



Wood Science and Technology SG0213, 30043.2122

15 Hp

Pace of study = 100%

Education cycle = Advanced

Course leader = Nasko Terziev

Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2022-03-16 - 2022-04-06

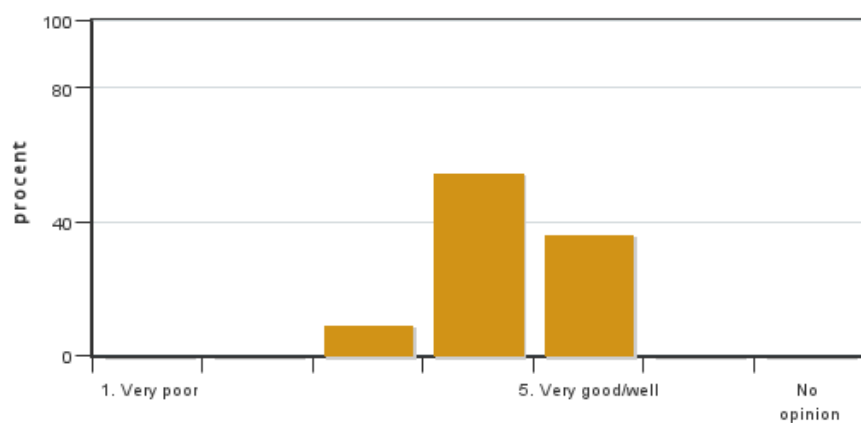
Answers 11

Number of students 15

Answer frequency 73 %

Mandatory standard questions

1. My overall impression of the course is:



Answers: 11

Medel: 4,3

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

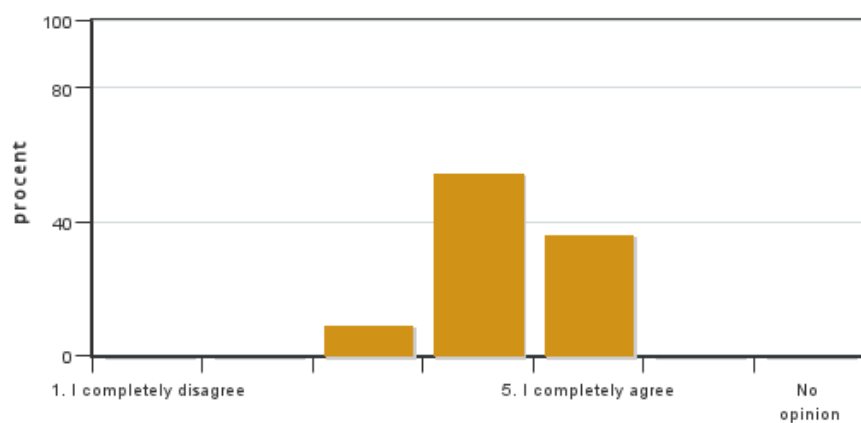
3: 1

4: 6

5: 4

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 11

Medel: 4,3

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

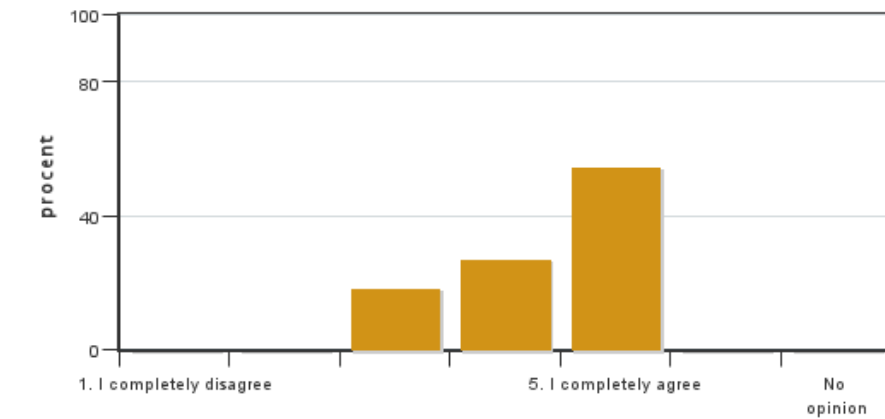
3: 1

4: 6

5: 4

No opinion: 0

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

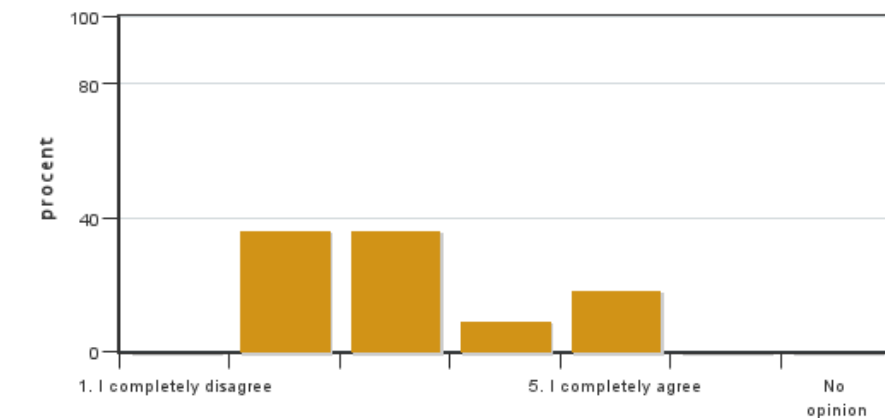


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,4
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 2
4: 3
5: 6

