Sten Ternström, stern@kth.se

1. Description of the course evaluation process

The group of students is usually small and there is a close rapport between students and teacher. The course has a home exam, and a questionnaire (see below) is distributed and handed in with the exam but anonymously. The questionnaire responses are compiled by myself. The final question concerns fair and equal treatment.

2. Description of meetings with students

Student opinions are solicited during the course and discussed at a mid-point workshop in conjunction with a progress report on the group assignment task. Several of the students are exchange students that return home at the Christmas break.

3. Course design

Learning activities include

- 13 double-hour lectures;
- 3 tutorial sessions;
- one or two field trips;
- one group assignment in groups of three students: write an in-depth article, *or* solve a set of fairly complex audio programming tasks. Good articles are accumulated from earlier course rounds and used as add-on literature in this course.
- 4 three-hour laboratories, with ears-on activities using audio equipment in studios (not computer labs);
- author a candidate problem for the exam, including a solution and marking criteria; good problems will appear on the actual exam; ex-exams are *not* made available (but probably circulate anyway...).
- complete a home exam which may involve a lot of independent literature research, to be handed in in January. Students report spending at least 10 hours on the exam.

4. Students' workload

The students report being kept quite busy and that the workload is evenly distributed across the course. The authoring of a usable exam problem is seen as particularly difficult but very instructive.

5. Students' results on the course

It is rare for students to fail this course; in 2018 no-one did. One student was registered but did not complete the course. Generally their motivation is very high and they invest many hours of work in the home exam, where creativity and integrity are encouraged. Grades tend to spread evenly from E to A. The background knowledge varies wildly, those with no prior signal processing have a harder time.

6. Students' answers to open questions

7. Summary of students' opinions

The questionnaire with average scores and samples of compiled comments is given at the end of this document.

8. Overall impression

This is a specialized course that attracts highly motivated students with an interest in sound processing and sound reproduction. The ambience during the course is generally very good and positive, and much effort is invested in trying to keep everyone on board even though the pace through complex topics is rather high. The laboratories are manned by persons who work with advanced audio on a daily basis, and they invariably receive very positive ratings and remarks.

9. Analysis

Is it possible to identify stronger and weaker areas in the learning environment based on the information you have gathered during the evaluation and analysis process? What can the reason for these be? Are there significant difference in experience between:

- students identifying as female and male?
- international and national students?
- students with or without disabilities?

10. Prioritized course development

The technology for audio is evolving rather rapidly. By now, the section on optical storage of audio (CD, DVD etc) is becoming outdated. For 2019, I will try to replace it with a section on techniques for streaming audio across networks.

11. Other information you want to share'

The course offers a lot of teacher time per student, since the labs only take three students at a time, in specially equipped rooms. This is a bit of a luxury, but it is tremendously appreciated and the free comment 'I learned a lot from the labs' always appears in the course evaluation. In 2018 several students noted that they wished for labs C and D to be more participatory and less demo-like; this will be done in 2019.

Course assessment DT2410 Audio Technology 2018 Your anonymous response may be given in Swedish or English.

	Bad-Good	Based on 11 responses; 13 took the exam
Lectures	1-5 Means	Comments (Compiled)
Damian Murphy: spatial sound		Excellent (a few found the pace a bit high)
(3 sessions + tutorial)	4.5	
Visit to KMH for spatial audio demo		Very exciting and interesting
in the loudspeaker dome	4.6	– but more sounds, please!
Analog-digital-conversion, 2 sessions		
+ tutorial	4.6	
Audio IC's	4.4	
Software architecture (x 2)	4.3	
Audio coding/compression	4.5	
Connection and transmission	4.2	
Optical discs in audio; and sundry	4.4	
Nygren and Schön: Audio in		Nice to hear of applications. (1 student had heard
broadcasting	4.4	the same in the proint course)
Other, please specify:		*
Labs	1-5	Comment
A: The mixing console and outboard		
units	4.4	
B: Audio coding		
	4.3	
C: Analytical listening and voice		A bit repetitive $-$ but that is in the nature of
reproduction	4.8	listening tests
D: Spatial sound and virtual acoustics		
with Ambisonics	4.7	
Enough time?		Very competent assistants, great labs.
Would have needed more		Could be more hands-on in labs C and D,
preparation? Function?		assistants helped a bit too much.
Competent lab-assistants?		
Assignment	1-5	Comment
Clear directives?	4.5	
Access to materials/guidance?	4.5	
Cooperation in the group?	4.9	
General	1-5	Comment
Textbook: Pohlmann, Principles of		
Digital Audio, 6 th edition (or other)	4.4	
Curriculum:		
topics missing, or redundant topics?	4.6	
Did the course fit your prior		
knowledge?	4.5	
Did the exam reflect the course		OK. Maybe a bit specialized on problem 4.
contents well?	4.3	
Overall disposition of the course		Learned a lot. The course load was evenly spread
	4.9	out.
Participants were treated fairly and		
without discrimination	4.9	
Other		