Administrative staff (Professional/technical) Research assistant, Teaching assistant / Senior Management / Senior Professional (Technical), Lecturer, Research fellow, Researcher (senior research assistant), Teaching fellow / Team Leader (Professional, Technical, Administrative), Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Senior Research Fellow	
Length of contract	*More than or equal to 3 months*	
End date of contract (YYYY/MM)	October of the reporting period onwards (e.g. October, November etc. of 2021 onwards for the reporting period of 2021/22 academic year)	Any date before October of the reporting period (e.g. September, August etc. of 2021 onwards for the reporting period of 2021/22 academic year)

Students:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded
Length of study	More than or equal to 3 months	Less than 3 months
Incoming exchange students	All HESA values *excluded* in the Inbound exchange students (see below), i.e. Unknown and Not an incoming exchange or visiting student	All HESA values *included* in the Inbound exchange students (see below)

International students:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded
Nationality	Everything that is not excluded	UK, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Stateless, Unknown
Length of study	More than or equal to 3 Months	Less than 3 months
Incoming exchange students	All HESA values *excluded* in the Inbound exchange students (see below), i.e. Unknown and Not an incoming exchange or visiting student	All HESA values *included* in the Inbound exchange students (see below)

Inbound exchange students:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded

Incoming exchange students	Incoming ERSASMUS+ student, Incoming reciprocal Turing Scheme student, Student studying mainly in UK as part of a collaborative programme between reporting provider and an overseas provider, Student studying mainly overseas as part of a collaborative programme between reporting provider and an overseas provider, Other incoming exchange or visiting student	Unknown, Not an incoming exchange or visiting student
Length of study	More than or equal to 3 months	Less than 3 months

Outbound exchange students:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded
Mobility type	Study abroad	*Work abroad, Volunteering, Unknown*
Mobility Scheme	Erasmus+, Turing Scheme, Sandwich placement, Provider, Other scheme	-
Mobility duration	More than or equal to 3 months	Less than 3 months

Length of study	More than or equal to 3 months	Less than 3 months

Graduate Employment Rate:

HESA field	HESA values included	HESA values excluded
Activity	Full-time employment, Part-time employment, Unknown pattern of employment, Unemployed, Total with known outcomes, Total *	All other activities
Interim study	Include significant interim study	-

* This values are used to construct the target metrics:

- Graduate Employment Rate: (FT employment + PT employment + Unknown pattern of employment) / (FT employment + PT employment + Unknown pattern of employment + Unemployed)*100

- Employment survey's response rate: Total with known outcomes / Total

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Related articles

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Other terminology

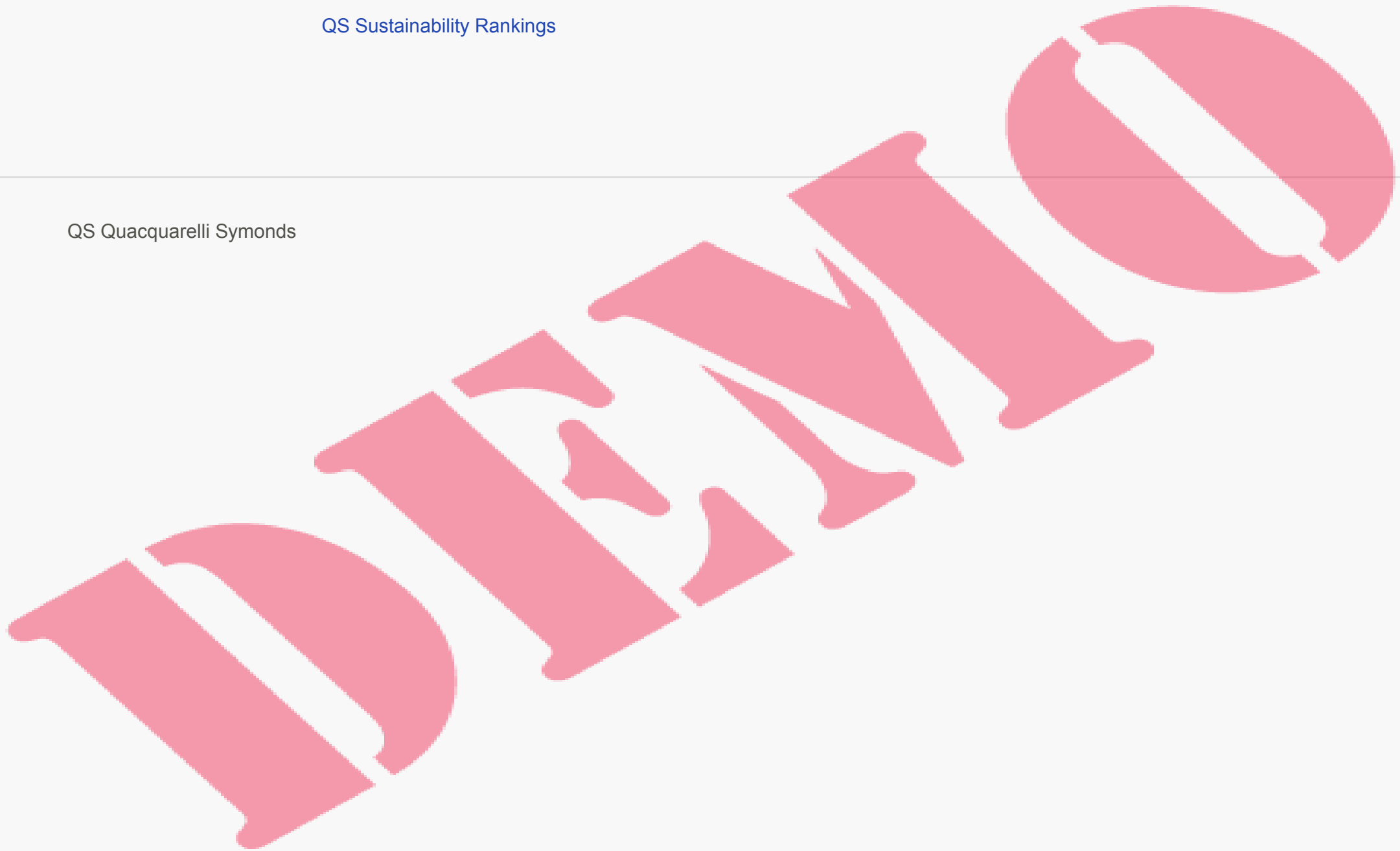QS World University Rankings

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Here are a list of other terms which are used in the discussion and dissemination of rankings.

1. How we report on the number of institutions in our analyses and rankings.

Nominated	When an institution has been 'nominated' by an academic or employer in our Global Reputation Surveys. See Survey Nominations Procedure.
Evaluated	Institutions that have been deemed as eligible and for which we have data to be evaluated.
Analysed	Institutions which met the specific inclusion criteria for the ranking (e.g. World University Ranking) and received an estimated rank in the analysis.

Ranked	Those which were analyzed and met the publication threshold for the ranking, i.e. were published. The number of institutions we publish depends on many factors, including but not limited to market needs, robustness of datasets, statistical significance of the difference between ranks, etc. For example, in QS University Rankings by Subject, we may publish 50% and more of analyzed institutions in Medicine, but less than 10% in Mining Engineering.

A worked example of the above could be:

10,000 institutions nominated

8,000 of those institutions evaluated as eligible

5,000 of those institutions met the analytical thresholds for the ranking

3,000 of those institutions were ranked (published)

