

Course analysis, spring term 2019

LIA739, LIB700, LIB709, LID739, LIM021, LIM050, LIT749
Independent Project for the Degree of Master, 15/30 credits

1. Course development, spring term 2019:

Increased time for supervision and reviewing (granskning).

2. Strengths (based on answers to the student course evaluation):

Based on 5 responses out of 11 students, the course gets ratings of 3.8 for both overall impression and accomplishment of learning outcomes. It also seems that the students feel that they have learnt a lot.

3. Weaknesses (based on answers to the student course evaluation):

The negative feedback concerns problems with data collection, the writing process and delimitation of the topic, and more generally to remain in sync with the deadlines of the course despite these problems. (There is also one student who feels that they have not at all accomplished the learning outcomes of the course, but it is hard to interpret this since there is no free-text answer that elaborates this.)

4. Instructor analysis:

The thesis courses are rather different from other courses at the department since students are much more on their own than in the other parts of the curriculum. Master and Magister students are in a better position than Bachelor students since they will have written one or two theses before (though not always at this department), but then the requirements gets increasingly higher. Another difference is that the thesis courses are distributed in the sense that most of the work is carried out outside of the seminars, with different student-supervisor pairs functioning in different ways, and with the burden of keeping in touch placed on the students. Given these inherent pitfalls, it seems that the course is still reasonably well on track.

5. Conclusions and suggestions for course development:



- *Check and update literature, learning criteria and review protocols.*
- *Do a better job of communicating the inherent and recurring pitfalls of the course to the students early on to increase their chances of dealing with the problems in time.*
- *Do a better job of communicating the inherent and recurring pitfalls of the course to the supervisors to increase their chances of responding properly and timely to problems that occur along the way.*