No opinion: 0

4. The information about the course was easily accessible.

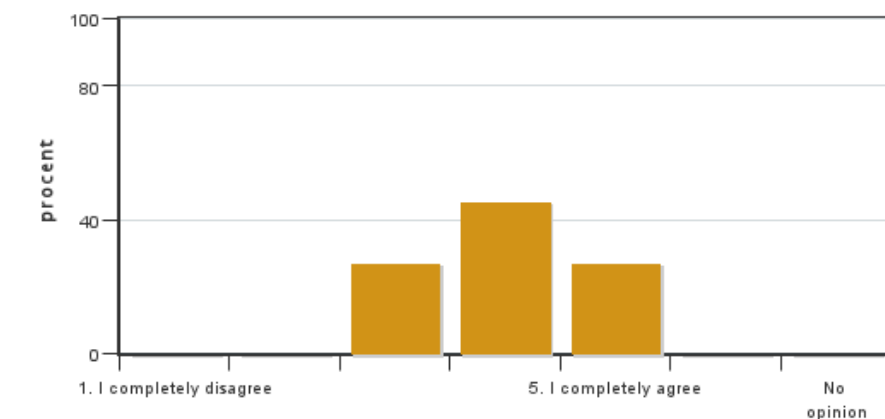


Answers: 11
Medel: 3,1
Median: 3

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

No opinion: 0

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

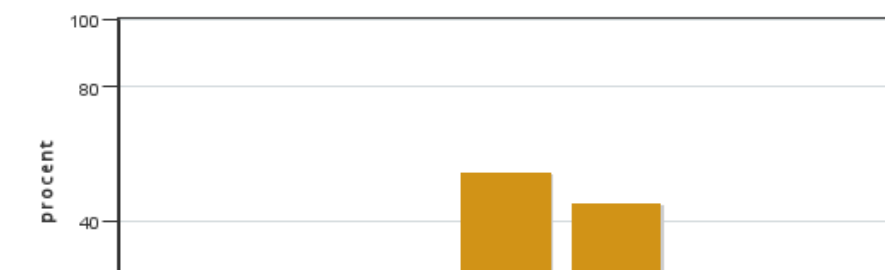


Answers: 11
Medel: 4,0
Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0

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



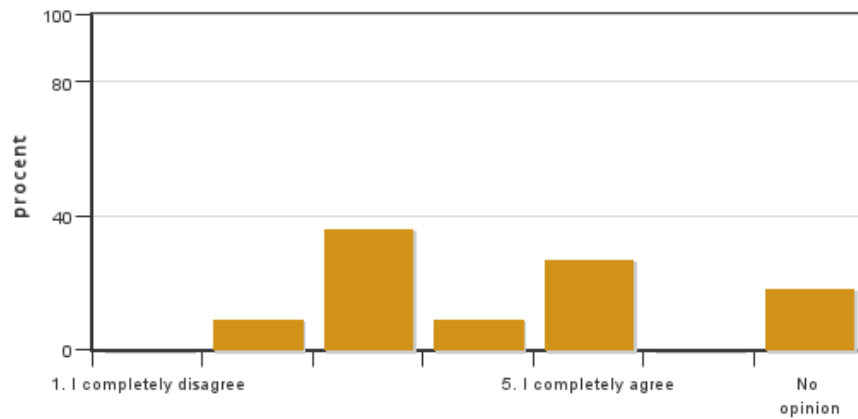
Answers: 11
Medel: 4,5
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 6
5: 5