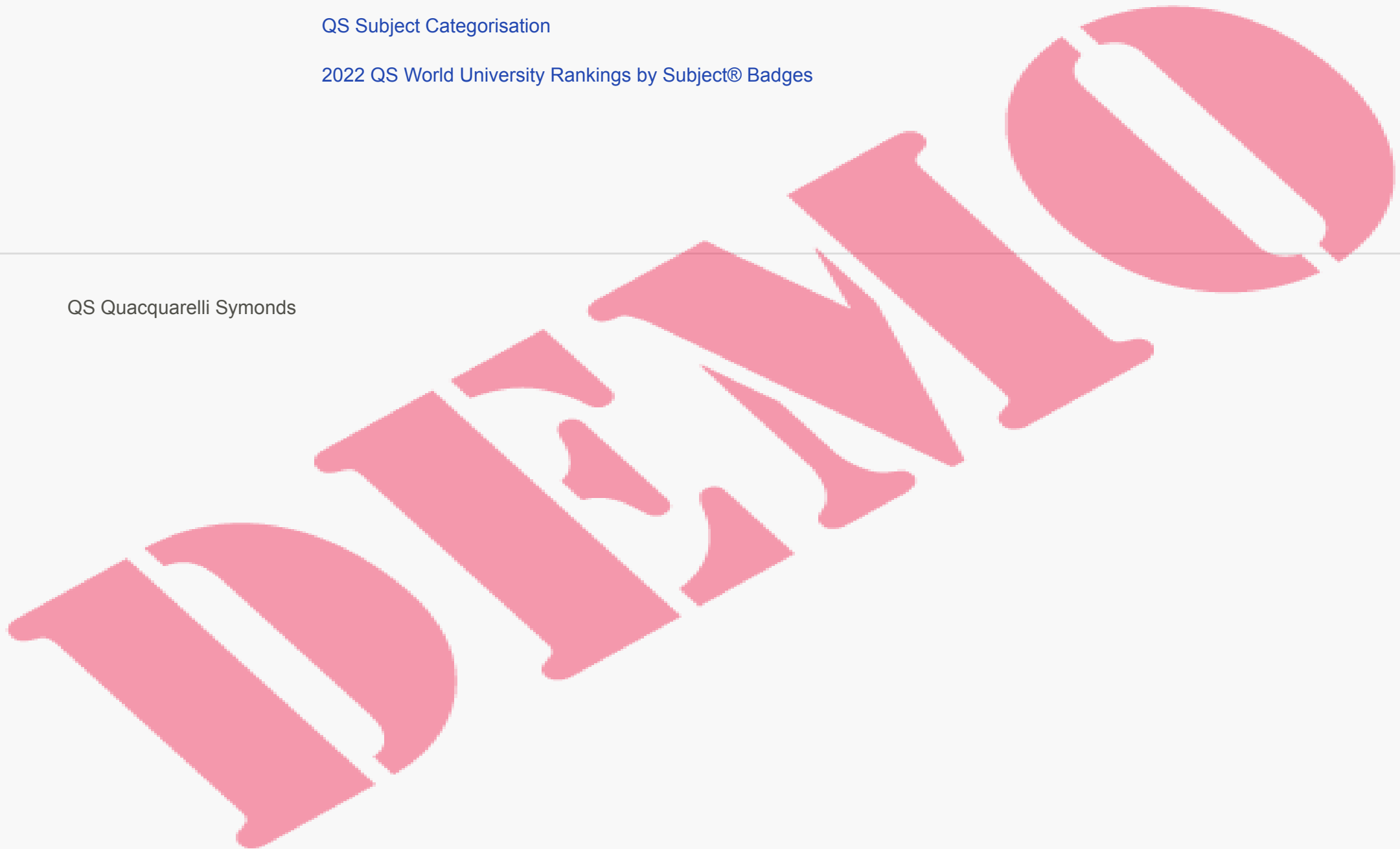Have more questions? Submit a request

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HESA Data (United Kingdom)

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Completion Rate

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Completion Rate

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By Completion Rate, we are referring to the percentage of Undergraduate students from the initial enrolment cohort that completed the degree course through to graduation. The completion rate is based on a graduating cohort from the most recent year for which you have data available. By a "graduating cohort" we mean the group of people who will graduate in the same year.

For example, in the US, most degrees are done in four years, therefore the graduating cohort in 2015 would be people who began their programmes in 2011. In this case, we would need the number of students who began in 2011 (say, 10,000) and the number of students from that group who graduated in 2015 (say, 9,000, or 90%). If the university doesn't have a typical length of time for programmes, or these vary between programmes, we would be looking for the number of people who graduated on time. For example, the 2016 cohort can be defined as: 1) students doing a 3 year degree who began studying in 2013, as well as 2) students doing a 4 year degree who began studying in 2012, as well as 3) students doing a 6 year degree who began studying in 2010. If most of the university's degree programmes are the same length, please

provide us the number of students which begun studying and graduated on time. If the programme length is variable, please submit data as per the example above.

Have more questions? Submit a request

Related articles

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QS Global Rankings Advisory Board

Survey Contacts: Submission Procedure

Guidelines for QS Global Academic and Employer Survey

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QS DATA DICTIONARY

Section 1. General Terminology

Label	Definition

Indicator	A metric used to calculate the final (overall) score for each ranking. A ranking can have multiple indicators. The weights of each indicator add up to 100% of the overall score. An example would be 'Citations per Faculty', an indicator used in our World University ranking. The full set can be found here Methods – QS Quacquarelli Symonds
Methodology	The full set of indicators and their associated processes, calculations and analysis. The methodology for each ranking can be found on the rankings page on topuniversities.com. For an in-depth look at our methodology & indicators, see Methods – QS Quacquarelli Symonds
Weight / Weighting	The percentage value given to each indicator to show its importance when compared with others in the ranking. Weights add up to 100% of the overall score.

Data Reporting Period: Academic Year	For all data, it should cover the academic year previous to our rankings cycle. Our cycles start in November of each year - so, when the cycle begins in November 2023, we are collecting data for the 2022 academic year. This will be approximately Jan to December 2022 for the Southern Hemisphere, and August 2022 to July 2023 for the Northern Hemisphere.

Section 2. Submitted data

Label	Definition
Average Fees	The average tuition fees per academic year that a local/international student would be expected to pay for an undergraduate/postgraduate program, with 'program' referring to the complete range of courses contributing to a degree/postgraduate degree. This should include all compulsory annual fees a local/international undergraduate/postgraduate student is expected to pay.

Full-time	Working or studying for at least 75% of a number of hours considered normal or standard.
Full-time equivalent (FTE)	Full Time Equivalent (FTE) is the total number of full-time personnel (staff/students) it would take to meet the commitments currently met by both the full-time and part-time personnel. If there are no part-time personnel, then FTE figure is equal to the headcount figure.
FTE suggested formula	FTE = full-time count + (part-time count/3). This can be used both for faculty staff and student calculations.
FTE average calculation	FTE = the overall commitment in hours divided by commitment in hours of a full-time personnel.
International (related to staff & students)	The term "international" should be determined by citizenship. For EU countries, this includes all foreign nationals, even if from another EU state. In Hong

		Kong SAR and Macau SAR, this includes professors from Mainland China. Inclusion and exclusion mirrors those for academic faculty staff and students more generally. In case of dual citizenship, the deciding criteria should be 'citizenship obtained through birth'.
	Students	Students refers to all students (undergraduate, masters and PhD) studying solely at your institution towards a full degree. For specific definitions of e.g. undergraduate / international / postgraduate / part-time, please see the individual definitions. Exchange and distance students are excluded. As for summer school and/or language students, if they take up a particular (language) course that is outlined as 'undergraduate degree program' and the student can earn credits towards their final degree they should be included under 'international undergraduate students'. Summer school and/or language students who take part in a course not contributing to a degree qualification should not be

| | counted under 'Total International Students'.

Foreign dual degree students can be included under 'international undergraduate students' if they fulfil above criteria, spend at least three months at the university, earn credits towards their final degree and have the university's name written on their diploma.

Exchange students should not be counted here - please see the separate definition for these students. |

Section 2.1. Staff data

Label	Definition
Academic Faculty Staff with PhD	The number of academic faculty staff employed by your institution that have a PhD or equivalent terminal degree.
Faculty Staff	Total number of academic faculty staff who are responsible for planning, directing or

undertaking academic teaching only, research only or both academic teaching and research within Higher Education Institutions.

It should include:

vice-chancellors, deputy vice-chancellors, principals and deputy principals, professors, heads of school, associate professors, assistant professors, principal lecturers, readers, tutors, researchers, research fellows or postdoctoral researchers who contribute to teaching or research or both at your university for a minimum period of at least three months.

It should exclude:

Support staff (such as technicians, grant-support staff), PhD students who contribute to teaching, hospital residents who do not teach and/or undertake research in addition to clinical duties, exchange scholars and visiting faculty staff who are members of a university other than yours. Off-shore academic faculty staff and staff that hold an academic post but are not active due to retirement or honorary appointment are also excluded.

	*The important distinction for us is that staff counted as 'research only' should be academically involved in that research and should be likely to publish research outputs.
International faculty staff	The number of academic faculty staff who contribute to teaching or research or both for a minimum period of at least three months and who are of foreign nationality. NB, The number of International Academic Faculty Staff should be included into the number of Academic Faculty Staff.
Staff gender ratio	The % of of staff recorded as Male in relation to all other registered genders such as female or non-binary.

