

Course analysis

SK2531 Biomedicine for Engineers

2019

In autumn 2019, nine students were registered for the course.

Eight students participated in the final exam, with the following **results**:

A – 7 students

B – 1 student

The lectures went almost according to the plan. One lecture/topic has unfortunately fallen out because of a water problem in AlbaNova that day.

Attendance level was very good. The **mini-tests** that we had at every lecture were helping the students to keep up with the course pace, and promoted the good attendance.

Most of the students attended and actively participated in the **seminar** given by the PhD students that were taking the parallel course FSK3531.

Unfortunately, only three students answered **the course survey**. According to the survey, most of the students (here and below, this means 2 out of those 3 students that have answered the survey) had a very good general impression about the course. Most of the students thought that the number of topics covered in the course was optimal and the lectures were very good. Most of the students thought that the lecture handouts were good to have, and all students thought that the mini-tests were very helpful. The exam was experienced by most of the students as quite easy (this is probably the reason for such good results; however, I personally think that the class was extra bright this year). Everyone thought that Canvas course page was good enough, at least no changes to it have been suggested.

One issue that students raised during the course was that it was too difficult, in such a long course, to have one big exam in the end, covering all the topics in the course. One suggestion was to examine part of the material in the middle of the course, and the other part at the final exam. In the survey, all the students supported this idea. Most of the students also supported another possible solution to this issue, namely, to divide the course into two shorter courses, which could be taken one after another or separately. This, however, is difficult to do quickly, due to administrative issues.

The plan for autumn 2020 is therefore to introduce a semi-formal exam on the first part of the course in October, which will decrease the burden on the students at the final exam in January. The principles of assessment will be determined by the beginning of the course.

The course lectures will continue to be updated, mostly in the part covering cell biology. This is because the course book, Essential Cell Biology, has got a new edition in 2019, and not all lectures have yet been updated accordingly.