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Academic conduct referrals and students from underrepresented groups

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- The issue:**
 - ACOs in the School of Computing and Communications observed a variance in the level of Academic Conduct referrals for students in underrepresented groups.
 - Butcher and Fowle (2019) found "OU data suggests that black students are five times more likely than white students to be the subject of academic misconduct cases."
 - The data from the previous 4 academic years in the School of Computing and Communications as shown in Figure 1 above illustrates a trend in the levels of academic conduct referrals based on ethnicity.

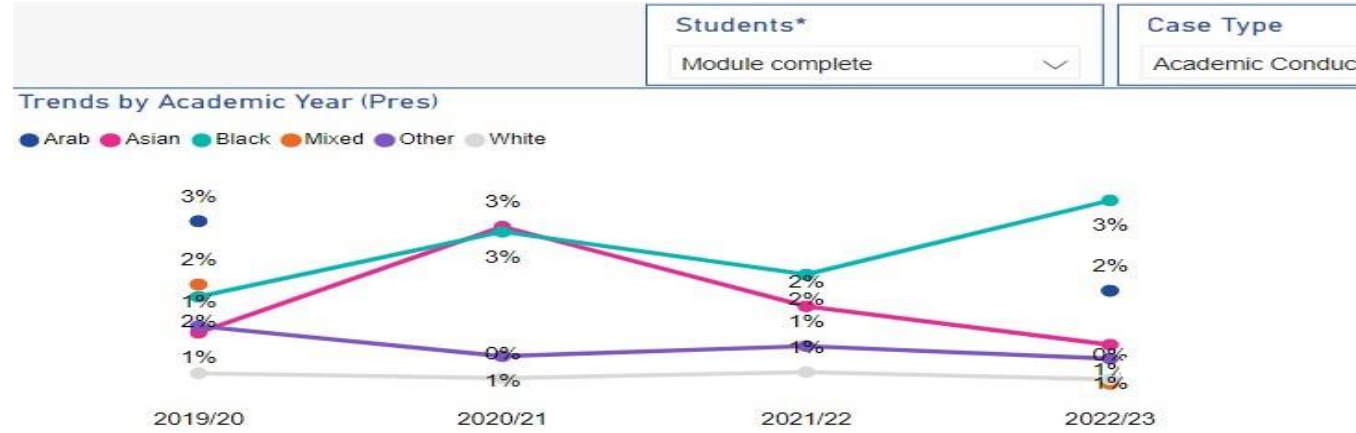


Figure 1: Academic Conduct Cases by Ethnicity in the School of Computing and Communications

- ### Aims
- Investigate patterns in the demographics and referral data of students who are referred for Academic Conduct within the School.
 - Review relevant literature to inform focus of primary research with key stakeholders.
 - Identify improvements in Academic Conduct guidance and support for students in underrepresented groups.

- ### Methodology
- Gather and analyse data of students referred to the ACOs in the School in terms of demographics.
 - Review literature on academic conduct and integrity and underrepresented groups.
 - Interview of Module Teams and students on their experiences of the academic conduct process.
 - Analyse and evaluate the qualitative interview data.

- ### Potential Outcomes
- Understand patterns of ACO referrals for underrepresented groups.
 - Make recommendations on support and guidance to students in underrepresented groups on Academic Conduct.
 - Develop proactive Academic Conduct resources that are sensitive to student backgrounds.
 - Share findings of research with wider ACO community, Faculty and University.