Course analysis DT2140, HT 2021

Course code: DT2140	Name: Multimodal interaction and interfaces	
Year: 2021	Period: 2	
Credits: 7,5	Students: 103	Course survey response frequency: 42%
Examination rate: 95/103	Teaching activities: Lectures, Labs, Individual assignment, Project (in groups of 4 students)	
Examination: Labs 1,5p, Individual assignment 1,5p, Project 4,5p		
Teachers: Gabriel Skantze, Mario Romero, Hedvig Kjellström, Eva-Lotta Sallnäs, Roberto Bresin		
Examinator: Gabriel Skantze		
Course responsible: Gabriel Skantze		

Changes from last year

- The individual assignment was updated from last year, since some students thought it was hard to understand some of the questions and instructions.

Summary of comments from course evaluation

- All students find the course interesting.
- The level of difficulty is normal.
- Most lectures seem to be appreciated.
- All labs were appreciated in general. However, some student thought the sound lab was too hard.
- The reading material is good, even if some students feel it is not properly connected to the lectures.
- The individual assignment is good in general, but some students complain that there is too much work for it, that the instructions are unclear, or that the space was too limited.
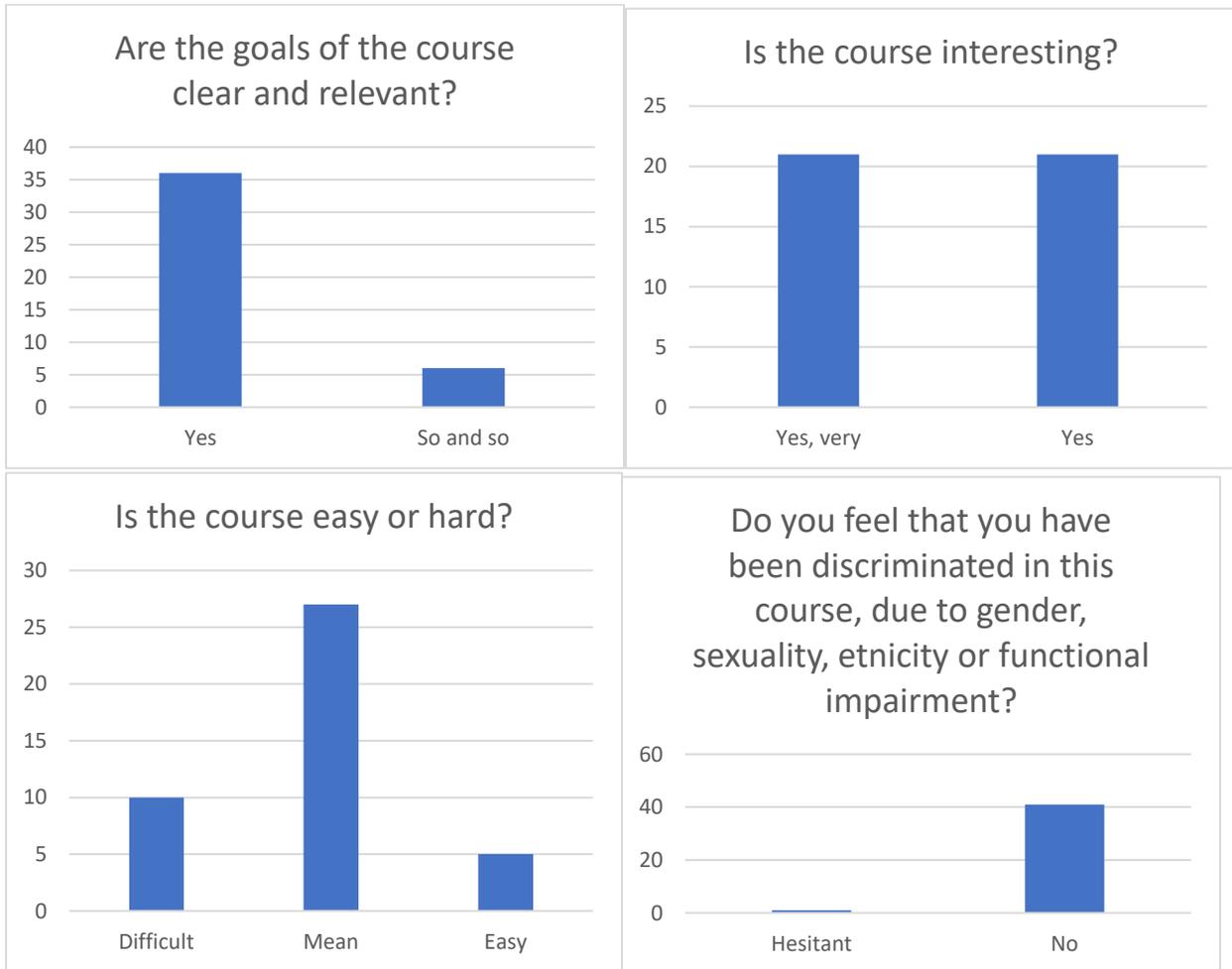- Most students appreciate the project

