

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: HT25

Ladok code: BU607E

Course coordinator: Johan Dahlbeck

Number of registered students: 33

Number of students who responded to the summative course evaluation: 15

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 five 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

Overall, 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 some of the readings difficult most found that the introductory lectures were helpful for unpacking it and that class discussions were a good place to continue unpacking concepts and ideas. In general, the students found the forms of examination to be fitting in relation to the aims of the course. Lastly, the student responses rendered below speak for themselves.

Below follows the student responses to the five standardized questions:

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

Good

Good and well-planned

I believe the course is thoughtfully structured, with each week dedicated to exploring the work of specific theorists and their ideas, a design that provides strong conceptual support for our learning and enables us to clearly understand the broader aims and philosophical foundations of the programme.

The flow made a lot of sense and I appreciated how each week built upon the last

I think the structure is good, it was easy to follow

I liked it.

Good

Very interesting to have to first study the topic yourself then discuss it in groups

Effective

The structure was perfect in my opinion

Well structured

The course was well structured, with a clear progression from theoretical concepts to practical applications. Each module built logically on the previous one, which made it easier to see the overall development of ideas. However, it would be even more effective if each week included a short review or summary session to connect the content and encourage active reading. Such weekly reflections could help students stay engaged with the readings throughout the course.

I think the course structure was carefully designed, starting with fundamental ideologies and gradually progressing to more complex ones. This logical build-up made the content more coherent and easier to follow, even when dealing with challenging topics.

Very good

I think the course was well structured, introducing different theories about the same concepts (justice, the social contract, etc.)

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

The literature was well selected and closely aligned with the course themes. It provided a good mix of classical and contemporary perspectives. Some texts were challenging, but they were valuable for developing deeper theoretical understanding. A weekly reading guide or short review activity could further support active and critical engagement with the materials.

The literature was well suited to the different themes of the course, offering a range of perspectives that complemented the theoretical discussions. Each reading helped to deepen my understanding of the key concepts and provided valuable context for class debates.

Very relevant

Very well

Very well

Much relevant

I think it was well suited.

In general every authors made sense however authors like mouffe or hobbes didnt really have an educational approach

Very well.

Very good

Effective

The literature effectively supported the course themes by pairing key philosophical texts with contemporary perspectives, highlighting the deep connection between education and politics.

It is well structured

Perfectly

Great, as always

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

The balance between lectures and group discussions was good. The lectures provided a strong theoretical foundation, while discussions allowed for reflection and exchange of ideas. Still, it would be beneficial to use more visual or interactive methods, such as concept maps or thematic presentations, to show the connections between the different theories. This would help to visualize complex relationships and support deeper understanding.

Effective

Very nice

Great

Good

A good mix of both

I would have liked a bit more structure in this course in terms of group discussions/lecture from professors. These topics can be quite heavy, and I think having a bit more scaffolding into the lessons would have made me more comfortable. I still enjoyed it, but I think it would be helpful to have more insight from the perspectives of the teachers

It was nice to have both lectures during one class and group discussions during the other.

Insightful, engaging and educative

I like the way that the course is structured around group discussions.

Perfect, very interesting to discuss with our classmates

A good mix

Good. Perhaps including a film seminar to allow for visual interpretations of some of the more challenging themes would be a valuable addition to the course.

To me, the lectures provided a solid theoretical foundation for exploring the theorists and their ideas, while the discussions encouraged deeper reflection, collaborative learning, and the practical application of those ideas.

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

It has always been a valuable learning experience, allowing me to dig deeper into selected themes, which is a meaningful final course reflection in itself.

Good

Very interesting as it gives a lot of liberty

Presentation should be scrapped or there should be the option to choose which one we'll like to take

I find both forms of examination highly effective, as the presentation helps me practice communicating my ideas confidently before an audience - a new experience for me compared to my previous learning methods - while the written assignment allows me to demonstrate analytical thinking and express my ideas with greater depth.

They are okay. The presentation is helpful to me as it helped me face my fears (stage fright)

I think it is a good way of seeing how much the students have understood and the written paper really forces us to dig deeper.

Good with the combination and very interesting to get the chance to listen to the presentations.

I think a presentation and written paper is a great way to capture what we've learned. I really like the setup of these exams, and I always feel that we are given opportunities to make them unique to us, so the framework of the examinations should not change.

The two forms of examination complemented each other well. The presentation encouraged collaboration and creativity, while the written paper allowed for individual critical analysis. Visual presentations also helped to make theoretical connections clearer and could be used more systematically throughout the course, not only in the examination. And I encourage to group presentation evaluation too.

Very good

I like the idea with both types of examinations, it is fair to everyone

Effective

Very good. A good way of evaluation in two ways

It seems fair.

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

Very well, the dynamics with two teachers is really helpful when it comes to the seminars.

To a greater extent

It has met my expectations.

10/10!!

Every aspect of the course

Overall, the course met my expectations to a large extent. It strengthened both my theoretical understanding and analytical skills. I especially appreciated the opportunity to link theory to practice and to compare different perspectives. Including more visual summaries and weekly reviews could make the learning process even more engaging and support continuous, active reading.

Personally, this has been both an introduction and an eye-opener to many political themes that have given me a deeper understanding, even when some ideologies were quite challenging. Thank you, Johan and Christian, for all your valuable insights, which helps me understand things better. It has been such a pleasure doing this course together with you. Thank you.

This course came at a perfect time. I think my perspective on how politics and education are so intricately combined changed drastically, and I am surprised at how much this course grasped my attention!

I am very happy, as the course exceeded my expectations by providing rich theoretical insight, meaningful discussions, and a supportive learning environment that deepened my understanding of the relationship between education and politics. I am also truly grateful for the friendly and insightful guidance from Johan and Christian - especially our course coordinator, who has been highly dedicated and caring, consistently supporting us in expanding our knowledge and engaging deeply with the course's objectives.

I didn't really have any expectations but I'm positively overwhelmed by both the content, teachers and other students

99.9%

Totally

I think it was a good course. I didn't find all of the topics interesting but that was just because of personal preference and not because they didn't fit into the course. I think it would be good if there was more of relating the theories to real life examples of how they impact teachers, students and schools.

Summary of the evaluations of the teaching team

The teachers are very pleased with the overall outcome of the course. The seminars were highly engaging and the level of the student participation was truly impressive.

Analysis

The teachers and students are very satisfied with the course and at this point there is no need to revise the course.

Action plan

We will continuously evaluate the literature list and see if it needs to be updated or amended.

Proposed revisions to the course syllabus

No revisions planned at this point.