Section 2.2. Student data

Label	Definition
Graduate & Postgraduate Students	Students pursuing a higher-level degree (Master and Doctorate), including both taught and research postgraduates (e.g. PhD students). The count should include students from all branches, affiliations,

facilities and institutions that operate under the name of the main university and are situated in the same country as the main university as well as grant diplomas with the main university's name on it. If the branch/affiliation etc. is situated abroad such students are excluded into the count.

Graduate and postgraduate are synonyms to embrace all students pursuing Masters, Doctoral or similar degrees such as 'Specialist', mainly referring to Eastern European and Central Asian countries. The term graduate is more broadly used in US institutions and postgraduate in British and European institutions. That refers to programs leading to a second tertiary degree or equivalent qualification (UNESCO ISCED-2011 Level 7) and programs designed primarily to lead to an advanced research qualification, usually concluding with the submission and defense of a substantive dissertation of publishable quality based on original research (UNESCO ISCED-2011 Level 8).

Graduate & Postgraduate International Students	Please refer to definitions for *International* and *for Graduate & Postgraduate students.*
International Students	The total number of International students (see above definitions for *International* and *Students*)
Number of student nationalities	The total number of nationalities (refer to definition of international*) studying at your institution who satisfy the definitions for students*.
Part-time graduate & postgraduate students	Students whose classroom time (either physical or virtual) or an equivalent resource commitment of an institution is less than 75% of the normal full-time annual study load. Please refer to definition for *Graduate & Postgraduate students.* It should include: evening students and weekend students, subject to 75% study load threshold is met. It should exclude: online / distance learning students, correspondence students or students of any other study mode, where

	classroom time is less than 25% of the normal full-time annual study load.
Part-time undergraduate students	Students whose classroom time (either physical or virtual) or an equivalent resource commitment of an institution is less than 75% of the normal full-time annual study load.
	Please refer to definition for *undergraduate students*.
	It should include: evening students and weekend students, subject to 75% study load threshold is met.
	It should exclude: online / distance learning students, correspondence students or students of any other study mode, where classroom time is less than 25% of the normal full-time annual study load.
Students (Overall)	The total number of all students
Inbound and Outbound Exchange	Inbound and Outbound exchange students are defined as:
	Inbound:

students registered at a foreign university that attend your institution on international exchange programs for at least one semester during the annual reporting period.

Outbound:

students registered at your university that attend a foreign university on an international exchange program for at least one semester during the annual reporting period.

Criteria

- Exchange programs that award credits but are less than one semester in duration are to be excluded.
- The exchange must be academic in nature and acknowledged by a formal agreement between the two Higher Education Providers.
- The international exchange programme must be between universities, NOT between a university and a company OR corporation OR a university with its international/offshore campuses.

	Counting: Here, 1 FTE can be arrived at so long as the minimum requirements listed above can be met. Variations could include: - Student 1: 6 months exchange. Full-time. This is 1 FTE. - Student 2: 12 months part time. 1 FTE - Student 3: 12 months full time. This should also be 1 FTE.
Undergraduate students	Total number of students pursuing a Bachelor's level or equivalent degree*. *This includes programs leading to a first tertiary degree or equivalent qualification (UNESCO ISCED-2011 Level 6). This excludes certificates/diplomas and associate degrees. The count should include students from all branches, affiliations, facilities and institutions that operate under the name of the main university and are situated in the same country as the main university as well as grant diplomas with the main university's

| | name on it. If the branch/affiliation etc. is situated abroad such students are excluded from the counts.

It should exclude: online / distance learning students, correspondence students or students of any other study mode, where classroom time is less than 25% of the normal full-time annual study load. |
| Undergraduate international students | The number of undergraduate students who are foreign nationals and who spend at least three months at the university's domestic physical campuses. See also *International (related to Staff and Students). |

Section 3. Fee data

Label	Definition
Postgraduate fees - Domestic	The average fees for a full year of a degree that a domestic postgraduate student is expected to pay. This includes all compulsory annual fees.

Postgraduate fees - International	The average fees for a full year of a degree that an international postgraduate student is expected to pay. This includes all compulsory annual fees.
Undergraduate fees - Domestic	The average fees for a full year of a degree that a domestic student is expected to pay. This includes all compulsory annual fees.
Undergraduate fees - International	The average fees for a full year of a degree that an International student is expected to pay. This includes all compulsory annual fees.
Scholarship	A grant or payment made to support a student's education, awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement. For rankings purposes, this is for fees only. The fund may come from the university, a private company, or a philanthropic organization.
100% Scholarship	As above, that covers a full academic year for full payment of fees

50% scholarship	As above, but at least to 50% of full fees per academic year.

Section 4. Additional data

Label	Definition
Completion rate	The percentage of Undergraduate students from the initial enrolment cohort that completed the degree course through to graduation in 100% of the allocated time. Please see here.
Continuation rate	The percentage of undergraduates who complete their degree (see above) and go on to postgraduate study at the same or another university within 2 years of graduating.
Employment rate	See https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4405249339666-Graduate-Employment-Rate.
Online learning infrastructure	Online systems such as Blackboard, Moodle, Edmodo, SumTotal Systems, Skillsoft, Cornerstone, Desire2Learn, Schoology, NetDimensions, Collaborize

	Classroom, Docebo, Interactyx, Kahoot, Google Classroom, Canvas by Instructure.
Retention rate	The percentage of first-year undergraduate students who continue to their second year of study.

Section 5. Sustainability: Environmental, Social & Governance

Label	Definition
Climate Strategy Document	A published or official framework where the institution explains their overall strategy and commitment to alleviating climate change.
First-generation learners	The percentage of students whose primary guardians (parent(s)/caregiver) did not complete an undergraduate college or university degree. If either parent or guardian attended university (if more than one), students are excluded from this count.

University leadership team	The definition of 'leadership' here is the executive leader of the university plus the highest level of university management. To draw parallels from the corporate world, it is is the 'C-Suite' - e.g. the CEO, COO, CFO, COO and so forth. The important point is that these individuals report into the executive manager of the university. In our experience, the total headcount for 'leadership' would not much exceed 10 people, although there are of course exceptions to this.
Water consumption	The total water consumption for all buildings, both academic and residential, for the previous reporting year. This year should match the year used for submitting staff & student data. It should be given in cubic meters (m3). If your institution records this in a different format, please convert to m3 for submission.
Energy Consumption	The total energy consumption for all buildings, both academic and residential, for the previous reporting year. This should match the year used for submitting staff & student data.

Carbon Emissions	Total *greenhouse gas emissions* for all buildings, both academic and residential, for the previous reporting year. Reported in kg CO2e.
Student-led society for sustainability	The presence of a student-led society on issues of sustainability provides future students the opportunity to be part of a likeminded group on this issue, and demonstrates a supportive campus atmosphere. We ask for proof as a link to the society, or a link to a document that outlines the structure, governance and key stakeholders of the society.
Ethics committee	The presence of a dedicated ethics committee is an important sign that research is being conducted with transparency and oversight, and that key ethical concerns can be properly raised and escalated. We may ask for proof of such a committee, which can take the form of: a link and or a document outlining the structure, governance and key stakeholders of the committee.
Department with sustainability-focused degrees	A department which offers undergraduate or postgraduate degrees in subjects which tackle issues of sustainable development.

		Some examples may include: Environmental Sustainability BSc / MA Sustainable Development / BA in Social Ecology / BSc in Sustainable Engineering / BS in Conservation Management. These are just a few examples. If in doubt, please submit a ticket and ask our team to guide you.
	Research Centre with sustainability focus	A research centre that exists to conduct research into topics of sustainable development. This should be a named centre, with a director and centre-specific staff. It may be research only, or research & teaching combined.
	Sustainable procurement / purchasing policy	A publicly accessible policy (e.g. on an institution's website, or as part of an annual report) that sets out how the university plans to procure (purchase) in a sustainable manner, by, for example, purchasing from local suppliers, or using only recycled materials in building work. This is a key feature of corporate social responsibility.
	Sustainable investment policy	A publicly accessible policy (e.g. on an institution's website, or as part of an annual report) that sets out how the university invests in a sustainable manner, by, for

	example, investing in renewable energies or in medicines to tackle global health crises. Socially responsible investing is a key feature of corporate social responsibility.
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy	A publicly available policy that sets out an approach to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at the institution. It should clearly state what actions are being taken to promote diversity (race / gender / sexual orientation / disability) and how the institution is creating an inclusive study and work environment.
Governance minutes	The minutes from your university's governance meetings. This would typically be a meeting held by the senate, board or equivalent governing body and be annual or bi-annual. Minutes should be recorded in clear and concise form, and would typically include: • the **formal recommendations**, and **formal decisions** which a committee has made, in line with its terms of reference. The minutes should be publicly available. This is a key feature of good and

	transparent governance.