Suggestions for improvements

- Further clarify the instructions for the individual assignment
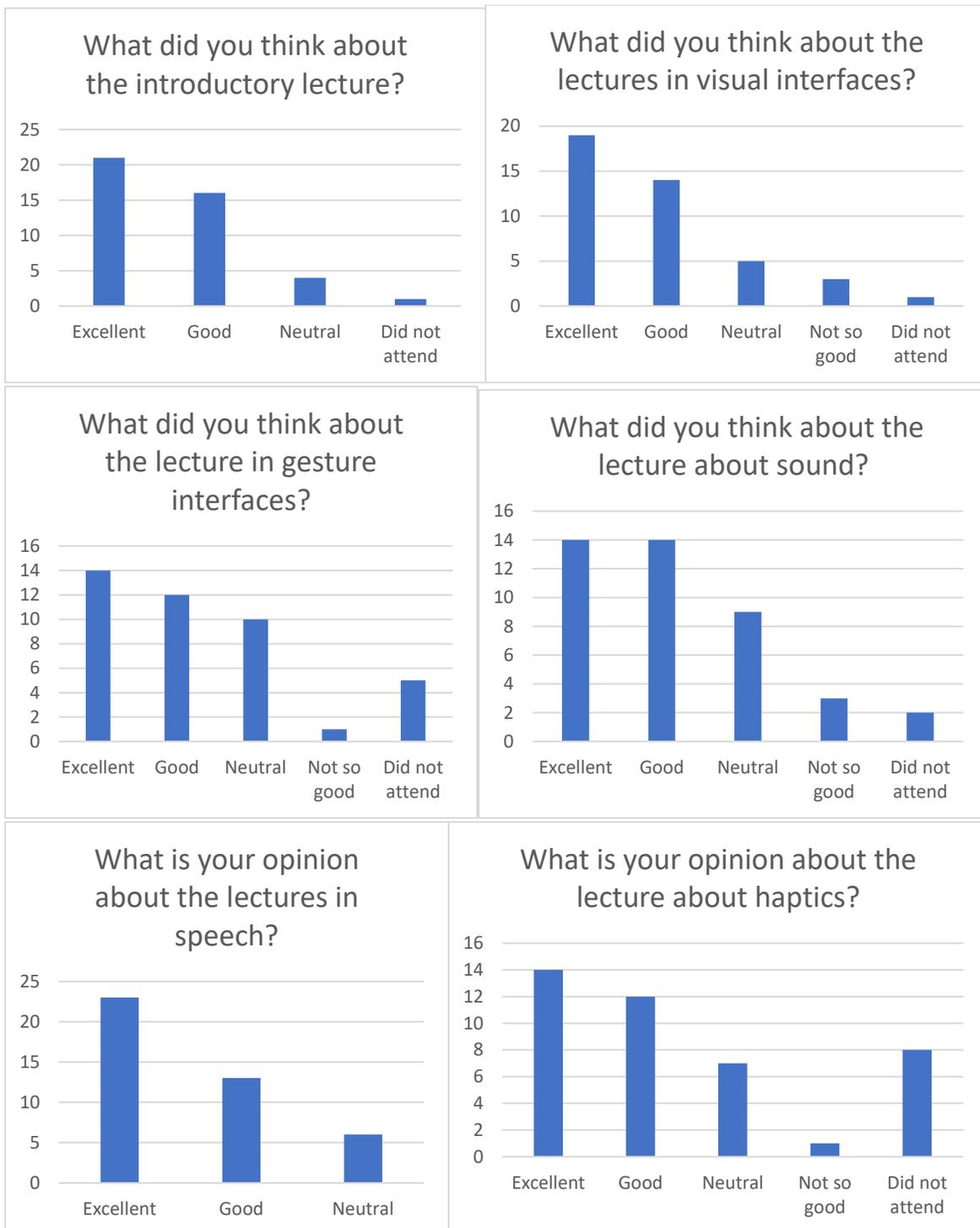- Improve the sound lab according to feedback

Course survey

42/100 students (42%) filled in the evaluation questionnaire. The included comments are only a selection of all comments received.

