

Report - LS1415 - 2024-05-29

Respondents: 1
Answer Count: 1
Answer Frequency: 100.00%

Please note that there is only one respondent to this form: the person that performs the course analysis.

Course analysis carried out by (name, e-mail):

jabo@kth.se

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE EVALUATION PROCESS

Describe the course evaluation process. Describe how all students have been given the possibility to give their opinions on the course. Describe how aspects regarding gender, and disabled students are investigated.

Survey and written evaluation assignment

DESCRIPTION OF MEETINGS WITH STUDENTS

Describe which meetings that has been arranged with students during the course and after its completion. (The outcomes of these meetings should be reported under 7, below.)

Online

COURSE DESIGN

Briefly describe the course design (learning activities, examinations) and any changes that have been implemented since the last course offering.

Online study plus quizzes and written/oral assignments

THE STUDENTS' RESULTS

How well have the students succeeded on the course? If there are significant differences compared to previous course offerings, what can be the reason?

All passed

STUDENTS' ANSWERS TO OPEN QUESTIONS

What does students say in response to the open questions?

From written evaluation:

FREQUENT POSITIVE COMMENTS ABOUT ...

1) COURSE STRUCTURE

I also liked the structure of having the same amount of work from week to week. That helps lessen the workload during the course.

It being online worked out great in my opinion there was never really any questions everything was on the Canvas page.

It was very clear from the beginning of the course what was to be handed in every week.

English for Academic Studies has proven to be one of the most organized courses I have encountered at KTH. From the course material to the syllabus page and assignments, everything has been well laid out, making it easy for us to understand what is expected to pass the course.

2) FEEDBACK

The feedback was not only encouraging but also insightful, highlighting specific areas for improvement and recommending strategies to refine my writing. This personalized feedback was one of the best ways for me to learn and inspired me to continue learning!

The quick turnaround time for feedback was great and very much contributed to my progress throughout the course, as I'm writing my thesis as we speak. I actually think the best thing about the course was the rapid feedback

I think the feedback from the videos were great mainly because I'm not used to getting feedback on the way I talk, which is why in the future I will try to keep the things said in the feedback in mind before a presentation.

In the assignments where I expressed areas of uncertainty, I received tips and suggestions for improvement. I really appreciated the tips on pronunciation. I would say that the feedback was actually the best part of the course. The feedback is what I will really take with me and remember most in years, because it is 'tailored' to me.

A highlight of the course was the feedback's reference to direct sources, like the KTH writing guide, which allowed me to quickly address the issues noted in my work.

3) THE VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR QUIZZES (THESE SEEMED VERY POPULAR)

The part of the course I liked best was the vocabulary test we did in the beginning. It opened my eyes to a gap in my knowledge about the specific meaning of certain words (rather than an approximate one).

4) MISC.

The best thing about the course was being able to see other students' responses to the assignments, which allowed me to view other people's views on top of completing my own so that I could realize which of my own views may have been insufficient or which other people's views were more accurate.

FREQUENT SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT ABOUT ...

1) THE INTERFACE AND USE OF CANVAS

the other thing for me were a bit of a hassle regarding the canvas site, I did not have the deadlines as assignments and that became a little disturbing.

The course could definitely be improved if the interface for the modules were improved. The "iframe" that the course content appears in is much too small if you're just sitting on a laptop, and it took a bit of debugging before I realised it also didn't support my browser.

2) THE ASSIGNMENTS

What I would change about the course is, as previously mentioned, to have assignments that cover specific type of texts and specific types of referencing. I think many students struggle with referencing properly or do not know the exact specific rules of each style and I think that this is very important to know in academic writing.

One suggestion for improvement would be to vary the assignment types more to avoid repetition. While assessments of English proficiency are important, incorporating a broader range of tasks could enhance the overall learning experience and provide opportunities for greater creativity and exploration.

I feel like I could use a bit more practice on explaining typical "engineering issues/solutions" to someone without experience in the field as this is a big problem for engineers overall and I believe it to be one of the most useful skills to have.

The one thing I might suggest changing would be to maybe add some more information on pronunciation. I received some feedback on that but felt a bit unsure of how to practice pronunciation on my own. Maybe a video call to practice pronunciation would be good.

3) THE LACK OF INTERACTION

If I were to change anything about the course I would recommend more interactive elements, such as live discussions or virtual group activities.

Therefore, I would love to have a Zoom meeting as an introduction for this course.

I would suggest adding a pre-recorded video, explaining how to work with the modules each week. Although I read all the information provided on the Canvas page, it still took me a couple of weeks to grasp how to navigate the exercises before doing the assignments.

INTERESTING SUGGESTION: It was also fun to read what others had written and get a glimpse of how they tackle the assignments. The only thing I would like to change about the course is to have smaller groups that you post your posts in. That way, it would be easier to connect and interact with your peers since you can build a stronger connection with them.

4) MISC.

The only thing I reflected upon is that it sometimes was hard to understand how in-depth some of the discussions were supposed to be.

INTERESTING COMMENT

In the moment, I did not see the reason for our videos to be uploaded "publicly". However, in retrospect, I can see that it helps build confidence and motivates students to put more effort into their speaking assignments, leading to higher-quality presentations.

SUMMARY OF STUDENTS' OPINIONS

Summarize the outcome of the questionnaire, as well as opinions emerging at meetings with students.

Positive on the whole. Some things to reflect on for new course.

OVERALL IMPRESSION

Summarize the teachers' overall impressions of the course offering in relation to students' results and their evaluation of the course, as well as in relation to the changes implemented since last course offering.

Positive.

OTHER INFORMATION

Is there anything else you would like to add?

This course will be replaced by a new course. We will draw on the evaluations for that course development.
