

Course analysis of AK3104 Theory and Method 2 fall 2019

This analysis is based on the responses from 4 students who filled out the survey, which was sent to 10 students. One response was also sent by a student who sat in on a few sessions without wanting credit.

Data

The course was offered between September 3rd and December 6th 2019, with 10 sessions in three clusters. This was chosen in dialogue with the students as some of them needed to travel. 7 teachers were involved in the course + the coordinator which was Nina. Due to a misunderstanding one session which included an excursion was cancelled and impossible to re-schedule. The schedule was circulated June 20 and the readings for the first cluster in September was circulated August 8th. This was 3,5 weeks before the course started. With the exception of one session the rest of the readings were presented August 23rd together with a suggestion to start preparing. After the course 9 students had fulfilled all assignments.

Summary

Based on these four answers the students were in general happy with the course. Two thought that the reading for Global History and Temporality was too heavy and one that Cinematography was not so useful. Sessions on Microhistory, Oral history, Discourse analysis and Political ecology were appreciated. In general a thought-through pedagogical approach was twice mentioned as positive. Group discussions were mentioned by one person as valuable. One student wanted the readings earlier.

One student opposed reading things that were not discussed in class.

One student was not clear about assignments and asked for study questions.

Analysis

A general conclusion is that aims and expectations seem to be better aligned this time than with Theory and Method 1. Students were in general appreciative of the course. However, some want more guidance. This is a bit surprising as we have just discussed and conveyed the importance of personal responsibility at this level of studies. We can develop pedagogy.

Changes for next time

We should have the reading list and full memo ready four weeks before. For this to happen the course coordinator needs to have the cooperation of all participating teachers.

We should underscore the importance of planning ahead and taking personal responsibility for learning.

We could work more with the pedagogical setup of sessions.

September 9th 2020

Nina Wormbs, course coordinator