General

Are the goals of the course clear and relevant?

Category	Value
Yes	36
So and so	6

Is the course interesting?

Category	Value
Yes, very	21
Yes	21

Is the course easy or hard?

Category	Value
Difficult	10
Mean	27
Easy	5

Do you feel that you have been discriminated in this course, due to gender, sexuality, etnicity or functional impairment?

Category	Value
Hesitant	1
No	41

Lectures

What did you think about the introductory lecture?

Category	Value
Excellent	21
Good	16
Neutral	4
Did not attend	1

What did you think about the lectures in visual interfaces?

Category	Value
Excellent	19
Good	14
Neutral	5
Not so good	3
Did not attend	1

What did you think about the lecture in gesture interfaces?

Category	Value
Excellent	14
Good	12
Neutral	10
Not so good	1
Did not attend	5

What did you think about the lecture about sound?

Category	Value
Excellent	14
Good	14
Neutral	9
Not so good	3
Did not attend	2

What is your opinion about the lectures in speech?

Category	Value
Excellent	23
Good	13
Neutral	6

What is your opinion about the lecture about haptics?

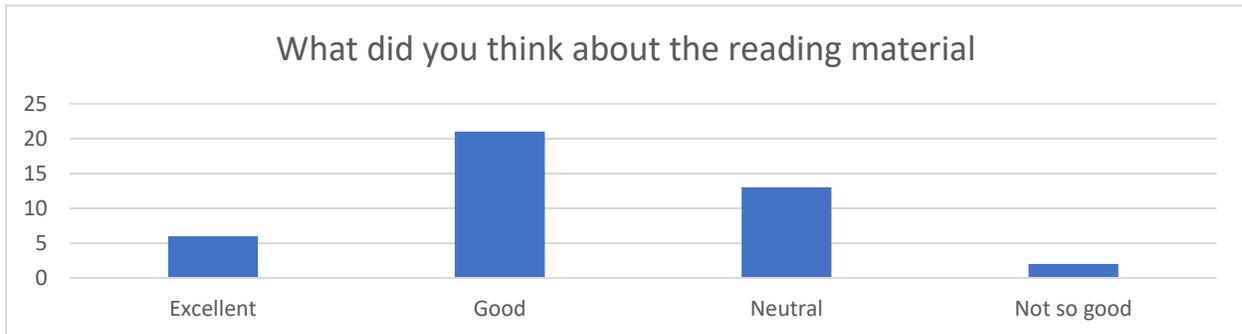| Category	Value
Excellent	14
Good	12
Neutral	7
Not so good	1
Did not attend	8

