

Report on course and supervision evaluations: Tourism Aalborg, Autumn Semester 2019

The evaluation form was distributed to 27 students. Of these 24 are active students and 23 of these have completed at least some parts of the questionnaire, which gives a response rate of 96% among active students.

All the respondents had attended the three tourism courses and six had also attended the Arctic Studies Specialisation course.

Consumer Studies in Tourism

Sixteen students answered questions about this course. Of these students, nine claimed to spend 4-6 hours or fewer per week on this course, while three said they had spent 7-9 hours and four claimed to have spent 10 hours or more. This pattern of wide variation in time spent is apparent in other courses and we will be following up with the students to find out why this is, and remind them of the expectations regarding preparation time, etc. The vast majority of the respondents thought that the level of the course was appropriate, with similar findings in relation to the extent of the course. Overall, 81% of the respondents agreed or completely agreed that the course material supported their learning process, and a smaller majority (60%) agreed that the presentation supported their learning.

The comments indicate that the course provided insights into consumer behaviour and identity. Students appreciated the fieldwork visit and interesting readings but would like more student engagement in classes.

Tourism Destination Analysis

Twenty-three students answered the questions about this course. All said they knew the learning objectives of the course completely or more or less. As with the other courses, there was wide variation in the number of hours spent on the course per week. While five students spent 10 hours or more, eight spent 7-9 hours, a further eight spent 4-6 hours and two claimed to have spent only 1-3 hours, which suggests that they spent no time on preparation. The vast majority (87%) agreed that the level and extent of the course was appropriate. 76% completely agreed or agreed that the course material supported their learning process and 81% agreed or completely agreed that the presentation of material supported their learning.

In the comments the respondents highlighted the case studies, group discussions and presentations as particularly good aspects of the course. Some students who had studied tourism at Bachelor level would have liked more in depth/higher level material. We will consider how to deliver more differentiated material to engage those who have studied tourism before, as well as those who are new to the subject. Another suggestion for improvement is to work with a Danish destination or DMO as a case for analysis.

Encounters – Sociological and Anthropological Approaches To Tourism

Twenty students responded to questions about this course. Again, there appears to be wide variation in the amount of time students spend on the course. Thirteen students said they spent 6-9 hours per week or more than ten hours a week. However, six said that spent 4-6 hours per week and one student claimed to spend 1-3 hours. The vast majority (85%) thought that the level and extent of the course was appropriate. The respondents were generally very satisfied with the course material, presentation and overall learning outcomes from this course with over 80% responding that they completely agreed or agreed that these were good and supported their learning.

In the comments the respondents were very positive about the course topics, which they generally found very interesting and their praised the teacher for her clear presentation of difficult concepts. Some students found the requirements of the portfolio exam difficult to understand.

Problem Based Methodology and Project Writing

Twenty students responded to questions about this course. While there is again variation in the number of hours spent on the course, twelve students claimed to spend 4-6 hours per week on it, while two spent 7-9 hours and three spent over 10 hours per week. 90% of respondents thought that the level of the course was appropriate and 95% thought that the extent was appropriate. In general, the respondents were very satisfied with the course. 95% agreed or completely agreed that it gave a good learning outcome, 85% agreed or completely agreed that the course material supported their learning process and 95% agreed or completely agreed that the presentation of material supported their learning. This is particularly pleasing since we have worked on improving the course in the light of comments from students in previous years.

The comments were also positive with students praising the structure of the presentations and group work, the practice sessions in using different data collection methods and analysis techniques.