
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: Master Thesis in Educational Theory

Semester: VT26

Ladok code: ET610E

Course coordinator: Johan Dahlbeck

Number of registered students: 24

Number of students who responded to the summative course evaluation: 4

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 a written assessment as well as orally throughout the course. The written assessment was based on six standardized questions (see below) and the oral assessment was conducted continuously throughout the course in the form of supervision meetings and seminars with teachers and students.

Summary of the students' course evaluations

The four students who responded to the written evaluation seem very satisfied with the course (which is largely made up of student-driven activities). In sum, they considered the course difficult but ultimately rewarding. The oppositions seminars, especially, were singled out for their constructive nature. There were two summative questions (nr 4 and 5) and on the question "To what extent do you consider that the course as a whole has met your expectations?" one student answered 4 (out of 6), one student 5 (out of 6), and two answered 6 (out of 6). On the question "To what extent has the course given you the opportunity to take responsibility for your own learning?" one student answered 5 (out of 6), and three students answered 6 (out of 6). Below follow the text responses to the questions:

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

Effective

It was great and helpful

Really appreciated it-- you could figure out with your supervisor the best way that works with you and I really liked that flexibility.

Worked well.

2. What did you think of the three joint seminars?

Very valuable.

I was only able to attend the first and second, but I felt they were nice. It gave us a chance to converse with our peers and get feedback from experienced writers. I really enjoyed them!

Effective

Very helpful

3. How did you experience the process of reading and writing during the course?

Effective

It was tough but scaled through

Hard, but good.

I have always been a bit of procrastinator unfortunately, so I was a bit stressed and rushed at the end but can only blame myself for that! Overall I thought it was fun and challenging. I tried to embrace every moment, knowing very well it could be the last time I write such a dense piece of academic work. I am REALLY happy to have these few extra weeks after the oppositions to make edits and implement feedback. It will make a big difference in the substance of my work, and I don't know of any other programs that do that, so thank you :)

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

See result of the summative questions above

5. To what extent has the course given you the opportunity to take responsibility for your own learning?

See result of the summative questions above

6. Other comments about the course?

Thank you all for your attentiveness, genuine curiosity in our work, and brilliant feedback during the oppositions. This course and program overall have left me with such positive impressions of Malmö University.

An internship programme would be effective.

Summary of the evaluations of the teaching team

The teachers/supervisors found the course to correspond well with their expectations in terms of it being an independent project where much of the responsibility resides with the students. The supervisors and students had three joint seminars as well as two full-day examination seminars (with two more following in August). The main part of the scheduled meetings were individual supervision meetings between students and supervisors. A particular challenge this year has been the dramatic increase in the size of the student group. Because of this increase we have had to recruit external supervisors and examiners which has proven challenging as these are unfamiliar with the group and with the setup of the program. Still, the course has been surprisingly smooth.

The resulting thesis projects have been a very pleasant surprise so far (more than half of the students handed in their thesis in June, and a smaller group will follow in August). Another pleasant surprise was the opposition seminars where the students were very well prepared and gave constructive and helpful feedback to their peers.

Analysis

The teachers and students are very satisfied with the course. The course is difficult to analyse as a cohesive unit as it was largely based on individual supervision. It is particularly challenging to recruit external supervisors and examiners to a MA program that requires the right kind of expertise. Rather than relying on external help, it would be good to increase the core group of teachers within the program.

Action plan

No changes planned.

Proposed revisions to the course syllabus

No suggestions at this time.