



Sustainable Production Systems in a Global Perspective BI1192, 30064.1920

15 Hp

Pace of study = 100%

Education cycle = Basic

Course leader = Thomas Prade

Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2020-03-16 - 2020-04-07

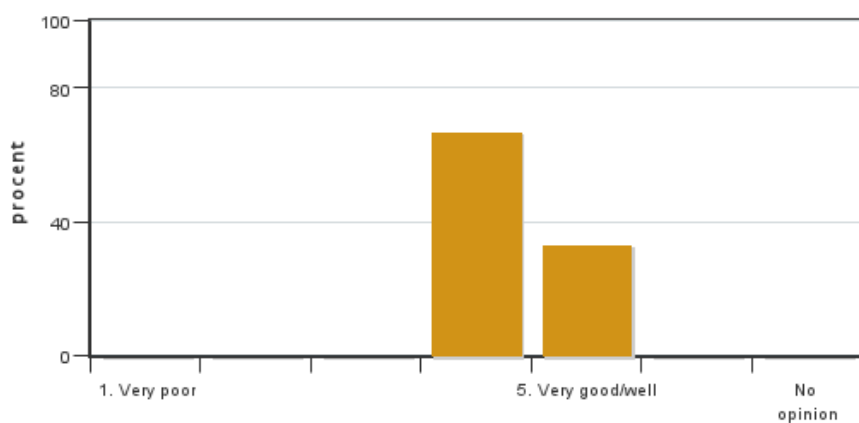
Answers 3

Number of students 3

Answer frequency 100 %

Mandatory standard questions

1. My overall impression of the course is:

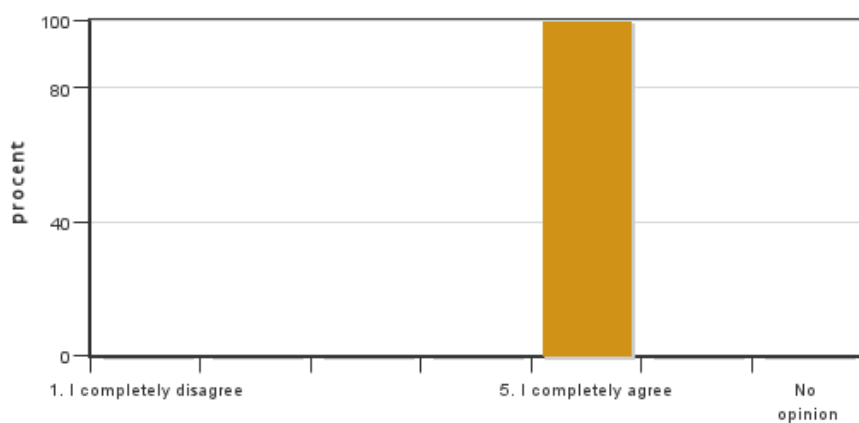


Answers: 3
Medel: 4,3
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
5: 1

No opinion: 0

2. I found the course content to have clear links to the learning objectives of the course.

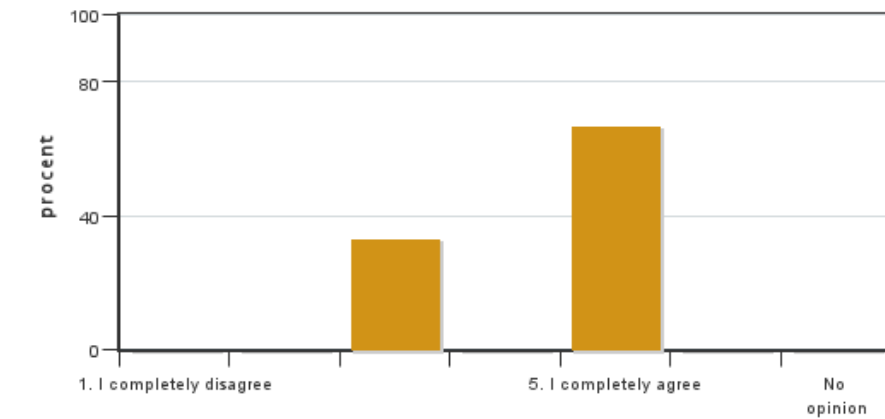


Answers: 3
Medel: 5,0
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 0
5: 3