No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 11

Medel: 3,7

Median: 3

1: 0

2: 1

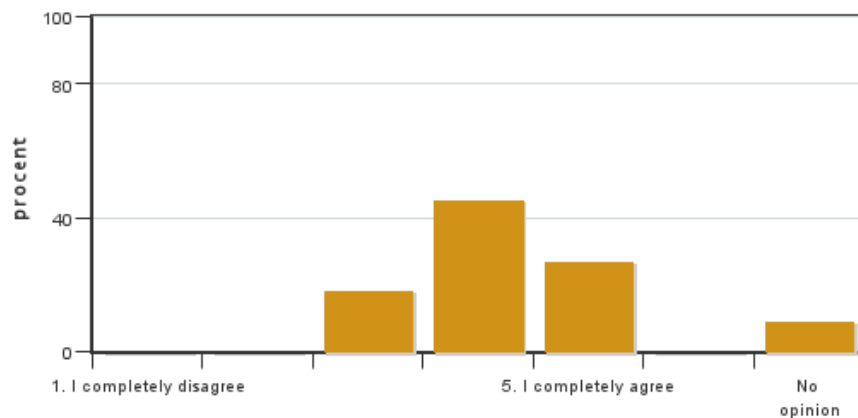
3: 4

4: 1

5: 3

No opinion: 2

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



Answers: 11

Medel: 4,1

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

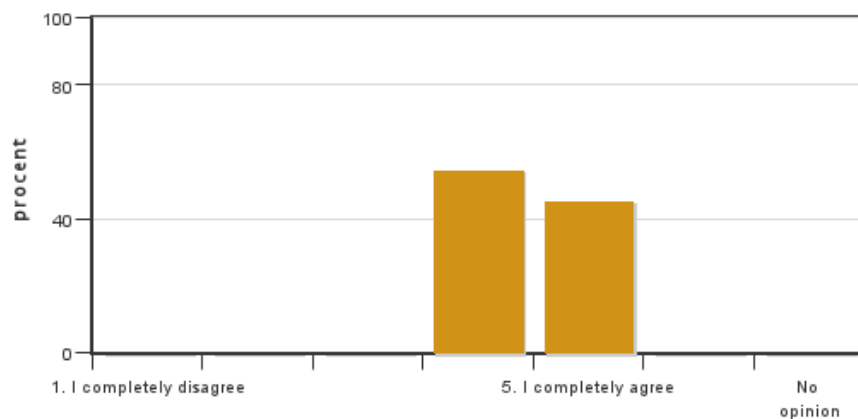
3: 2

4: 5

5: 3

No opinion: 1

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



Answers: 11

Medel: 4,5