Section 6.

Business School Rankings (MBA, Online MBA, Executive MBA, Business Masters)

Table 1. Employment Statistics & Student Definitions

All schools participating in our business school rankings are asked to submit employment data by the following categories, as per MBA CSEA.

Label	Definition
Graduating Class	All MBA students graduating during the 12 months ending June 30th. This includes all graduates (Full-Time, Part-Time and Other). As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Seeking Employment	Graduates reporting seeking full-time professional MBA-level employment. This includes those graduates seeking and/or accepting a position with a start-up company. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Company-sponsored / Already Employed	Graduates reporting not seeking employment because they were financially sponsored by an employer during the

	MBA and are intending to return to that employer, in a guaranteed position, for which they need not apply. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Continuing Education	Enrolled/will enroll in further graduate studies. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Postponing Job Search	Graduates reporting postponing their job search for a specific reason, e.g., spouse is relocating, taking a long trip before commencing the job search. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Starting a New Business as Owner	These graduates belong in the N*ot Seeking Employment* category. We do not include graduates in this category who accept jobs with a salary in a new business or a start-up; those graduates should be in the Seeking Employment category. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
Not Seeking for Other Reasons	Other reasons as defined and reported by the graduate. This includes graduates of dual-degree or joint-degree programs who are not seeking MBA-level employment. As specified by MBA CSEA standards.
No Recent Information Available	This category includes those graduates who may be seeking employment or who may not be seeking employment, but for whom you have no recent reliable

| | information. As specified by MBA CSEA standards. |

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Guidelines for QS Global Academic and Employer Survey

International Research Network (IRN) Index

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Citations per Paper

Partnerships with Employers

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MBA/Masters FAQ

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EMBA/Online MBA

MBA/Masters FAQ

2 months ago · Updated

Q: Where can I find the full methodology for the MBA Rankings?

A: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4414605870610-Global-MBA-Ranking

Q: What are the criteria for eligibility?

A: The criteria are the following:

- There should be at least an average amount of 20 people in the class
- Schools and programs should be accredited by either AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, EPAS. We also accept schools which have rated 3 or more on QS Stars
- All programs should have at least one graduating class.
- All programs should be mostly taught face to face and have a full time option

Q: What does the term "tuition fees" refer to?

A: "Tuition fees" stands for the published financial cost a student must pay for an educational programme. This should exclude additional charges such as registration or application costs.

Q: How do you define "international students" in the survey?

A: Number of students who are foreign nationals. The term 'international' is hereby determined by citizenship.

EU countries: include all foreign nationals, even nationals from other EU states.

Hong Kong: include students from Mainland China.

In case of dual citizenship, the deciding criteria should be 'citizenship obtained through birth'. Please visit Data Appendix – QS Quacquarelli Symonds for more information.

Q: How do I submit employer/academic lists?

A: Every school will be invited to the survey individually. Please contact our support team via our helpdesk (Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds) if you need help.

Q: What is the deadline for the employer/academic lists to be submitted?

A: 5th Feb of February 2024.

Q: May I have an extension on the deadline date?

A: This is usually possible within reason. Please contact our support team via our helpdesk (Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds) if you need to ask for an extension.

Q: Can I fill out the survey in PDF, Word or Excel formats?

A: No. We need the survey to be done online through our data submission portal. Please contact our support team via our helpdesk (Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds) if you do not have login details, or need further support.

Q: If I open a survey, does that mean I show my intent to submit information?

A: No. We will only consider finalised applications that have been submitted by the school.

Q: Why can I only see previous surveys and not the current ones?

A: Open the portal and scroll down; click on "Start New Application" - the new surveys will then appear.

Please contact our support team via our helpdesk (Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds) if you do not have login details, or need further support.

Q: Do you survey alumni as part of the ranking?

A: Not directly. However, if they have gone on to become academics or in positions of hiring responsibility in companies, they may be surveyed as part of our Academic and Employer Reputation surveys.

Q: What is your policy regarding GDPR?

A: QS is GDPR compliant. We treat all data safely and securely. For more information please visit Information_Security_Policy.pdf (qs.com).

Please note that contact details provided for the surveys:

- Will not be used for any commercial or business matters,
- Will be used for the sole purpose of inviting participants to the relevant QS reputation survey, which will inform the QS World University Rankings.
- Will not be submitted or transferred to any other organisation.
- QS will ensure that all rights of the 'data subject' will be preserved.

Q: If you don't survey alumni then why do you request alumni contact details?

A: Alumni may be featured on our websites, we may also quote them in webinars or other QS marketing materials. Please note that alumni information will not be used to build or inform any of our rankings. If we do use any alumni-related information we will contact them before using their information or before the ranking is released.

Q: How do you define Masters in Management?

A: Masters in Management, or MIM, is a postgraduate academic degree that provides general management and organisation's knowledge. Recently, the MIM has been developed as an affordable alternative to the Master of Business Administration (MBA), for graduates from diverse disciplinary backgrounds with little or no professional business experience who wish to transition towards a career in management.

Q: Should I just include Full Time faculty?

A: Please also count Full Time Equivalent FTE as per definitions here Data Appendix – QS Quacquarelli Symonds.

Q: Should I just include Faculty that is relevant to a particular programme, or count the whole Faculty cohort of the Business School?

A: Please include the cohort of Faculty staff.

Q: When counting Faculty staff, should I just include core staff or core and adjunct Faculty?

A: Please use both core and adjunct Faculty staff.

Q: What do you mean by "advanced degrees"?

A: We are referring to 'postgraduate' degrees.

Q: We are not sure whether our programme is suitable for your ranking, as its name is slightly different to the QS ranking name.

A: If the course content and class profile is comparable to the other programmes in the ranking, please feel free to add relevant information. We understand that names of programmes tend to fluctuate across institutions.

Please reach out to our specialist team on Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds to discuss this matter further if necessary.

Q: Do I have to fill out all of the rankings surveys?

A: No. We know some schools don't collect every data point we are asking for. The most important responses are the questions connected to the rankings (as indicated in the survey). Please note that if you do not provide responses to these questions, QS will look for publicly available information and/or make estimates as necessary.

Q: Does it affect my rank if I don't submit employer/academic contacts?

A: If you supply employer and academic contacts then this should increase your chance of being nominated. However, it might also increase the chance of some of your peers being nominated. The survey is well established - we receive around 40,000 responses a year. Given this large database of existing employer nominations, not submitting a list is unlikely to impact your final ranking position. However, it has the potential to make a marginal difference in your reputation scores, especially if you are located in an underrepresented market.

Q: After I have submitted all data, can I get a copy of what I submitted?

A: Of course. You will be able to see a PDF of your answers on your dashboard. Please contact us Submit a request – QS Quacquarelli Symonds if you need further help.

Q: When will I receive my institution's results?

A: We aim to send a detailed competitive fact file of your results approximately two weeks before launch. Please ensure QS has the right contact/s in your institution who will receive these files.

Q: When do you plan to release the results?

A: We aim to release the results at the end of September. Please visit 2024 Global MBA and Business Masters Ranking Cycle – QS Quacquarelli Symonds for information and deadlines.

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Related articles

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Eligibility Criteria

3 years ago · Updated

- Schools must have at least one graduating class.
- The average class size must be at least 20 people
- Schools must have either AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS or EPAS accreditation. We also
  allow schools which have rated at least 3 or more QS Stars.