No opinion: 0

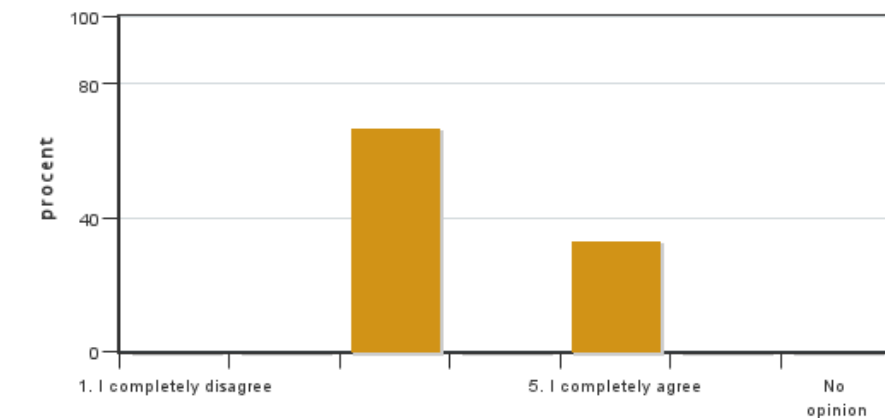
3. My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course.



Answers: 3
Medel: 4,3
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 0
5: 2
No opinion: 0

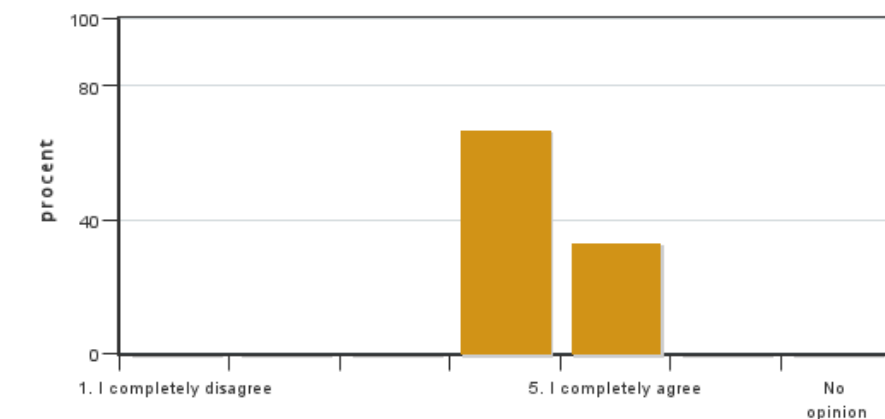
4. The information about the course was easily accessible.



Answers: 3
Medel: 3,7
Median: 3

1: 0
2: 0
3: 2
4: 0
5: 1
No opinion: 0

5. The various course components (lectures, course literature, exercises etc.) have supported my learning.



Answers: 3
Medel: 4,3
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
5: 1
No opinion: 0

6. The social learning environment has been inclusive, respecting differences of opinion.



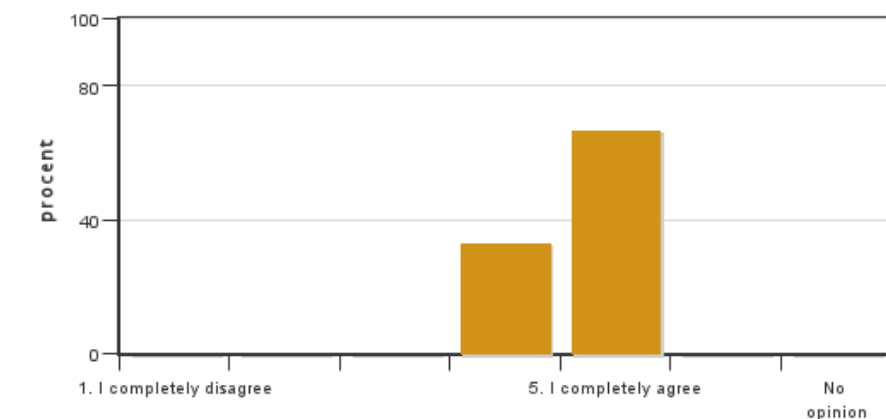
Answers: 3
Medel: 5,0
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 0
5: 3