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 0

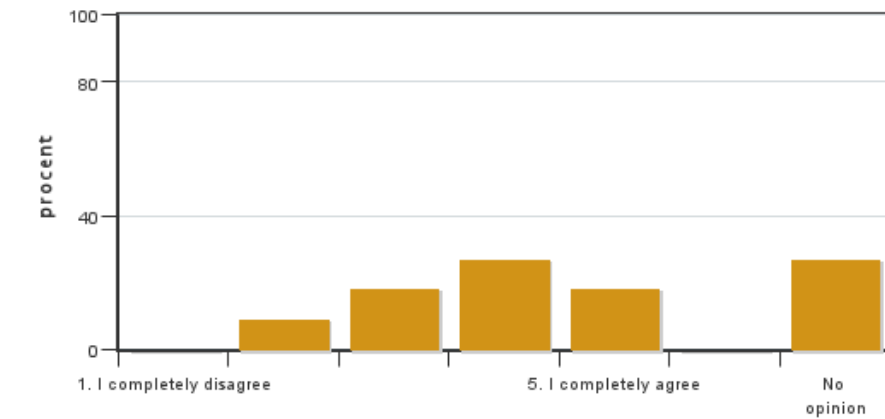
3: 0

4: 6

5: 5

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).

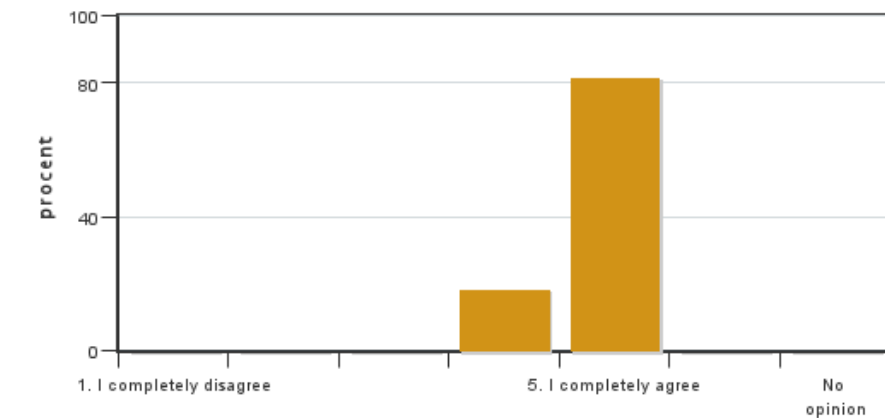


Answers: 11
 Medel: 3,8
 Median: 4

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

No opinion: 3

11. The course covered international perspectives.

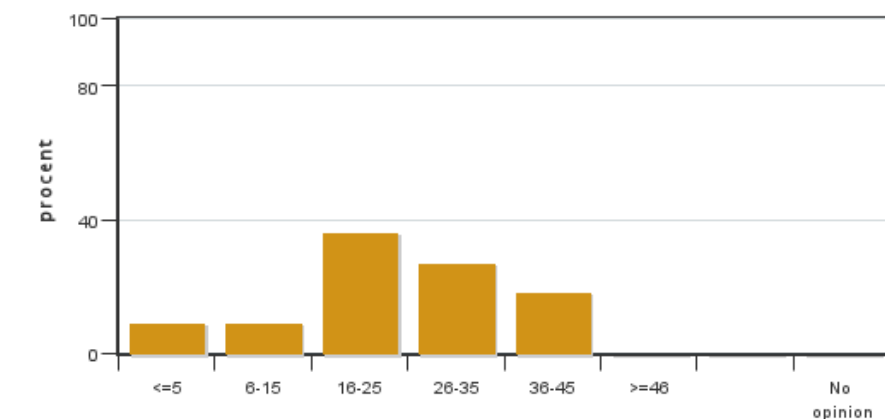


Answers: 11
 Medel: 4,8
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 0
 4: 2
 5: 9

