

Course analysis Optical Design SK2330 VT2022

Credits: 6p (4p exam A-F, 2p labs P/F)

Course responsible: Anna Burvall

Other teachers: Charlie Börjeson guest lecturer

Teaching hours: 8h lectures, 4h laboration

number of registered students: 6

Passed the exam: 5 students (83%) after first exam

Passed the course: 5 students (83%) by May 2022

This year's course

The course has not run for some years, as it was cancelled due to low number of students. As of HT22 it has been removed from the program and will not run again. This year there were few students, and they were given the choice of changing to a different course or following a condensed version of the course with a large degree of self-study. 5 students chose this option and also completed the course.

4 lectures were given, condensing material from the ordinary 12 lectures. All the material, like home tasks and lecture notes, was still available. Those lectures worked best when they were used for demos, actually looking at and manipulating the aberrations rather than just talking about them.

The lab module was intact, consisting of 5 computer labs and one practical lab.

The exam was replaced by an oral exam (30 min per student) for pass, followed by a 3-hour optional home exam for higher grades. The results were good.

So in general the course could have been better (with a full set of lectures) but given the time restraints worked surprisingly well in this format.

Only one student filled out the course evaluation, which was phrased as a single question asking the students to say what they wanted about the course: "This is a good course with practical contents. The knowledge is close to real life so it is really interesting and fun. It is also pretty useful for someone interested in photography."

Next year's course

As the course will not run again, there are no plans. Also the Fourier optics course is discontinued. But it's a pity to have an optics&photonics track without anything about aberrations or Fourier optics, so perhaps a general course on imaging, handling both these areas, could be created at some point.