No opinion: 0

7. The physical learning environment (facilities, equipment etc.) has been satisfactory.



Answers: 3

Medel: 4,7

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

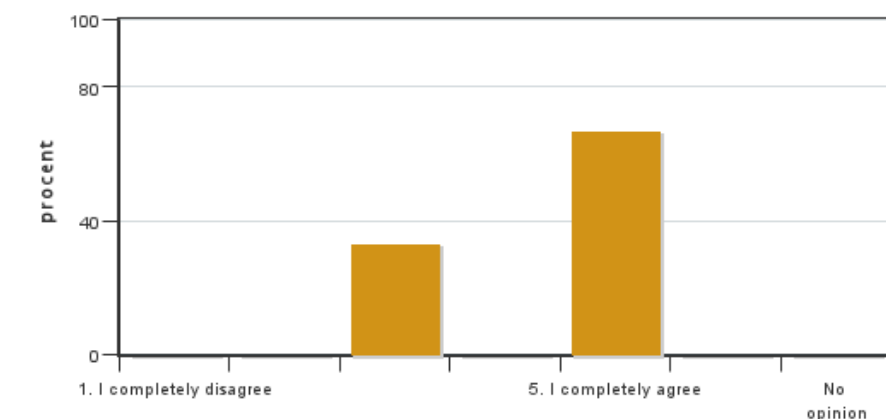
3: 0

4: 1

5: 2

No opinion: 0

8. The examination(s) provided opportunity to demonstrate what I had learnt during the course (see the learning objectives).