Have more questions? Submit a request

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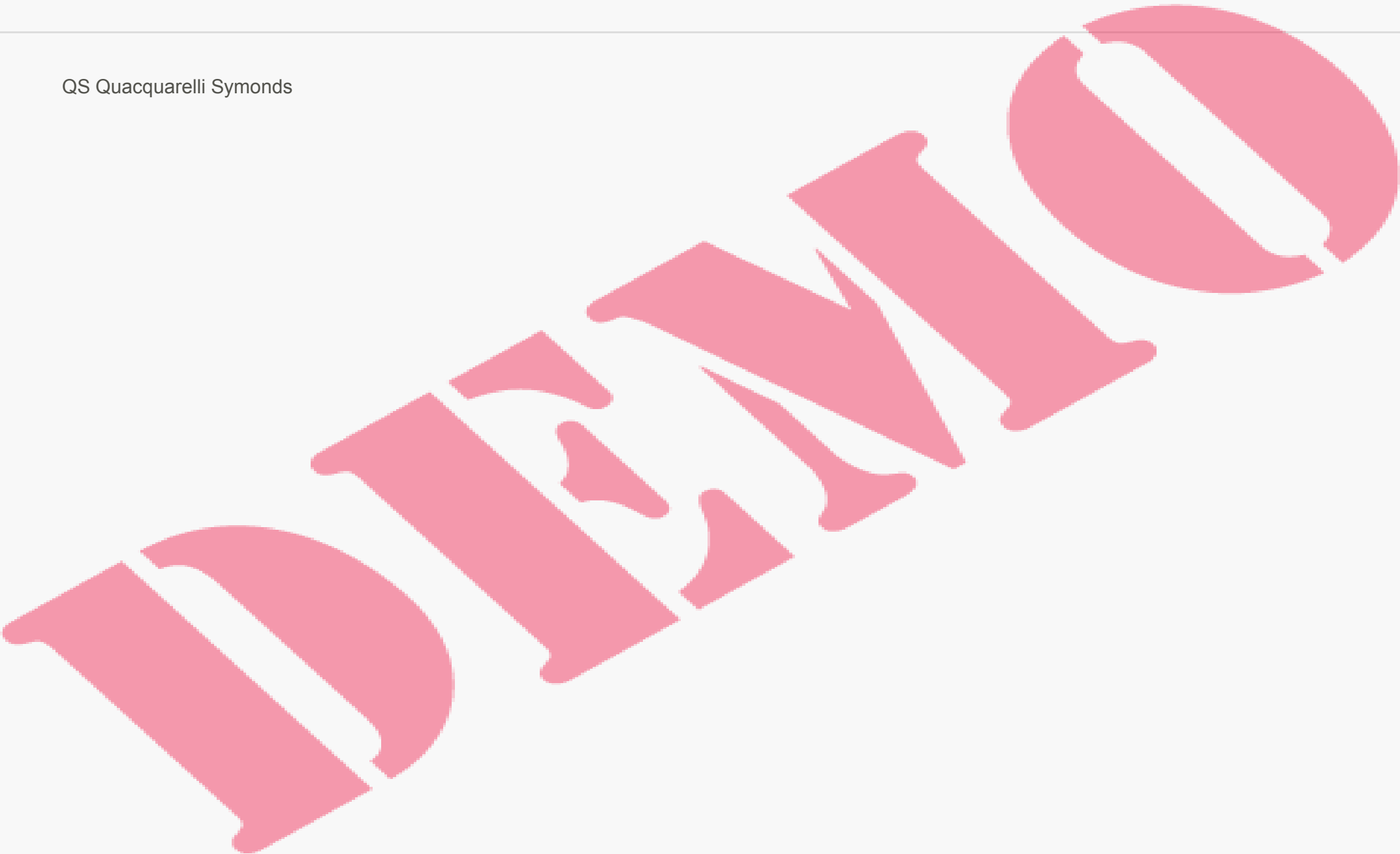
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Data Collection Interface

3 years ago · Updated

The data collection interface for all Business School Program Rankings can be found here.

Please log a ticket at support.qs.com if you do not have a login.

Please specify if you would like a login for the business school interface and not Hub.

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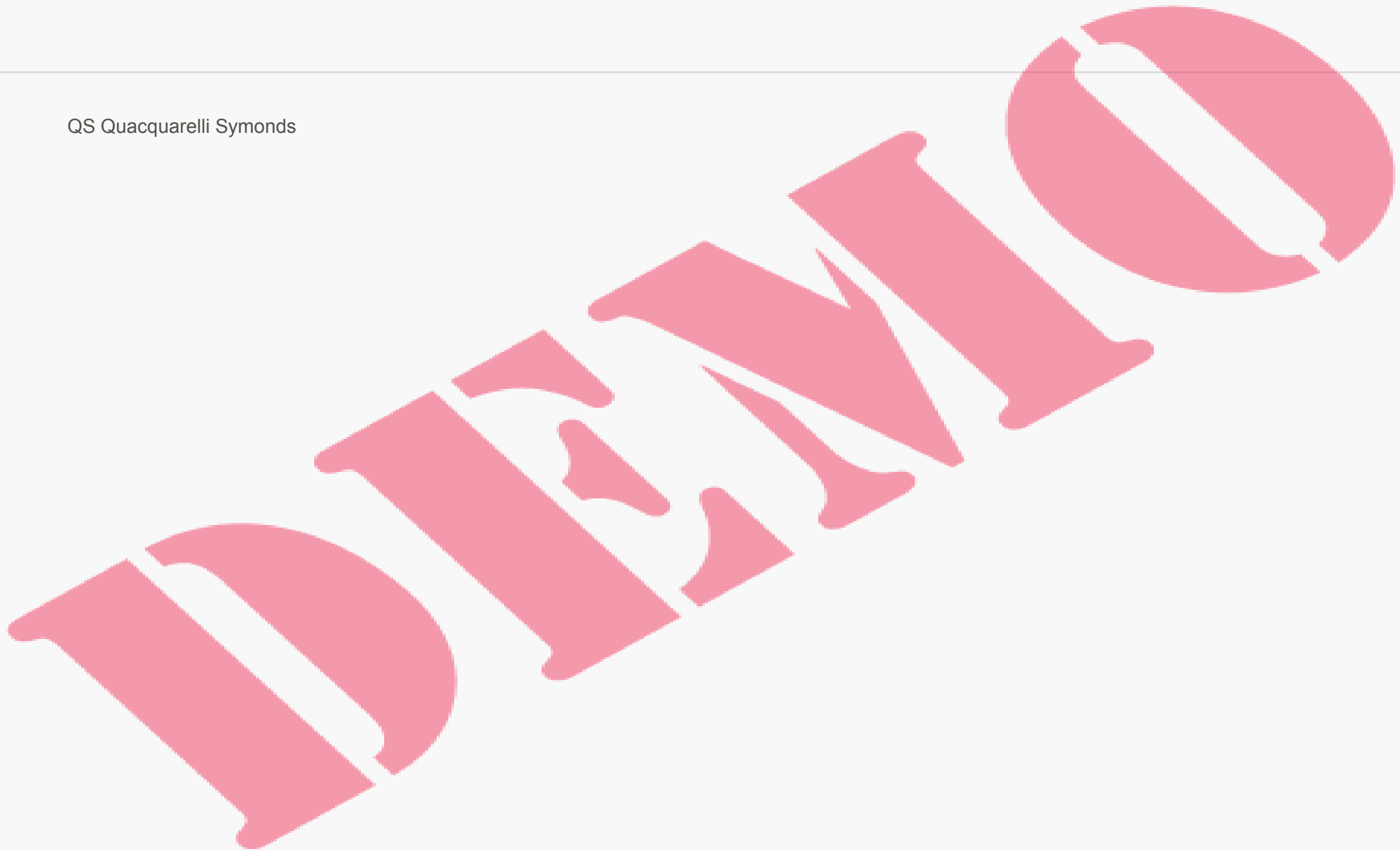
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EMBA/Online MBA

2 years ago · Updated

Q: Please could I have a copy of the questions for offline use?

A: Please click here to view or download

Online MBA:

Q: What are the criteria to participate in the Online MBA Ranking?

A: **Your MBA program should have:**

- **At least 90% of the course taught online**

- **The program should already have at least one graduated class**

- **The school/program is accredited by either AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, EPAS or AABSP**

- **The average class size should be at least 15 students**

We are not ranking temporary online MBA programs which have moved online because of restrictions due to the Covid19 pandemic.

Q: If we have several intakes/cohorts then which incoming class do we report on?

A: We are looking to capture the essence of your program. The best answer would be to average the cohorts to get your final answer.

Q: Regarding the applicant/enrollment question: Are you referring to the academic year or the calendar year for the reporting?

A: As long as you are consistent in reporting (per year) then you are free to use whichever is easier.

Executive MBA:

Q: What are the criteria to participate in the Executive MBA Ranking?

A:

- **Schools must have at least one graduating class**

- **Schools must have either AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS or EPAS accreditation**

It can be difficult to define exactly what should be classified as an Executive MBA. If you have a doubt then please contact QS at support.qs.com. Ideally the average work experience in the classroom should be at least 6 years.

Q: In the additional information section you say: "Considering the impact of Covid-19" what do you mean?

A: In reality

Q: Our school offers an EMBA program but we also have a joint EMBA. How do we submit for both programs?

A: Please contact QS at support.qs.com and we will send you information for submitting more than one program.

