

Emneevaluering / course evaluation ISV

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Navn / name *

Navn til emneansvarlig

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Velg kursnivå *

Masterkurs

Bare for Master: velg blokk

Blokk 3

Emnekode / course code *

STV4447

Emnenavn / Course title

Education policies in theory and practice - Policymaking in Norway and around the world

Semester *

Spring 2024

Emnerapport / course report *

1. Assessment of the course

From the view of the teacher, the revised design for the course worked well. Especially the practical component of writing policy briefs in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Research (KD) worked even better than in previous iterations of the course due to the very strong support and engagement from the ministry. Having at times 10 bureaucrats sitting in a room and listening to the students present their ideas for solving policy problems that the ministry had defined for them was very valuable for students, and the presentation by the head of HR at the ministry about job opportunities was also a great experience. The structure of the course with separate thematic sessions worked well and the presentation of term paper drafts was also a good activity. By and large, the selected literature was also suitable. However, a reduction in the literature could be helpful for the next iteration.

One challenge from the side of the teacher was that the level of motivation and engagement of students varied and that several did not really read the literature before coming to class which made interactive discussions difficult. This was a topic in the mid-term evaluation meeting with the course contacts and they pointed to the challenges of too much literature to read per session and a general lack of motivation in the 3rd block of teaching. To partly address this, I identified one or two key studies for each subsequent session asking students to focus their reading on those which improved the level of preparation slightly, but in general this remained an issue throughout the course.

2. Student's feedback

Overall, students were very positive about the content of the course and especially the practical aspects of drafting policy briefs based on questions that KD defined and presenting them at the ministry in front of bureaucrats who work on these issues. Students liked the topics and especially discussions about more practical aspects of policy making. In general, students indicated that they would prefer less literature to read for each session and that the obligatory activities are clustered in a short period of time due to the block structure of the teaching. One suggested solution could be to set aside time in each class to discuss the policy briefs throughout the entire course to incentivize students to start working on them early on to make the end of the course less stressful. Also, students expressed the wish to have a clearer idea of how the presentation of the policy briefs at the ministry would take place to be properly prepared.

3. Overall assessment and further development

Overall, the course was seen very positive and especially the collaboration with KD and the policy briefs were seen very positively. The structure, topics, obligatory activities, and examination work well. For the next iteration, I would reduce the amount of literature slightly and set aside some minutes each session to talk about the policy briefs and their preparation to incentivize students to start working on them earlier.

Emneevalueringen bør inneholde:

1. Vurdering av emnet
 - Læringsutbytte i emnet
 - Undervisningsformer og organisering
 - Andre relevante temaer som læringsmiljø, studentenes arbeidsinnsats og eventuelt vurderingsformer
2. Studentens tilbakemelding
 - Oppsummering av studentenes viktigste tilbakemeldinger
3. Helhetlig vurdering og videreutvikling
 - En samlet vurdering av kvaliteten på emnet
 - Justeringer som er foretatt som følge av evalueringen.
 - Muligheter for videreutvikling av emnet

The course evaluation should include:

1. Assessment of the course
 - Learning outcomes in the course
 - Teaching methods and organization
 - Other relevant topics such as the learning environment, students' effort and possibly forms of assessment
2. Student's feedback
 - Summary of students' most important feedback
3. Overall assessment and further development
 - An overall assessment of the quality of the course
 - Adjustments made as a result of the evaluation.
 - Opportunities for further development of the course