
Course Report: Sport and Sustainable Development, Spring 2022

Department of Sport Sciences, Faculty of Education and Society,
Malmö University

Background information

Course name: Sport and sustainable development

Semester: Spring 2022

Ladok code: IV605G

Course coordinator: Daniel Svensson

Number of registered students: 15

Number of students who responded to the summative course evaluation: 5

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 formative course evaluation was introduced at the course introduction, where the report from last year and the changes made to the course were presented to the students. The students could also share their expectations on the course. Given that it is part of a program where the setup is similar in many of the courses, the students were familiar with the weekly workflow and their expectations were well aligned with how the course was planned. During the course there were continuous discussions and reflections about the content and setup at the weekly “open office” sessions. At the final seminar of the course, we discussed the students’ experiences of the course and its content.

The summative evaluation was done through a survey via MaU Survey. It consisted of standard questions regarding learning objectives, overall quality, pedagogical design, etc.

Summary of the students' course evaluations

General impressions of the course were very positive (4,8 on a 1-5 scale in the survey evaluation). Apart from some concerns regarding the deadline for the weekly portfolio text (students wanted Sunday instead of Friday), the course was considered to work well.

It was also expressed that the week where we focused on economic sustainability could have benefited from an additional lecture, because a couple of students found this topic a bit more challenging than the other themes.

The general structure of the course, as well as the workload and the assignments, was seen as well-balanced and meaningful. The portfolio setup, with continuous albeit quite short papers submitted each week, was perceived as a good structure for the students to improve their writing and familiarize with the topic and the theories.

Administration and access to Canvas etcetera has worked well.

Summary of the evaluations of the teaching team

The teaching team had an evaluation meeting after the course and the general impression was positive. In particular, the structure of the weekly workflow (lecture - student seminar- teacher-led seminar – open office) worked well. The assignment format with weekly portfolio papers made for an iterative process with continuous feedback. Many of the students showed a clear progression during the course, and the teaching team agreed that the portfolio setup was contributing to this progression.

In terms of content, most of it worked well and will remain for next year.

The introduction of a more structured form of student peer review was generally seen as positive. It will be further developed next year.

Analysis

In general, the course is well-designed and appreciated by the students. The course was given in a blended format, with some lectures and seminars given at campus and others online. A guest lecture (with Albin Blomqvist) was given in a hybrid format and was highly appreciated by the students. The different forms of learning activities all contributed to a positive outcome.

The weekly workflow, with lectures followed by student seminars, teacher-led seminars and open office, has worked well. Given that some of the students expressed that they did not put in a full 40 hours per week, there is room for some additional workload (primarily more readings and peer review)

Action plan

Given the rather low number of respondents for the summative course evaluation survey, the teachers will send additional reminders to all students.

We will try to keep the guest lecture with Albin Blomqvist and add another guest lecture, from someone working with sustainability issues in a sport club/organization. We will also investigate the possibility to include a field visit to a sports-related environment somewhere in Malmö.

The course literature will be continuously reviewed and updated, as the field is growing rapidly, and many relevant studies are published (including several from our teaching team).

The deadline for portfolio papers will be on Sundays (rather than Fridays as was the case this year).

Finally, the peer-review element will be further developed. Students will be given the task to read and give feedback on the work of their peers on at least one more occasion.

Proposed revisions to the course syllabus

No major changes to the syllabus are planned. However, there will be more optional readings added in Canvas, especially linking to the themes of the guest lectures. We also aim to further strengthen the connection to our own research on sports and sustainability.