



Kursanalys - KTH

Formulär för kursansvarig.

Kursanalysen utförs under kursens gång.

Nomenklatur: F – föreläsning, Ö – övning, R – räknestuga, L – laboration, S – seminarium)

KURSDATA Obligatorisk del

Kursens namn	Kursnummer
History of Mathematics	SF2719 and SF2725
Kurspoäng och poäng fördelat på exam-former	När kursen genomfördes
6 hp (SF2719); 7.5 hp (SF2725)	Period 1, 2021
Kursansvarig och övriga lärare	Undervisningstimmar, fördelat på F, Ö, R, L, S
Tilman Bauer	Lektion 14 x 2h

Antal registrerade studenter 39 (SF2719) + 8 (SF2725)

Prestationsgrad efter 1:a examenstillfället, i % $37(SF2719)+6(SF2725)=91$
%

Examinationsgrad efter 1:a examenstillfället, i % $37(SF2719)+6(SF2725)=91$
%

MÅL

The aim of the course is to give students the knowledge and skills to analyze and contextualize historical mathematical texts with respect to the development of mathematics through history, the mutual influences between mathematics and society, and to draw conclusions about the role and relevance of mathematics today.

After completion of the course, a student will be able to:

- express analyses and arguments around original mathematical texts orally and in written form in a structured and scientific way
- ask relevant and creative historical questions
- express own thoughts about societal aspects of mathematics such as the structure of society, politics, and gender, both in the past and the present
- sketch the development through history of several mathematical ideas, mathematical subjects, and frameworks in which mathematics was done
- sketch important contributions, biographies and the social context of several prominent historical mathematicians.

Ange hur kursen är utformad för att uppfylla målen

The course consists of lectures mixed with group work, discussions, and reading. Four homework essays are used to train the first 4 objectives. Four short quizzes during the lectures test the last objective.

Eventuellt deltagande i länkmöte före kursstart

n/a

Kursens pedagogiska utveckling I

This is the second time the course is giving remotely due to the coronavirus. The final exam was replaced by 15-minute individual oral exams. Content-wise, only small changes were made.

Kontakt med studenterna under kursens gång

Studenter i årets kurs-nämnd: Namn

E-post (lämnas blank vid webbpublicering)

Christoffer Nilsson
Amanda Sihvonen
Måns Hultin
Kuan Yan (SF2725)

Resultat av formativ mittkursenkät	n/a
Resultat av kursmöten	<p>In a meeting with the course representatives in course week 3, the following points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The students felt unsure what the content of the quizzes would be. More written-down information was desired.• The students felt some inconsistency in the grading of the quizzes.• The group work (in zoom breakout rooms) was generally seen as positive, but sometimes the time was too short for discussions.• The work load is adequate.

Kontakt med övriga lärare under kursens gång

Kommentarer

Regular discussion with the assistant Jeroen Hekking (who helped with the grading).

Kursenkät; teknologernas synpunkter Obligatorisk del

Att komma ihåg:

- 1) Uppmana, mha kursnämnden, till ifyllande av kursenkät i anslutning till / just efter slutexaminationen
- 2) Delge kursnämnden enkäten
- 3) Publicera enkäten under en kortare tid

Period, då enkäten var aktiv	The survey was done online. I gave them time in-class to make sure they would actually participate. 27 Students participated. The survey was open from Oct 15 to Oct 22.
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Frågor, som adderades till standardfrågorna	<p>LEQ was not used. Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How many hours a week did you spend on this course on average?2. What was the most challenging aspect of this course?3. What, in your opinion, was the main goal / were the main goals of this course? For each goal, indicate on a scale of 1-5 (5=best) how well you think you have reached it.4. What did you like best about the course?5. What did you dislike most?6. Name one thing that would make this course better for you.7. Do you have anything else you would like to ask?
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Svarsfrekvens	27 responses out of ca. 40 active students
Förändringar sedan förra genomförandet	Question 7 was added.
Helhetsintryck	Both the lecturer and the vast majority of students considered the course a success – it was challenging, interesting, and with reasonable requirements.
Relevanta webb-länkar	Course home page: https://canvas.kth.se/courses/26878

Kursansvarigs tolkning av enkät

Positiva synpunkter	interesting and varied topics, essay-writing and research for them, peer reviews and rebuttals, requirements for continuous work/bonus points, the variety of examination, lectures/lecturer, discussions
Negativa synpunkter	distance teaching (although some saw this as a positive), zoom-proctored quizzes, some essay texts were hard to understand or it was not clear what was being asked, more timely feedback was desired
Var kursen relevant i förhållande till kursmålen?	Most students thought that the aim of getting an understanding of the development of math was a main goal of the course and they attained it well (4/5) Students also identified the analysis of historical texts as a goal, which was attained reasonably well (4/5) Essay-writing was identified as a goal which was attained moderately well (3.5/5)
Syn på förkunskaperna	Some students struggled with reading historical English texts.
Syn på undervisningsformen	The structure was generally seen as very positive, but a number of students would have preferred in-person classes.
Syn på kurslitteratur/kursmaterial	The texts were sometimes seen as difficult to read.
Syn på examinationen	Generally very positive, with the exception that some thought that the essay questions were too vague. (They were intentionally vague so that the students could focus on an aspect they thought was particularly interesting to them.) There was criticism of the zoom-proctored quizzes and a number of students would have preferred written exams instead of oral exams.

Speciellt intressanta kommentarer n/a

Synpunkter från övriga lärare efter avslutad kurs

Vad fungerade bra

Vad fungerade mindre bra

Resultat av kursnämndsmöte efter examination

Studenternas sammanfattn. In another meeting in course week 7, which also served as an evaluation feedback, the following points were highlighted:

- The course was fun and interesting. Discussions were appreciated. It was received positively that material wasn't rushed through. The continuous examination was appreciated.

Förslag till förändringar

- It was reiterated that more information on the quizzes should have been given earlier.
- Some students wished to have access to the essay topics a few days earlier, and get more opportunities to ask questions about them.
- It was criticized that the rebuttals were not visible to the reviewers.

Länk till kursnämndsprot. n/a

Kursansvarigs sammanfattande berättelse

Helhetsintryck The course was a lot of fun and it was generally seen as meaningful and challenging. Next year the course will hopefully be taught in person again. If not, a replacement for the zoom-proctored quizzes needs to be found.

Positiva synpunkter The essays worked really well - I could see a marked improvement in almost all students from essay 1 to essay 4. The in-class discussions were lively.

Negativa synpunkter	The work load for the teacher was, for the course of this size, a bit on the high side. The lack of contact through zoom teaching was a but of a problem for me.
Syn på förkunskaperna	Fine.
Syn på undervisningsformen	The mixed lecturers/discussions/group work worked well.
Syn på kurslitt/kursmaterial	Altogether, the students got acquainted with a wide variety of types of historical texts, and this should be kept.
Syn på examinationen	The variety of examination worked generally well, but the zoom-proctored quizzes were stressful and should be replaced by another kind of examination. The oral exams could only test a small sample of the students' knowledge but because they were adaptive and based on the essays, they gave a good picture. They were a source of significant stress for some students, so a written exam is preferable in my view.
Kursens pedagogiska utveckling II Obligatorisk del	
Hur förändringarna till denna kursomgång fungerade	The number of texts studied was reduced somewhat, in exchange for a somewhat slower pace. This worked well.
Förändringar som bör göras inför nästa kursomgång	Vary the topics somewhat from year to year. Think about involving guest lectures by a historian. Organize an expedition, for example to the Mittag-Leffler institute.
Övrigt	