- I very much appreciate online/hybrid and recorded lectures! It makes it easier to attend. Continue with that.
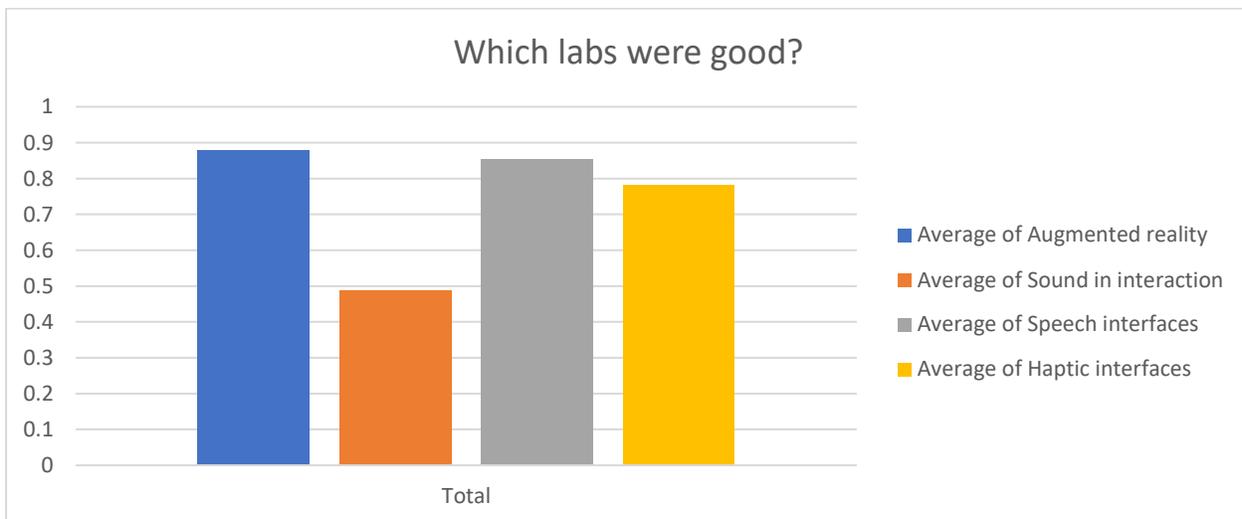
- I enjoyed the participatory events of the lectures e.g. Eva-lotta bringing in a haptic interface and for the lectures, I watched afterwards I really liked all the videos and clips to really show the modalities off.
- I really like the lectures given by different professors

Reading material

What did you think about the reading material

(Bar chart showing: Excellent ≈ 6, Good ≈ 21, Neutral ≈ 13, Not so good ≈ 2)

- The reading material itself was great, especially for the individual assignment. However, in relation to how it was described/instructed as something to be read in relation to each lecture and the amount of reading was unrealistic. Maybe if some of the material was titled as additional reading one would actually have the time to read in preparation for each lecture.
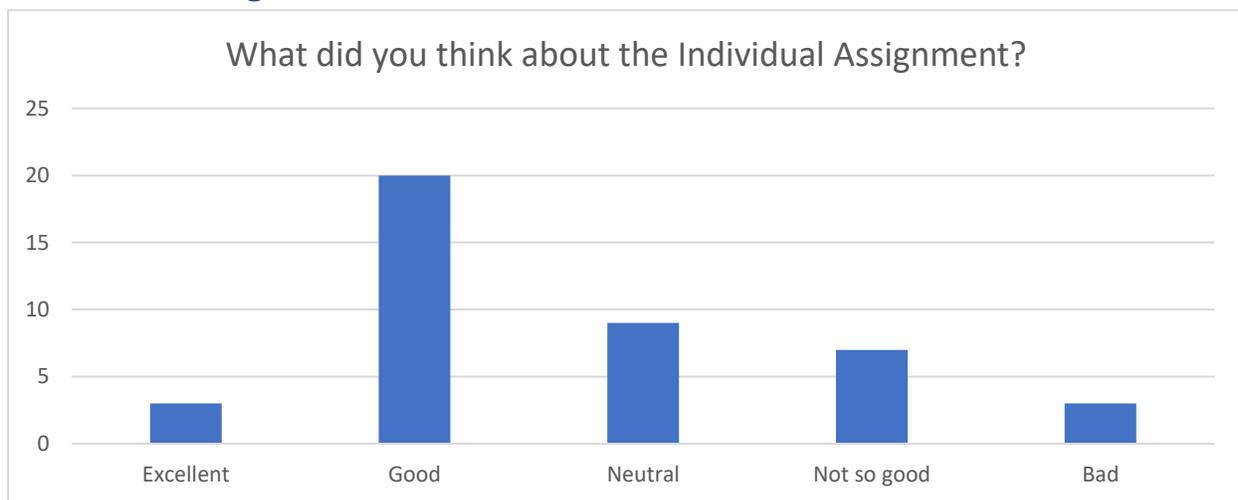- Would be nice if the reading material was talked about more and explained in the lectures.

Labs

Which labs were good?