Answers: 3

Medel: 4,3

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

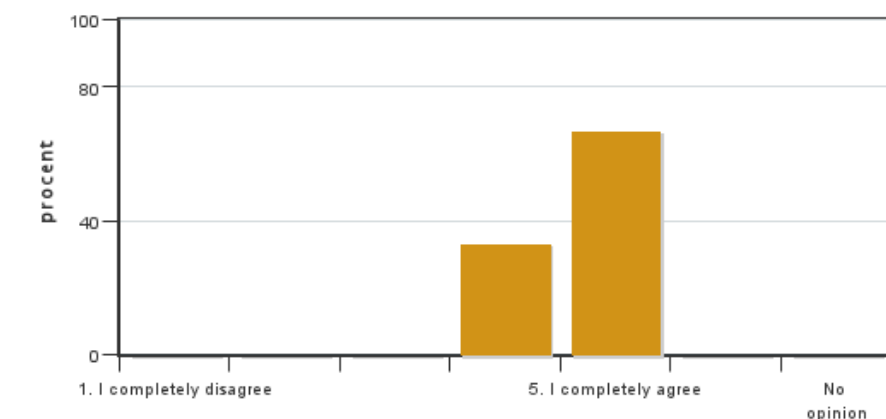
3: 1

4: 0

5: 2

No opinion: 0

9. The course covered the sustainable development aspect (environmental, social and/or financial sustainability).



Answers: 3

Medel: 4,7

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

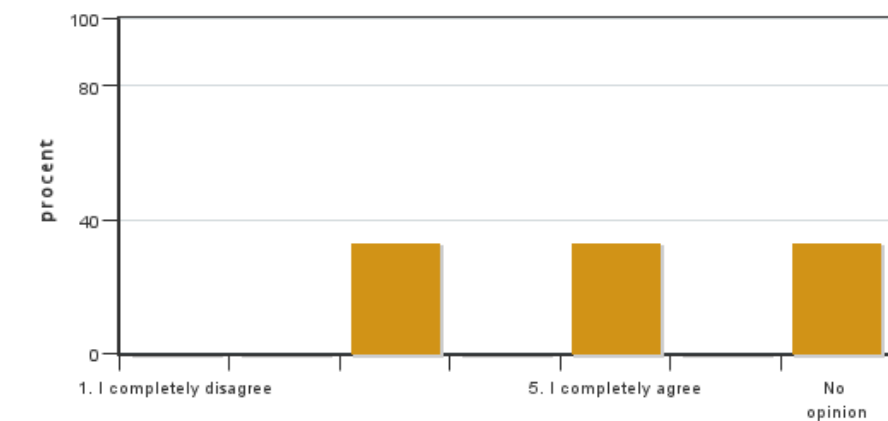
3: 0

4: 1

5: 2

No opinion: 0

10. I believe the course has included a gender and equality aspect, regarding content as well as teaching practices (e.g. perspective on the subject, reading list, allocation of speaking time and the use of master suppression techniques).

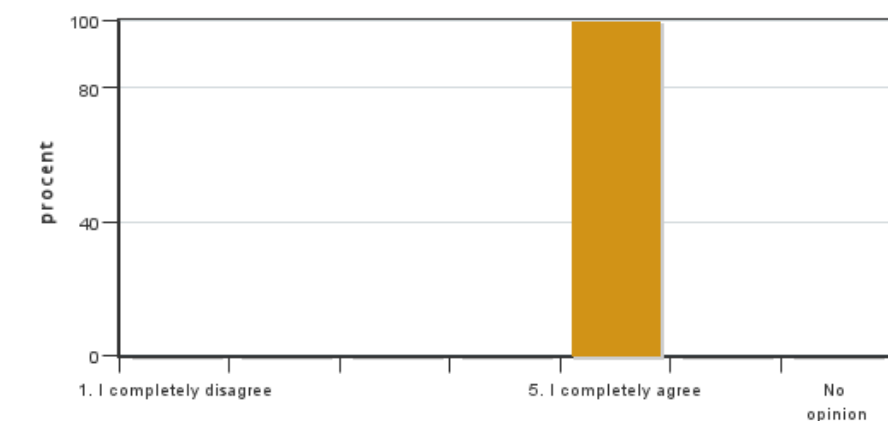


Answers: 3
Medel: 4,0
Median: 3

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 0
5: 1

No opinion: 1

11. The course covered international perspectives.

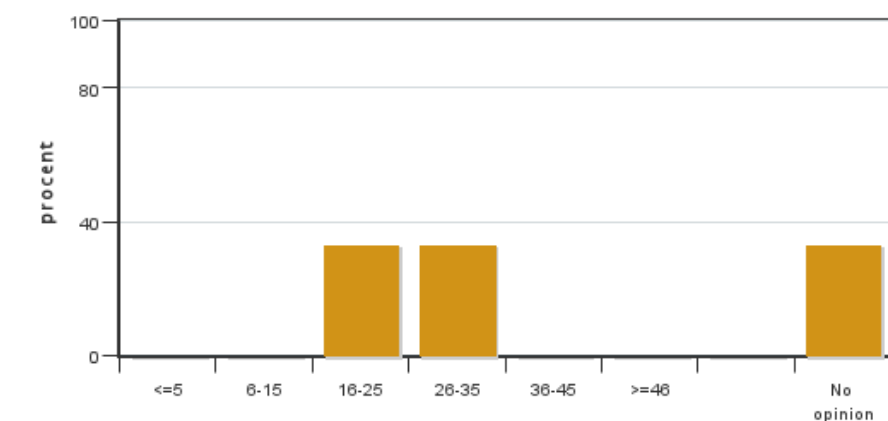


Answers: 3
Medel: 5,0
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 0
5: 3

