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 C*ourse 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: Education and Politics
Semester: HT23
Ladok code: ET607E
Course coordinator: Johan Dahlbeck
Number of registered students: 12
Number of students who responded to the summative course evaluation: 7

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

In general, the students seem very satisfied with the course. The students all appreciated the structure of the course and for the most part they appreciated the required readings. There are some students who would have liked to have more space to discuss the texts and to cut down a bit on the introductory lectures. One student suggests that putting students in charge of summarizing key points of the text might make for a more dynamic environment. 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), 14% answered 4, 43% answered 5, and 43% 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?

There were highly matched topics and structures

It was great

I thought the course was well structured, but when it came to Plato and Rousseau I think the lecture portion could have been omitted. Even though having a reading week was nice, it was not that necessary since we simply read an article for Rawls and not a complete book.

It was very well structured so I would only suggest that the lectures should perhaps be shortened or chunked, so that one could have a bit more time to process all the new information and engage in a question and answer for clarification, comments or connections.

Good

The course was well structured and well taught. It followed a logical line in order to analyse the philosophers proposed.

Well defined and systemically structured

2. How was the literature suited to the objectives of the course?

It was well organized and highly related to the objective of the course

The choice of literature was very nice.

I would say that sometimes the journal articles were not as great or aligned. And I think it would have been more beneficial to have more time with the main text.

I appreciate the adjustments made to the literature and the shorter pdfs offered since it allowed for reducing the pressure off of reading and focusing on the depth and breadth of the main ideas. I also liked how literature was chronologically well thought of and how it flowed smoothly conceptually from one week to another week.

Great extent

The literature of the course was very interesting and very appropriated for the topics that were core for the subject. Maybe for future courses it would be nice to include more visions and not just western literature.

Contemporary literature should be more clear

3. How helpful were the different introductory lectures and the joint discussions?

I would say if the lectures presented through power point the students will get the points and details easily, when they are reading the lines and thinking simultaneously

Helpful

I think that the lectures were extremely helpful for Spinoza and Arendt!! The others were helpful but some could be shortened or simply not included (Plato and Rousseau)

I really liked the idea of introducing outside guest lecturers like Moa as it offered a somewhat different perspective and it allowed for a lively discussion. I would rather have a shorter but to the point lectures or divided up after a significant point is presented so that we can remain in the zone and work with the concept or idea and remain focused.

Satisfied

It was great to have the first sessions as lectures. It gave everybody a general view of the topic, then it was possible to contribute from the personal point of view.

It has helped a lot

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

	Number of responses
1. To a very small extent	0 (0%)
2.	0 (0%)
3.	0 (0%)
4.	1 (14%)
5.	3 (43%)
6. to a very large extent	3 (43%)
Total	7 (100%)

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

Using power point slides while lecturing.

You can add some other writers from other political situations on the basis of the theme. Thank you for your contribution. I am quite happy to have lectures on politics...

The last comment that I want to make is a recommendation of a possible strategy that would make a student be in charge of summarizing some main points of the text or article. By randomly choosing at the start of the course will help the students take greater responsibility for engagement at least with the text that they are responsible for.

Apart from the literature, lectures and guest speakers, I really liked the summary and review seminar at the end, but I was also wondering if there could be an invite to one or two students studying political studies to attend a seminar, or even a trip to the Malmo City Council for a Q and A session or even the Minister of Education office, though I'm not sure how feasible it would be? It might be interesting to see their take on things and perhaps it would be a nice opportunity for us international students to ask qs or find out more about the Swedish political or educational system. This has just crossed my mind so please disregard if it's irrelevant, or inapplicable. Thank you Johan and Peter as I truly enjoyed it! Thank you for your flexibility, accommodating and adjusting the syllabus, creating the contents and inviting quest speakers and overall making it always a meaningful and thought provoking experience.

Thanks so much for your efforts and time invested in such a nice course.

Summary of the evaluations of the teaching team
The teachers are pleased with the overall outcome of the course. There were good discussions throughout and the students engaged with the literature in a satisfactory way. The final papers proved this engagement further. The oral presentations (halfway through the course) were a bit hit and miss and so we will rethink this setup as the course undergoes revisions for next year.

Analysis
The teachers and students are very satisfied with the course and the idea is to retain most of the course as it is while implementing an additional part on methodology (educational policy) so as to make for a more practically oriented course.

Action plan
The course plan has undergone some revisions, adding a part on methodology. We will also evaluate the current literature list and see if it needs to be updated before the course is offered again.

Proposed revisions to the course syllabus
Possibly minor revisions concerning the required readings of the course.