

ID2214 Course analysis HT2023

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1 Course evaluation process

The students have been invited to take part in the course evaluation through emails, and announcements in Canvas, with a few reminders.

2 Meetings with students

No special meetings were set up to discuss the course, but there were separate forums in Canvas for this purpose, as well as possibilities to discuss during online discussion sessions and physical/online supervision meetings and seminars.

3 Course design

The four mandatory assignments are mainly unchanged, except that a novel dataset has been used in the final assignment. The exam took place in class rooms, and no material/equipment was allowed during the exam. Rather than offering live lectures, recordings of last year's lectures were provided together with live online discussion sessions, at which typical exam questions were presented and discussed; the students were given time to reflect and submit their responses through the Mentimeter system.

4 Workload

The students' workload, as judged from the submitted course evaluations, was on average, not far from what should be expected, with a few quite significant deviations.

5 Results

Out of 47 students for which certified results have been reported either on the exam and re-exam, 34 (72%) received a grade E or higher (two of which after completing an Fx assignment). The number of students completing the course (34) is about the same as previous years.

6 Summary of opinions

The students seem to be generally satisfied with the course; most aspects received average scores around 5 in the course evaluation (7 respondents), which, however, is slightly below the scores from previous years. The LEQ receiving the lowest average score (4.6) was LEQ 17 ("My background knowledge was sufficient to follow the course"), for which two out of the seven respondents indicated that their background knowledge was clearly not sufficient. Also LEQ11 ("Understanding of key concepts had high priority") and LEQ19 ("The course activities enabled me to learn in different ways") received relatively low scores (each with 4.7 on average). The LEQs receiving the highest average scores were LEQ 16 (5.7), "The assessment on the course was fair and honest" and LEQ 22 (5.4) "I was able to get support if I needed it".

Among the positive aspects pointed out in the course evaluation were the key concepts being introduced at a good level of abstraction, very clean and well-structured slides and Canvas page, the feedback from the tutor, nice hints in the assignments, great visualizations on the lectures, a fair exam and nice group work.

Among the negative aspects are the requirement to code by hand at the written exam, a bit too tricky exam questions, that the lectures are not given live, and that collaborative code writing is somewhat difficult to manage.

7 Overall impression

Although the number of students passing the course is at the same level as previous years, the failure rate is higher. Also, the number of active students during the online sessions dropped remarkably over time, as well as a significantly lower number of students providing feedback through the course evaluation form (7 this year compared to 16 last year), which indicate that actions have to be taken to increase the engagement of the students.

8 Prioritized course development

The online sessions will be redesigned for the next course round. Quizzes will be handed out before each session so that the students can prepare by answering questions that will be discussed with less idle time at the sessions. Part of the time that is freed up can be spent on getting a brief summary of each lecture and asking questions in relation to that, something which was mainly done through Canvas.