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Rankings timeline

3 years ago · Updated

QS will communicate the process and timeline in an email send-out in November for each cycle. However, the timeline is usually as follows:

- November to February – Universities to submit data:
  - Academic and Employer contact detail lists
  - Rankings data
- February to March – The Academic and Employer surveys are open.
- November to March – QS validates the rankings data.
- April to May – Analysis stage
- June - World University Rankings results are published.

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Criteria for including a new subject discipline

3 years ago · Updated

There are innumerable subject disciplines and sub-disciplines. Through analysis of academic survey results over a protracted period and publication data from Scopus, QS continues to identify subject areas which may, at some stage in the next few years, reach the necessary data levels to facilitate a ranking. The subjects have been selected due to their meeting all of the following criteria:

1. Inclusion of specialists: QS has ensured that surveys have included all key specialist institutions operating within the discipline, regardless of whether they may have been expected to feature in the overall QS World University Rankings.

2. Academic Response level: The subject attracts sufficient academic responses.

3. Overall appropriateness of indicators: Indicators and approaches prove appropriate and effective in highlighting excellence in the discipline.

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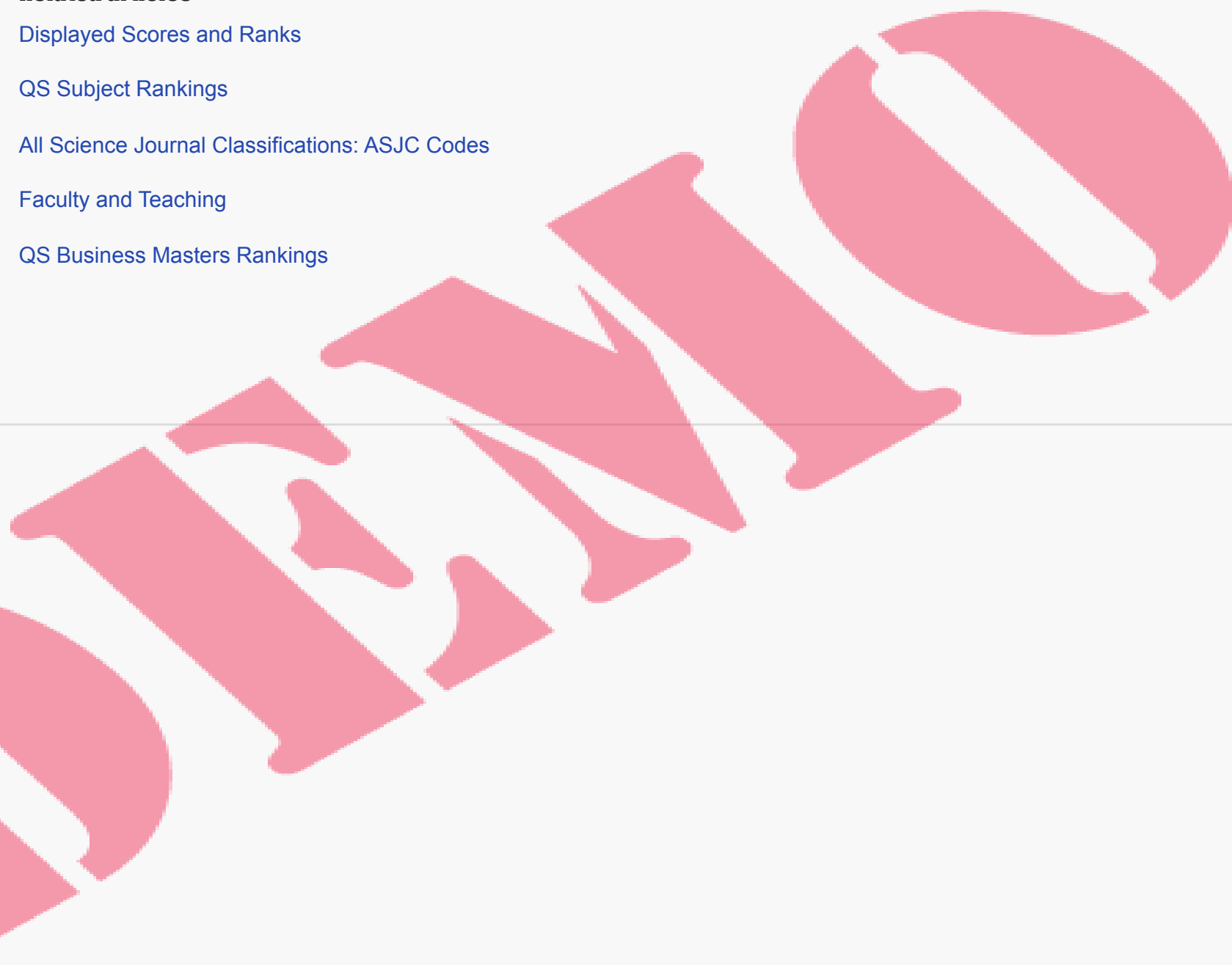
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Displayed Scores and Ranks

3 months ago · Updated

Sample size

We calculate scores on the subset of all analysed institutions, as opposed to the subset of finally published (ranked) institutions. This means that a distribution of indicator or overall scores may not be from 0 to 100 in the publicly available results table.

Another consequence of that for rankings with increased sample sizes of analysed institutions, score distribution may change (stretch), so that same score may lead to a higher a rank in one edition, but to a lower rank in another one.

Calculation:

To understand how rankings scores are calculated, please see the following process:

1. We use the raw ratio or index as the original input
2. We apply normalization to all institutions' ratios/indexes to standardize the input, generating a Z-Score for each institution;
3. We scale the Z Score for all the institutions from 0-100.

Ratio/Index – Input – Z Score – Scaled Score

More technical details are available here: https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4402503754130-Z-Score-Normalization.

Publication of Scores and Ranks:

Every institution has a published rank. It is either unique, joint, or in a band.

All indicator *ranks* are published and are specific up to a certain point and then banded thereafter. All indicator ranks are based on the *underlying ratios or indices* behind the corresponding scores, not the scores themselves. This doesn't affect the rankings results, but this does allow institutions more opportunity to showcase their performance, and rankings users to analyze their performance at a more granular level.

All indicator *scores* are displayed for all ranked institutions.

Overall scores are displayed to a certain point (e.g. Rank 500 in our World University Ranking) and hidden thereafter.

Scores and Rankings in subregional rankings

An overall rank in the overall rankings is transformed into an overall rank in the corresponding sub-regional rankings, using same overall scores as in the overall rankings. Indicator ranks in the sub-regional rankings are not available.

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Paper Counts - breakdown

9 months ago · Updated

To understand the research strength criteria further, we have a few other clarifying points regarding our treatment of Scopus data; most, if not all of which also apply to our analysis for the forthcoming cycle of regional and global rankings:

1. Our analysis is based on an extract from Scopus (custom data), and not on the live database, in order for us to be drawing on a consistent dataset within each cycle of research.

   For the QS World University Rankings published in June 2022, the Scopus database was downloaded in February-March 2022. Changes made in the database after this date will be only reflected in the next export in February-March 2023 for the following rankings cycle.

   *Optional **As for the missing articles, if they were attributed to your account by April 2020 and were not taken into consideration it likely indicates that they can be described as low citation yielding materials which we don't include in the analysis.**

2. The Scopus data are extracted as per the ASJC codes attached to this email.

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3. The window for both publications and citations is five and six years respectively (2016 to 2020 for papers and 2016 to 2021 for Citations, in case of QS World University Rankings published in June 2022)

4. Self-citations are excluded from all citation counts.

5. Multidisciplinary publications (published in sources with the only ASJC code 1000) do not contribute towards counts for any discipline (although they do if you run a search in Scopus, so be sure to edit your search query if you are trying to verify our numbers).

6. Some content types have been excluded (see paper definitions - https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/360019156319-Paper-Definitions)

7. All affiliations we know about are considered. We exclude overseas campuses and NHS trust affiliations.

📎 ASJC Code.xlsx

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Why is my university not in WUR?

2 years ago · Updated

One of the most common questions our team receives is *'Why is my university not in the World University Ranking'?*

There could be any number of reasons why a university does not appear in our World ranking. The first thing we would encourage institutions to ask themselves is 'Are you a world class university?'. Our rankings are designed primarily for international students looking to study at the world's foremost institutions. This necessarily precludes many institutions from being featured, even where they may have strengths in other areas. At a more practical level, the answer is often one or more of the following:

- The institution is not being nominated by a sufficient number of academics worldwide. To enter, there is a threshold of nominations that is dynamic from year to year and based on the underlying sample of nominations. If an institution does not meet this, it will be not be included. Institutions must consider their value

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proposition and how this is being communicated to the global academic
community.