No opinion: 0

12. On average, I have spent ... hours/week on the course (including timetabled hours).



Answers: 3
Medel: 25,0
Median: 16-25

≤5: 0
6-15: 0
16-25: 1
26-35: 1
36-45: 0
≥46: 0

No opinion: 1

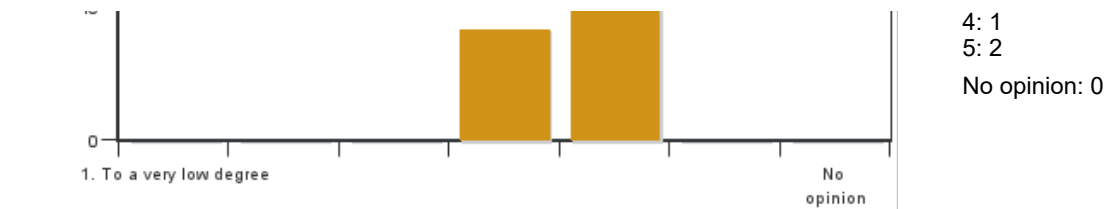
Additional own questions

13. The PhD presentation day gave me a valuable insight in current research topics at SLU Alnarp.



Answers: 3
Medel: 4,7
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0



14. What did you like with the PhD presentation day?

14. What could be improved with the PhD presentation day

Course leaders comments

Course leader Thomas Prade:

I present here the critical comments I received in the oral course evaluation (20 March 2020) where two out of three students participated:

There was a lot of positive feedback for this year's course. The course went well, although only three students attended it. However, as was pointed out during the oral course evaluation, having more students would contribute to the course, make it more interesting, especially with regards to the group work.

Being only three students made that all group work parts became individual parts in the course. This was chosen so that there would still be different "groups" so that students would be able to give and receive feedback for their work. The additional workload was acknowledged (and pointed out by the students) and partly reduced by offering re-using the same topic in different tasks. Another negative aspect of the limited number of students was that task 4 (production systems) and task 7 (individual work) were too similar. Normally this would be different, since task 4 is a group task and work would be split so that each student could work on a specific part and in more detail. This has to be considered if the course is running with few students again. To name a positive aspect of being few students was that lectures turned into better discussions!

One lecture was difficult to follow due to language barriers (heavily accented English from the fast talking presenter). I will ask the presenter to take more time to explain things (and talk slower).

Positive comments regarded:

- The variety of lecture topics / lecturers
- A good schedule with a rather even workload
- The PhD student presentation day

The PhD student presentation day was a new course item for this year. It was appreciated by the students of the course as well as by the PhD students. This presentation day was the first contact for at least one student with a PhD student, i.e. with a person in a later stage of education, which was experienced as inspiring as a glimpse into the own potential future. Another aspect of the PhD student presentation days was that this course item presented potential solutions, maybe more so compared to other course items. Some students would have liked to have more presentations on that day. I agree and that was the plan. Unfortunately, only two presentations were given (one candidate being sick). The plan is to have more (up to 8) PhD students attending the course. The feedback form sheet could have been more comprehensive as is pointed out below.

Depending on the background, some lectures were seen as too basic. If students have the same topic in their education, some lectures may be repetitive, and students realized that this is a cost for bringing all students in the course to the similar level.

I am happy that three out of three students answered the online course evaluation. I will comment the results in cases where answers reflect a negative view (rating 1 or 2):

Mandatory standard questions

1. My overall impression of the course is:

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,3

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 2

5: 1

No opinion: 0

- One of the best courses that I've been studying so far! Interesting and inspiring lectures that covers a lot of different perspectives of sustainability in production systems. (5)

2. I found the course content to have clear links to the learning objectives of the course.

Answers: 3

Medel: 5,0

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 0

5: 3

No opinion: 0

3. My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course.

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,3

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 1

4: 0

5: 2

No opinion: 0

- It was fun because all of the students came from different backgrounds which led to a lot of new knowledge. (5)
- My background in sustainability was pretty much perfect for the course. Some elements remain confusing, but this was to be expected ie. horticultural science, the more biological side of things. (3)

4. The information about the course was easily accessible.

Answers: 3

Medel: 3,7

Median: 3

1: 0

2: 0

3: 2

4: 0

5: 1

No opinion: 0

- The library was well equipped to the course needs, although recommended course literature could be expanded and more varied. For example, articles, news stories, video clips etc. This would have made the course more interesting and would have better supplemented the lectures. (3)

Thomas: I will try my best to expand the course literature with other items than articles and reports. I have tried so in the past, and the difficulty is that articles need to be in English to be accessible to all students of the course. However, part of the course tasks is to do own research and find related (news-)articles. This could be made another task: to bring one recent news article fitting the topic of e.g. the reading seminars.

