

John Parker and Mette Andersson

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Reflection on Course Evaluations, SOS2000

This was the first time that this course was taught, it will take more time to refine our lectures and curriculum. Most students agree that the teaching was high quality, though a few responded otherwise. Students also valued our commitment to the course and to their educations. The qualitative reviews were generally positive but sometimes also pointed in different directions. For instance, some state that we did a great job focusing on group work and practical exercises, while others claim that we didn't do enough along these lines. Given this ambivalence, it is better to focus on common responses. These included: 1) the subject was abstract; 2) students would like more feedback; and 3) there was too much reading; 4) students would like information about the exam earlier in the semester. We will work to address these concerns by: 1) reducing the number of readings; 2) interspersing more abstract lectures with lectures focused on the practical aspects of theorizing; 3) having more group work; 4) giving specific examples of theorizing from our own research; and, 5) providing students with information about the exam earlier in the semester.