Evaluations, Fall 2018

Study board of International Affairs/Studienævnet for Internationale Forhold (SNIF)

Evaluations fall semester 2018: courses, semester and supervision at Development and International Relations (DIR), European Studies (ES) and Global Refugee Studies (GRS)

DIR

Course evaluations:
Response rate 72 percent (63 out of 87)

The evaluations were overall quite positive, with satisfaction rates with learning outcomes ranging from 57 to 100 percent. Among the issues raised in the comments were a wish for more exercises and more time for discussion in class. In addition, concrete examples of application of theories were much appreciated. In some cases, the students also asked for better coordination between the teachers. A general issue is the balance between lectures introducing basic IR theories and more advanced case studies, where a recurring comment is that some students felt that the theories are already familiar to them from their BA programs. The study board is discussing how to balance an introduction to basic theoretical concepts with the more advanced topics, which can be quite complicated due to the varied backgrounds of our students.

Semester evaluation:
Response rate 44 percent (62 out of 148)

85 percent of the students reported their satisfaction rate as average or above. Some students commented on the confusion regarding the exam in Political and Economic development. This has since been handled by the study board. The respondents repeat the wish for more suitable places for group work, and some students also comment on the lack of proper facilities for socializing.

Supervision:
Out of 25 respondents, two groups were dissatisfied with the supervision. The rest were either very satisfied or relatively satisfied. The two dissatisfied groups were supervised by two different supervisors, who received positive evaluations from other groups.

ES

Courses:
Response rate 79 % percent (11 out of 14)

The satisfaction rates with the learning outcomes of the different courses range 44 to 100 percent. The methods course received the lowest score, with students wishing for more time for discussion and less repetition of material familiar to them from their BA backgrounds. The coordinator and the study board will discuss how to improve this course.
Semester:
Eight students responded – but only 3 students actually completed the questionnaire. The number of respondents is therefore too low to make analysis meaningful. However, all three respondents reported that they were satisfied with the semester.

Supervision:
All three respondents were very satisfied with supervision.

GRS Courses:
Response rate 61 percent (53 out of 87)

Students are overall very satisfied with the courses, with satisfaction levels ranging from 71 to 100 percent. However, for some courses the response rate was relatively low. Most students found the lectures and the materials very good, but there were a few critical comments about information levels and communication about exams.

Semester:
Response rate 57 % percent (36 out of 63)

Students were generally satisfied with the semester as a whole, and very positive about the study program. The few critical comments raised were again about the quality of the practical information received at the beginning of the semester and the lack of knowledge about the different IT systems.

Some students also commented on the need for more space for group work, the quality and prices in the cafeteria, and the lack of facilities for socializing.

Supervision:
There were 21 respondents. Most students were satisfied, but a few raised critical comments especially about the availability of two of the supervisors. This has been handled by the GRS coordinator.