(Bar chart, "Total", showing:
- Average of Augmented reality ≈ 0.88
- Average of Sound in interaction ≈ 0.49
- Average of Speech interfaces ≈ 0.85
- Average of Haptic interfaces ≈ 0.78)

- some labs to too easy and I think we can make it harder
- The sound lab was really hard, I still don't understand how that stuff works really. Using puredata was really hard and I didn't manage to learn how it works in such a short time.
- I like all the labs which are quite interesting and well-prepared. Teaching assistants are nice and patient.
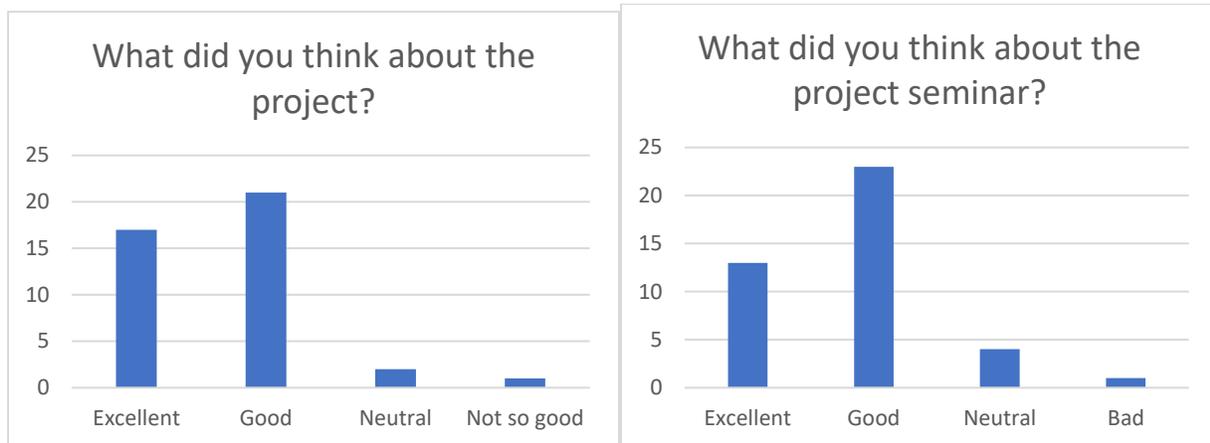
- The labs were in general good and I learned a lot but I feel like the haptic and sound labs were the labs where I learned the least. They were still interesting though and offered more playing around than the other two I would say.
- Generally speaking I like all of them and I think the difficulty is appropriate.
- I think the labs should go into more depth or it would be helpful to have the possibility to have multiple labs on one of the topics.
- All labs except the sound one provided very good and clear instructions, which made it easier for students who do not have experience with the techniques that were used in the labs. The sound one was not very good. I did not have any experience with pure data, and the provided tutorial was not enough for completing the lab without the teachers' help.

Individual assignment

What did you think about the Individual Assignment?

Excellent	Good	Neutral	Not so good	Bad
3	20	9	7	3

- At first, it seemed a bit unclear, most of us only got the assignment after some clarifications from the professor.
- Too hard to get a good grade
- It would have been nice if the deadline of it had been extended. It got very stressful and I did not have the time to answer those questions I would have wanted to.
- They were very interesting questions to write about. But it was very hard to understand what level of writing it required, e.g. interpreting "adequate motivation". I only had time to answer Question 1 and 2 (a). The reading material for the course was not sufficient for answering the questions and it required A LOT of time to do a literature search on your own to answer the questions as they had to be "supported with references".
- The word limit was far too little... Only writing 2 (a) required almost all the 1000 words limit. If you don't have time to read students papers make the questions shorter...
- I really like the individual assignment because it makes me wanna further self-explore a number of fascinating interfaces in a more academic way, and it's a great way to show individual ability. It's just that the workload might be worth more credits.
- I had to work hard to fit everything into the word limit. Perhaps can increase the word limit a bit

Project

What did you think about the project?

Rating	Count
Excellent	17
Good	21
Neutral	2
Not so good	1

What did you think about the project seminar?

Rating	Count
Excellent	13
Good	23
Neutral	4
Bad	1

- You should pair people as the professor. Finding group mates was a pain and an unnecessary stress.
- I learnt alot from the project. However, the instructions and aim was a bit unclear. Should the focus be on the actual interface or on researching/testing the multimodality.
- I think the project should start a week earlier, I understand the idea of two (?) weeks of lectures and two weeks of labs and then project but I feel like the project would benefit from starting a week earlier, starting/working on the pre-study or project along with the labs shouldn't be a problem
- Hard to work in a pandemic, especially when you have to create with tools you are not familiar with or use hardware.