

Periodic evaluation form of courses IPED

Please fill out the form and send it to the administrative coordinator of the course.

Course	HEM4312
Semester	Fall 2016
Lecturer/responsible for the course	Mari Elken
Time for mid evaluation (short evaluation midway through the course)	N/A
How did you carry out the periodic evaluation?	Nettskjema
How many students took part in this evaluation?	10/15
The students experience of the following points:	
*Lessons/teaching, teaching plan and learning environment	80% of the students indicated that they felt that the structure of the seminars contributed well to their overall learning.
*The content of the course (level and relevance in connection to the course aims)	This course is a two day course with student presentations and feedback on their final thesis proposal. The students receive feedback from both their peers and the teacher of the course. Student presentations received mixed response, but only one student responded that this was not useful. The students gave a mixed response to how useful they found both the peer feedback and the feedback from the teacher of the course. In both cases one student responded that they did not find the feedback useful, and about 70% responded on the usefulness as "quite a lot" and "completely satisfied".
*Assessment	The assessment for this course is a final submission of their thesis proposal. There was a varied response in how the students felt that this contributed to the overall course. The distribution was similar than on the previous question.
*Additional feedback	Students were given the opportunity to provide additional feedback on the course. One student commented that it would have been useful to have the assigned supervisors participating in the feedback of the proposals. Another student felt that there was too much emphasis on problems that arise during the thesis writing and research phase. This student noted that it wasn't helpful to hear about the scary part of the thesis. This student offered the suggestion of focusing instead on how to overcome challenges.

	This same student also commented on the timing of this course based on the other course requirements.
Conclusion	
*Suggestions for changes (the students and the teachers)	<p>The course should be evaluated also in the context of the overall programme structure. Until recently, there was a longer gap between the HEM4113 course exam and advanced methods, giving students ample time to apply their knowledge to the proposal. Due to scheduling issues this was somewhat challenging this year. Scheduling is an issue that should be critically examined.</p> <p>Furthermore, the thesis writing seminar structure in spring was significantly altered for previous semester, thus the student body and that students were in varied stage of their proposal writing process, with some already working with their supervisors. This can be addressed by creating a clearer link between the thesis seminars in spring semester and the Advanced methods course, as well as to the HEM4113 course.</p>
*Reasons for not doing changes that students have suggested	<p>One of the suggestions is to have the supervisors participate at the seminar. In the current structure of the programme this would be rather complicated, as not all students have their supervisors formally assigned, and thesis work formally starts on fourth semester.</p> <p>Regarding emphasis on challenges – there was already a clear intent to discuss both challenges and how to overcome these in further work, and the course concluded with a session on how to proceed further with thesis writing. In that final session that concluded the two days, specific emphasis was on practical tips on how to manage thesis writing. We covered the issue of coherence, academic writing and what is important when writing the thesis, use of software for academic writing, how to work with supervisor, how to plan your work and time management. The session was open, and it was emphasized that questions about such issues would be welcome throughout.</p>

Signature (academic staff): 