

MAE4230: Research Seminar I 2018-2019

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SWOT Analysis based on teacher reflections and student input

Strengths

- Course was recognized and acknowledged as a useful tool course;
- Philosophy of Science part seen as novel and relevant, even by students having followed the Ex.Phil bachelor course

Weaknesses

- Presentation of thesis projects that could be pursued with external thesis partner was perceived as too vague, which resulted in students thinking it would be too much of a risk to engage in these;

Opportunities

- Room to integrate bigger picture of the programme into the course: e.g., by implementing research talks

Threats

- Coordination & timing of course components

Plans for 2019-2020

- Solidify training of library tools by means of a cumulative assessment running across the first semester sessions (response to need perceived in other courses)
- Modify philosophy of science Theory Critique assignment by providing selected target papers (response to suggestion by students)
- Add more structure to meeting with and presentation by external thesis partners ("Weakness")
- Integrate some research talks to bring students into contact with ongoing research in the broader fields connected to the master programme ("Opportunity")