

Emneevaluering / course evaluation ISV

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Navn / name *

Navn til emneansvarlig
Sirianne Dahlum

Velg kursnivå *

Masterkurs

Bare for Master: velg blokk

Blokk 1

Emnekode / course code *

STV 4326

Emnenavn / Course title

Threats to Modern Democracy

Semester *

Vår 2024

Emnerapport / course report *

Course convener's evaluation of the course:

I was happy with how the course turned out. Around 40 students signed up for the course, and I believe that the large majority of these also finished the compulsory assignments and took the exam. The lectures and the syllabus seemed to spark a lot of interest and engagement among the students. A key emphasis of the course was on how to draw inferences in political science, and from the compulsory assignments and the exam I am left with the impression that students learned to reflect more critically around methodological and research design issues. Most students showed up regularly to the class, and participated actively. Students seemed very engaged in the course materials and seemed to appreciate the different class activities, including the menti exercises, podcasts and writing exercises.

Summary of feedback from students

I never got a fixed student contact point, but I received very positive feedback throughout the course from students I talked to during breaks, after the lectures or during office hours. Students seemed to find readings very exciting, and several mentioned how the lectures were engaging. They particularly appreciated how the syllabus focused on newer contributions to the literature (often from the recent years), rather than older classical contributions, and how the lectures discussed research design. I had been a little bit uncertain about whether some of the content would be too difficult, given the focus on research design and causal inference, but based on the feedback from students during the semester, this did not seem to be the case.

Overall assessment and suggestions for improvements:

This semester I tried out a combination of weekly assignments (compulsory, with pass/fail) and a school exam as assessment. While I was quite happy with the weekly assignments, I am considering reintroducing the essay the next time I give this course. One feedback I got from students was that they wished they could receive more feedback on the weekly assignments. This is something I will consider the next time. I'm also thinking that some lectures could have contained somewhat less information, and next time I will cut slightly down on the content of the lectures and the slides.

Emneevalueringen bør inneholde:

1. Vurdering av emnet
 - Læringsutbytte i emnet
 - Undervisningsformer og organisering
 - Andre relevante temaer som læringsmiljø, studentenes arbeidsinnsats og eventuelt vurderingsformer
2. Studentens tilbakemelding
 - Oppsummering av studentenes viktigste tilbakemeldinger
3. Helhetlig vurdering og videreutvikling
 - En samlet vurdering av kvaliteten på emnet
 - Justeringer som er foretatt som følge av evalueringen.
 - Muligheter for videreutvikling av emnet

The course evaluation should include:

1. Assessment of the course
 - Learning outcomes in the course
 - Teaching methods and organization
 - Other relevant topics such as the learning environment, students' effort and possibly forms of assessment
2. Student's feedback
 - Summary of students' most important feedback
3. Overall assessment and further development
 - An overall assessment of the quality of the course
 - Adjustments made as a result of the evaluation.
 - Opportunities for further development of the course