5. The various course components (lectures, course literature, exercises etc.) have supported my learning.

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,3

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 2

5: 1

No opinion: 0

6. The social learning environment has been inclusive, respecting differences of opinion.

Answers: 3

Medel: 5,0

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 0

5: 3

No opinion: 0

- The class was an unusually small class, which meant most lectures evolved into more debate/conversation discussions. Hence, ideas and opinions were always going to be thrown about. I felt this enriched the learning experience, although as time goes on, with that small a class, you start to get a feel for how each person thinks. More variety in thought pattern would have been beneficial. (5)

7. The physical learning environment (facilities, equipment etc.) has been satisfactory.

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,7

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 1

5: 2

No opinion: 0

- The Library and lecture halls were well equipped for everything you would need for presentations etc. Although, the course could also be well suited to online learning. (5)

Thomas: Yes, and this course may be given online in spring 2021 in respect to the current corona crisis.

8. The examination(s) provided opportunity to demonstrate what I had learnt during the course (see the learning objectives).

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,3

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 1

4: 0

5: 2

No opinion: 0

- The assignments were clearly well linked and I felt like each assignment was a step up from the last, all heading towards the individual essay, where the aims allowed us to showcase our prior learning and present our new knowledge and understanding of the topic. (5)

9. The course covered the sustainable development aspect (environmental, social and/or financial sustainability).

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,7

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 1

5: 2

No opinion: 0

- All three 'pillars' were looked at in detail and the goals were easily related to much of the content. (5)

10. The course covered international perspectives.

Answers: 3

Medel: 5,0

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 0

5: 3

No opinion: 0

- The Glimpses of the World series gave a unique insight into different systems across the globe and significantly enriched the course experience. It also lead to a greater understanding of different approaches to sustainability and gave us the 'global perspective' the course was aiming for. (5)

11. On average, I have spent ... hours/week on the course (including timetabled hours).

Answers: 3

Medel: 25,0

Median: 16-25

≤5: 0

6-15: 0

16-25: 1

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12. I believe the course has included a gender and equality aspect, regarding content as well as teaching practices (e.g. perspective on the subject, reading list, allocation of speaking time and the use of master suppression techniques).

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,0

Median: 3

1: 0

2: 0

3: 1

4: 0

5: 1

No opinion: 1

Additional own questions

13. The PhD presentation day gave me a valuable insight in current research topics at SLU Alnarp.

Answers: 3

Medel: 4,7

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

3: 0

4: 1

5: 2

No opinion: 0

· It was very interesting to learn about what is going on right now and how the future could look like. (5)

14. What did you like with the PhD presentation day?

Only comments. Answers: 3

- It was very interesting to learn about what is going on right now and how the future could look like.
- Very interesting projects from two great candidates. It gave us an idea of what research is done at the institution and supplemented our learning aswell.
- It was inspiring to be able to experience PhD students way of thinking, asking question and presenting thier work

15. What could be improved with the PhD presentation day

Only comments. Answers: 3

- They were very interesting so I would like to have more of them!
- Possibly more presentations, I felt it was more of a head-to-head than a presentation, and more time for questions. This was a very engaged audience. I don't think either candidate was prepared for that many questions.
- A more comprehensive questioner paper for evaluating the presentations

Student representatives comments

All students agree that the course was of high quality, in particular the dynamic nature of the guest lecturers and PhD students, allowed for a broader range of knowledge about the topics and added to the understanding of the course literature. The small size of the class was a defining aspect of this years class and students identified a few disadvantages such as, less variable discussions and no group work. However, the issue of group work was quickly overcome and the assignments challenged us well, requiring us to build on prior learning and linked in well with each other. The content of the course worked well aswell, starting out with a broad overview and slowly drilling down into more detailed topics was a good way of structuring the course. Overall, the students experience was positive, with small classes resulting in more higher quality discussions and allowing us to express our on views in a relaxed environment. In light of the coronavirus, it was pointed out how well the course would be adapted for online learning. All students agreed this course is well equipped to deal with such a move and would be able to provide a high standard of education for the next cohort.