- The institution is not producing a sufficient amount of research. We set a minimum
  threshold of 100 papers (see point 3 here). However, given we weight research at
  20% in the WUR, unless other indicators such as reputation and teaching are
  particularly strong, the institution is likely to need a greater output of papers and
  subsequently more citations.

- We do not have sufficient data to amalgamate scores across indicators to arrive at
  a final rank. We ask institutions to submit data to us. Where they do not submit,
  we may try to source this data from a third-party (such as HESA in the United
  Kingdom, or from a university's website or annual report). Where neither of these
  approaches have yielded reliable data, it is unlikely to feature in the ranking. For
  more information on how to participate, see here.

In 2021 the surveys featured over 6000 institutions, with over 1300 being ranked in the
QS World University Rankings 2022®. We recognise that higher education institutions
can be very different from one another, but maintain that there is validity in comparing
one against another as they usually have a certain number of common objectives – for
most these include the pursuit of cutting-edge research and the education of first-rate
students.

The following types of institutes are also ineligible to appear in our World University
Ranking.

A) Research Institutes

Whilst this ranking does look at research metrics it was considered inappropriate to include research institutes that do not have students. Examples of such institutions include CERN in Switzerland, CNRS in France, the Max Planck Institute in Germany, and the Russian Academy of Sciences. It is worth noting that, in countries where much of the research takes place in such separate facilities, the research measures for the universities themselves sometimes underestimate the research strength of the faculty members.

B) Single Faculty Institutions

Institutions that focus on only one of our five broad faculty areas tend to be smaller and more intensive and also feel the full influence of any factors that affect their area of strength. These institutions are able to appear in our Subjects ranking but are excluded from our world and regional rankings. Notable cases include the Karolinska Institute in Sweden, HEC Paris, and Bocconi in Italy.

C) Single Level Institutions

Institutions that operate at either undergraduate only, or more commonly postgraduate only level have certain natural advantages in areas such as the student-faculty ratio or citations per faculty that would lead to anomalous placing in our overall table. Again these are permitted to appear in our Subject ranking but are excluded from World and Regional rankings.

Institutions traditionally operating at one level, but recently introducing degree-level programs at the other, can be considered for inclusion a minimum of three years after the first class graduate from programs defined as within at least two of our five broad faculty areas.

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3 years ago · Updated

As you are aware, we encourage universities to directly submit data into our online portal, QS Hub. Once done, the status will show as 'pending'. All data has to go through a validation process before the status changes to 'accepted'. This is a key step in our quality assurance process. Should we have further queries regarding your data submission during this process, we will contact you. Otherwise, there is no need to contact us.

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University is not appearing as an option in the Academic/Employer surveys

2 years ago · Updated

We often get asked why specific institutions do not appear in the survey prompt list. It would be unfeasible to have every possible institution pre-mapped, not to mention difficult to keep track of its accuracy. We strive to include the world's top institutions, and the top institutions domestically by country.

If you do not see the institution you wish to nominate, please type in "" to the field and press the Enter key. This way you can register an institution even if it`s not among the survey options.

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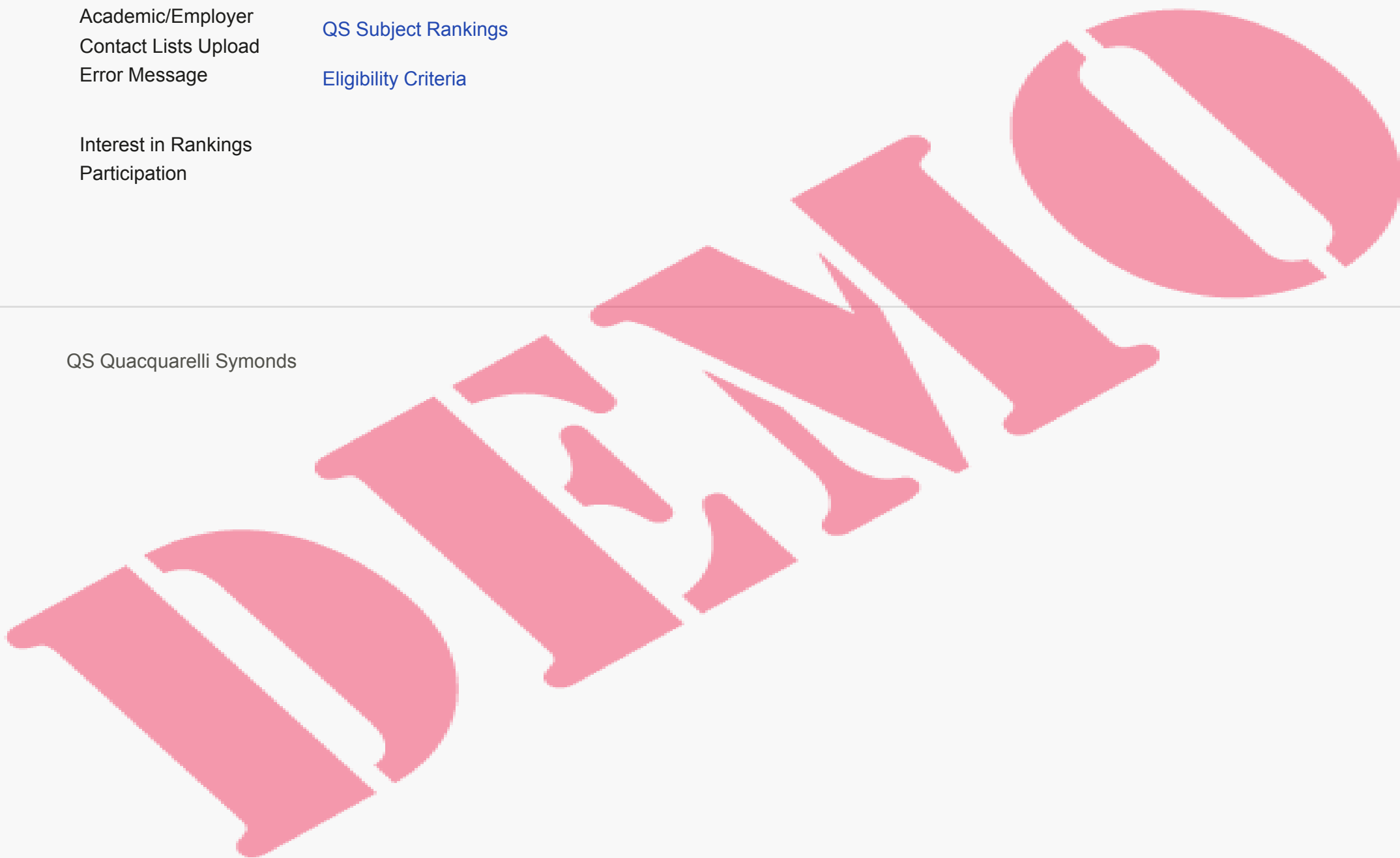
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Academic/Employer Contact Lists Upload Error Message

1 year ago · Updated

If you're unable to upload the Academic/Employer contact lists, there may be a few reasons for that. Please ensure the file doesn't include these commonly made mistakes that are shown in the centre of the page.

- 2 emails in the same field, blank email field, not adding @ in an email, duplicate emails, special characters (!,%,?, etc.) in the emails. Please make sure you give the information of specific people, not general email addresses such as info@xy.com or hello@xy.com
- CSV UTF 8 format not used
- template not used/followed: wrong column headings (including upper/lowercase), changing the columns order, data in irrelevant columns, not using transpose option but copy-paste and everything goes in column A
- line breaks within cells or hidden rows aren`t allowed
- more than 400 contacts (often caused by line breaks within cells)

- First Name /Last Name /Job Title /Department /Institution /Location / Email are blank (these are mandatory)

Running the file through https://csvlint.io can also be helpful to see whether there are any problems since it lists all the errors per row.

You may also find the Survey Nomination List Submission Guide useful.

Quick reminder about the definition of terms included in the lists:

-In **Source** you should add the name of the university

-In **Title**, please choose Mr., Ms., Mss'

-In **Department**, please add the name of the department for each academic/employer contact (examples: Department of Geography, Arts, Graphics, etc.)

