
Template for course reports at the Faculty of Education and Society at Malmö University

Revised 2020-05-24

The course report is an important instrument for the development of courses and programmes, as well as for guaranteeing student influence in this work. The *Decision on the model for systematic education-related quality work at the Faculty of Education and Society* (UTB 3.1-2017/410) indicates that course reports constitute the basis for the programme boards' efforts to systematically monitor the quality of the programme as a whole.

The *Course evaluation process at the Faculty of Education and Society* (UTB 3..2.2-2018/479) specifies what applies for the course report, including feedback to students.

The course report should include background information/key figures and a summary of the students' course evaluations, as well as analysis and an action plan together with any suggestions for revision of the course syllabus.

The course report is to be published in connection with other information about the course.

Background information

Course name: Education and Politics

Semester: HT24

Ladok code: BU607E

Course coordinator: Johan Dahlbeck

Number of registered students: 21

Number of students who responded to the summative course evaluation: 13

Implementation	Mark with an X
The previous course report is communicated in connection with the start of the course	X
Early dialogue on expectations for the course	X
Formative course evaluation	X
Summative course evaluation	X
Feedback to students	X

Forms of evaluation

The course has been evaluated through both oral and written assessments. The written assessment was based on six standardized questions (see below) and the oral assessment was conducted at the final seminar of the course (as well as continuously in relation to the regular seminars).

Summary of the students' course evaluations

In general, the students were very satisfied with the course. They also appreciated the mix of students, where most were from the MA program in educational theory and some took the course as an elective. While some students found the readings difficult (especially the primary sources) most found that the introductory lectures were helpful for unpacking it. Some students also found that there was a gap between the framing of the course as a course in political philosophy and education, and the assignment focusing on policy analysis.

In the summative question concerning to what extent the students found that the course as a whole had met with their expectations (on a scale of 1-6, 1 being the lowest and 6 the highest), 8% answered 3, 31% answered 4, 38% answered 5, and 23% answered 6. Below follows a selection of student statements about the various aspects of the course sorted according to the questions asked in the written evaluation.

1. What do you think of the structure of the course?

It was good

The structure was very good

The structure of the course was comfortable for acquiring the provided themes. The structure was clear.

It was kind of dense

I liked the theme structure. I think it could be more clear how each text relates to the theme, especially the one on political emotions.

Good

It was completely well designed and understandable.

It was ok.

I really liked it

Good

Good

It was good

It was well structured

2. How was the literature suited to the different themes of the course?

Good

All literature were interrelated and completely related to the themes and stories and podcasts made them all more clearer.

Quite well

It was great but I wish I had more time to invest on each author

See above. Mostly I think the literature was well-chosen and not too abundant (which it can sometimes be)

Very well

I expected more literature than what has been covered.

Very well

Well suited

The connection between course literature and themes was smooth, it was clear why the readings we did were chosen. I especially liked that there were materials from modern philosophy/politics involved, which gave me a clearer picture of the current political situation.

Excellent

The literature was also very relatable to the course except with the policy analysis

The literature was insightful

3. What do you think of the balance between introductory lectures and group discussions?

Good

Good :)

Good

I liked the way this course was organized. Personally I was able to get the main point of theories on politic and then the rest of literatures led me to know the supportive and opposing ideas for discussions.

It is a good blend

Most of the times I will understand the author after the discussion, but there will be no time to reread it again

They were complementary and necessary.

Its good, rather have two lectures and one seminar.

Maybe a bit more group discussions would have been nice

Good balance

I think the balance was quite good

I cannot tell, because I was there for not all classes, therefore I am not familiar with the group discussions.

They were well balanced

4. What are your thoughts on the two forms of examination (presentation and written paper)?

Good

Good, I like the idea of spreading the exam out over the course

I liked it

The best combination

They were both good

I like that we have two evaluation methods, however I am not sure if it is benefiting that the presentations do not influence the final evaluation at all.

I don't like examinations but these two options are not bad

Very appropriate

I think both kind of examinations are really helpful.

A good way of examination.

Good

The instructions of the written paper are not 100% clear

Good combination

5. To what extent do you consider that the course as a whole has met your expectations?

See response ratio above

Additional comments (optional):

Thank you!

Thanks

Thanks for a very positive and encouraging atmosphere! As someone coming from outside the program a bit more of a social introduction would be nice, maybe outside of class hours.

6. Other comments about the course and suggestions for improvements?

Some course literatures where not easy to understand in terms of politics. So it would be very helpful to use more literatures in line with the course.

Thank you for curating this course for us.

Policy analysis was more nice learning about it, maybe if it can be given more time so that we can go deeper with it

I could made better connection when the concepts of Hana Arendth theory represented and I guess It would be more memorable to students.

No comment

I think the policy analysis should be treated into more details because it is a complete structure on its own.

Many of the original sources like Hobbes or Spinoza were very difficult to understand just in one week. I wish we had an small intro of their ideas before reading the book. Also I understood more those authors by reading papers of other people who analyze them. Plus in some modules I read what was asked for in the instruction but then in the seminars I realized it was almost useless since most of the references used for explaining were from other books of the author or from different chapters of the book that were not mentioned in the instructions. Overall I enjoyed the course but I wished I could understand more about the authors

Summary of the evaluations of the teaching team

The teachers are pleased with the overall outcome of the course. The transition between the policy analysis and the focus on political philosophy could have been smoother, but overall there was a good degree of student involvement and the discussions were mostly vibrant and engaged.

Analysis

The teachers and students are very satisfied with the course and the only revision we would implement for next year would serve to connect the policy analysis better with the rest of the course.

Action plan

We will evaluate the current literature list and see if it needs to be updated (especially in terms of the texts on policy analysis) before the course is offered again.

Proposed revisions to the course syllabus

Possibly minor revisions concerning the required readings of the course.