

Report on course evaluations: Tourism Aalborg, Autumn Semester 2018

The evaluation form was distributed to 26 active 7th semester students and 24 have completed at least some parts of the questionnaire, which gives a response rate of 92%. We can therefore assume that it provides an accurate picture of the group's views; however, it should be noted that the number of responses varies slightly between the courses. Twenty-one students completed all sections of the evaluation questionnaire. Please note that the percentages do not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Consumer Studies in Tourism

In relation to this course, all of the respondents said they knew the learning objectives of the course. The vast majority were satisfied with the extent and level of the course, with 86% saying the level was appropriate and 73% saying the extent was appropriate. Overall there are high levels of satisfaction. 85% of respondents agreed or completely agreed that the course gave a good learning outcome in proportion to the learning outcomes, 91% agreed or completely agreed that the course material supported their learning process.

The comments indicate that the students found the content of the sessions interesting and liked working with case studies. Some issues were raised in relation to the number of 'double sessions' which were quite long and therefore tiring. The sessions were organized in this way due to the teacher travelling from Copenhagen and in the future we will return to our normal 2x45 minute sessions.

Tourism Destination Analysis

All the respondents claimed to know the learning objectives of this course, answering with a clear yes (67%) or more or less (33%). Again, the respondents were very positive about the level and extent of the course. 95% agreed the level was appropriate and 100% though the extent was appropriate. All but one of the respondents agreed (62%) or completely agreed (33%) that the course gave me a good learning outcome in proportion to the learning objectives.

The comments on this course are very positive. The students appreciated the clear structure, and historical background, which provided a good introduction to tourism studies and made connections to the other courses. The use of reading guides to direct reading before the lectures was repeatedly mentioned as a positive. Suggestions for improvement include more interactive materials such as videos and potentially field work.

Encounters: Sociological Approaches to Tourism

As with the other courses, all of the students who responded said that they knew or more or less knew the learning objectives. Again, they were satisfied overall with the content, with 86% saying it was at an appropriate level and 95% saying the extent was appropriate. Similarly, the respondents were highly satisfied with the course overall, with 38% completely agreeing and 57% agreeing that it gave them a good learning outcome in relation to the learning objectives.

The comments for this course are overwhelmingly positive. They indicate that the students found the material covered in the course interesting and relevant, and that they appreciated the way that connections were made to other courses.

Project Based Learning and Project Writing

As with all the other courses, all of the students who filled in the evaluation form said they knew, or more or less knew, the learning objectives for the course. 71% thought that the level was appropriate, and 19% thought it was too high. This probably reflects the very mixed disciplinary/methodological backgrounds of our students. Nonetheless 86% thought the extent was appropriate. It is pleasing to see that overall satisfaction with this course is higher this year: 86% agreed or completely agreed that the course gave them a good learning outcome.

The comments indicate that some students found this course difficult due to lack of previous knowledge and the variation in disciplinary backgrounds. There were positive comments about the course as a good foundation for project work, discussion of the differences between BA and MA level work, and coverage of different research methods. Suggestions for improvement include replacing student presentations with a lecture.

Semester projects

We received twelve 7th semester project evaluations, giving a response rate of 26%. Overall these were positive, with students particularly satisfied with the accessibility of their supervisors. Only three students wrote comments, two praising their supervisors' helpfulness and availability for supervision, and a third expressing concern about lack of guidance regarding the appropriate level for Master level projects. This latter point will be addressed during 8th semester teaching sessions.

Overall key points

Overall the evaluations and comments were very positive, with some suggestions for improvements. The 7th semester teachers have discussed the evaluations, and potential improvements have been discussed with the students in the semester start meeting.