- Examples of **Location** are: United Kingdom, Malaysia, etc

- Phone numbers are not mandatory

-Academic/Employer contact lists should contain a **maximum** of 400 contacts **each**

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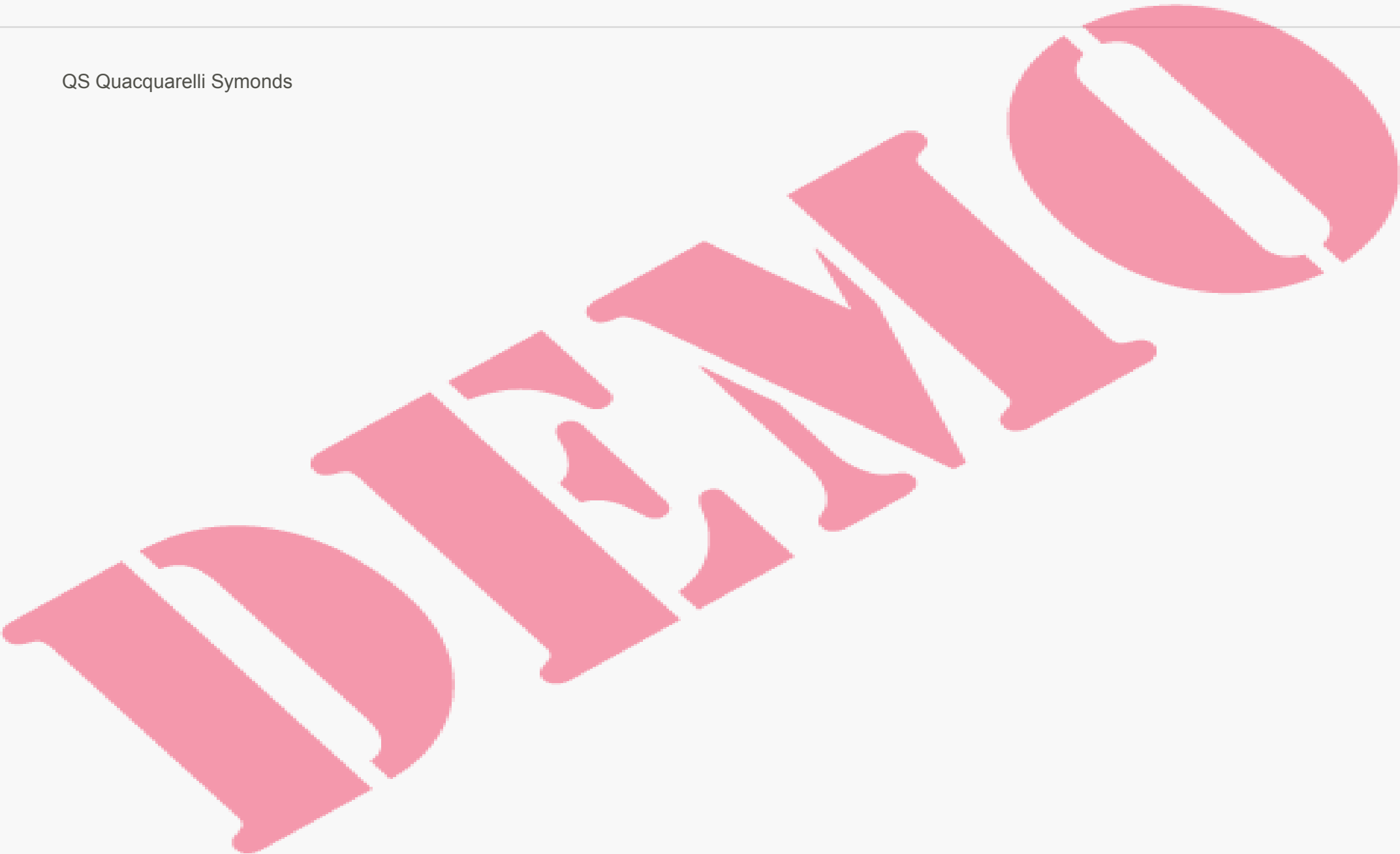
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Interest in Rankings Participation

2 years ago · Updated

Please see the attached document (Rankings Participation) for an overview of how to particiapte in QS Rankings.

An institution may wish to be a candidate for the QS World University Rankings, QS Graduate Employability Rankings, or Regional Rankings. Our eligibility criteria for this is described here: Eligibility

If we are very close to performing the analysis for this year and deadlines for data submission have lapsed, your submission may be considered for next year's edition.

We request the following information from any university that is interested in being included in our Rankings:

- Study programs (template attached)

- Name variation file for Scopus ID (template attached)
- Critical statistical data (to be submitted on our online HUB portal if your eligibility is approved)

We must remind you that providing the university statistics data to QS does NOT guarantee automatic inclusion in any of our rankings. After submitting the requested information, our team will review the submission and inform the institution of the decision.

We also ask that you nomimate a **Primary Research Contact (PRC)**'s, providing a name and email address so that we can forward login details to access our online portal, the HUB system. With this facility, it is possible to submit your statistical data directly into our internal database and you will be registered to be contacted for any of our future campaigns.

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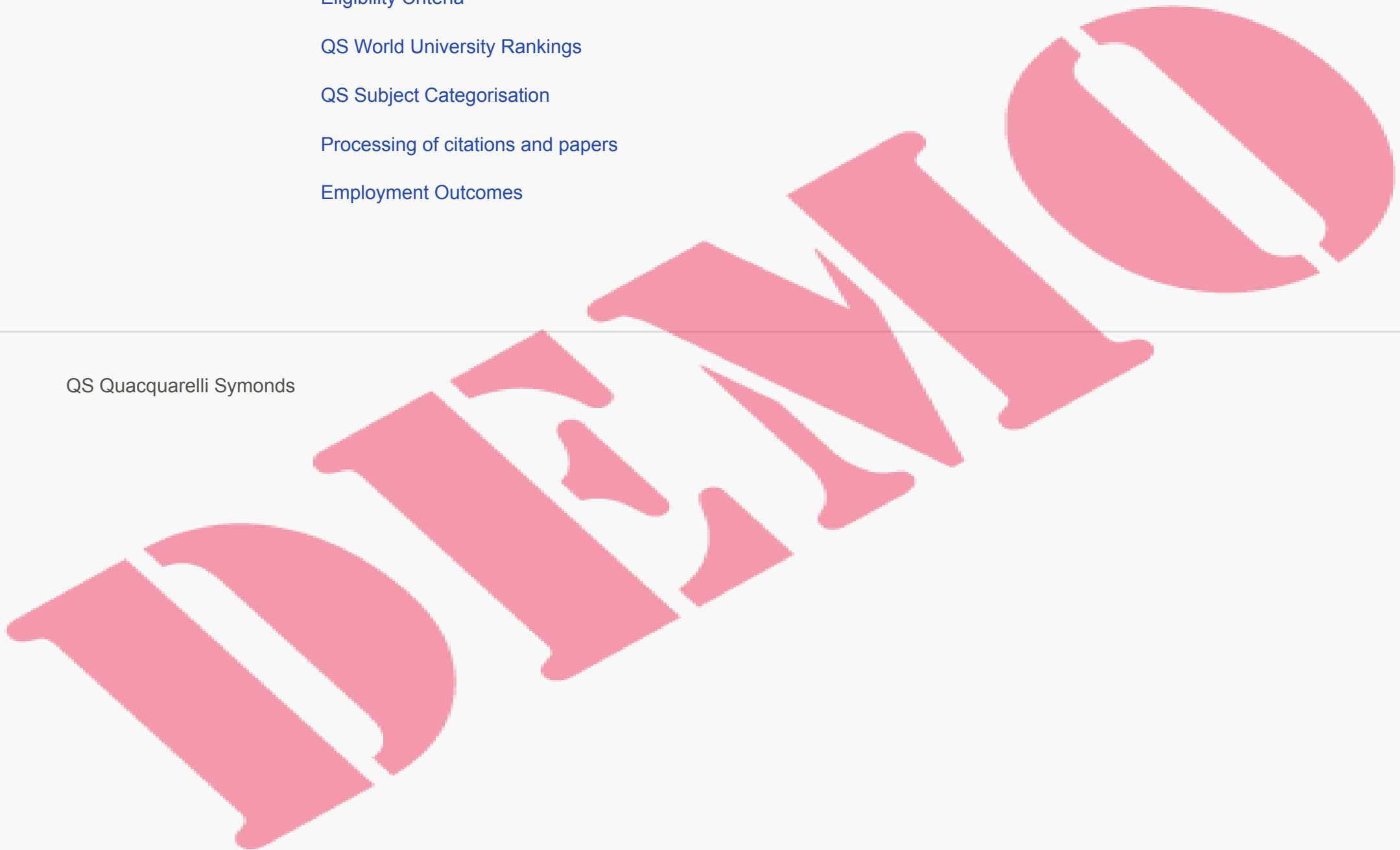
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