No opinion: 0

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

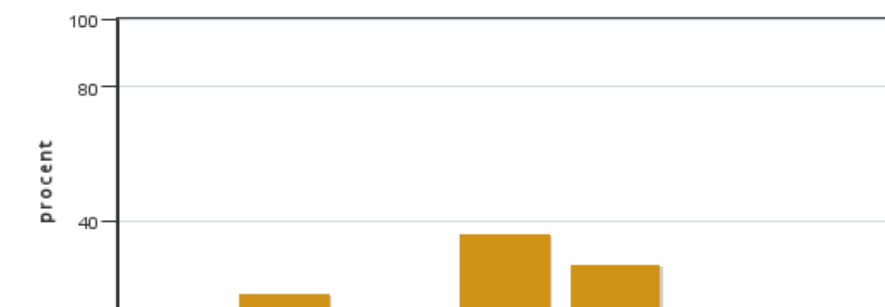


Answers: 11
 Medel: 23,9
 Median: 16-25

≤5: 1
 6-15: 1
 16-25: 4
 26-35: 3
 36-45: 2
 ≥46: 0

No opinion: 0

13. If relevant, what is your overall experience of participating in all or part of your course online?



Answers: 11
 Medel: 3,5
 Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0



14. If relevant, please share what worked well when participating in teaching on distance

15. If relevant, please share what worked less well when participating in teaching on distance

Course leaders comments

The Wood Science and Technology course was ran between 17 January and 23 March 2022 and attended by 17 students from Mozambique, Uganda, Netherlands, USA, Belgium, Bangladesh as well as Sweden (9 students) with different backgrounds and some without prior knowledge on the subject area. This meant we needed to introduce the subject areas in simple terms leading on to aspects that were more complex to ensure that everyone follows. Thus, it is positive from the general evaluation that we were successful.

We appreciate the good reviews from the students –an average of 4.3 out of 5.0 is a good result under the circumstances, i.e. still no/limited physical participation caused by Covid. Like for the students, this was a particularly challenging course for us since it required laboratory practice, demonstrations and visits to industry – many of the above activities were omitted or modified and thus, we felt not fully satisfied with the outcome because of the pandemic. We are convinced that we cannot substitute the “hands on” practical learning by data and zoom learning. Further, the fact that we could not have daily contact and discussions with the students, much of the “indirect learning” from simple discussions with students and between the students themselves was lost. Perhaps a positive aspect of distant learning was the participation of students from wide range of countries that would not have otherwise been possible.

Overall impression

1) We performed the 15-week course with almost “in-house” lecturers with only two external contributions on specialized aspects (from Svenskt Trä, and SLU). This was appreciated by the students and allowed establishment of a good working relationship and avoided unnecessary repetition.

2) We used a program of seminars after each subject block where the students studied specific questions in smaller groups of 4-5 students. Each group and each individual then gave presentations to the entire class. These 3-hour-long seminar classes were much appreciated by the international students who were accustomed to this approach.

3) We introduced lecturer/student time after each teaching block where students could have direct contact via zoom with the lecturers to discuss aspects that they did not understand or wanted more information. This was in some way to compensate for the loss of the practical parts of the course. We believe this was very positive at least by the numbers of students joining.

4) Only one study trip was organized to a sawmill with own wood protection plant and a pulp mill which was highly appreciated by the students who attended the trip.

5) We were impressed by the enthusiasm/dedication of the students and standard of their English. Although online, all moments of the course (lectures/seminars) were very well attended and only rarely were students absent through illness. This provided a good teaching atmosphere to the course and the entire group functioned very well.

6) At the end of the course, we discussed again the experience and level, which the students had achieved. All students considered they had improved considerably even those who had experience in the subject area from their home universities/countries.

7) Concerning the oral examination, this is the third time we applied it (i.e. covid 2020, 2021 and 2022) and we feel it is a good way for communicating and determining the student knowledge in the subject area. We also apply the continuous assessment principle of the group seminars. After Covid, we will probably reinstate written exams or at least have a combination of oral/written assessment. However, we take on-board the comment regarding nervousity, and time to think regarding the oral exam.

Things to consider for the course in 2023

1) Use of Canvas is something for us to discuss and consider before the course in 2023. Some of us already use this with other courses at UU, but some have negative experiences. We discussed it again before the course but the

consensus was not to use it. Without Canvas, it does require the students have “good data homemaking” regarding files and e-mails which is not all negative.

Our approach is based on traditional lecturing with students receiving copies of our OHs in digital and hard copy form –either before/directly after lectures. OHs copies of lectures and literature for seminars were sent directly to the students and therefore all students received the same information at the same time. We preferred this approach rather depositing the materials in Canvas.

2) The only study trip was very much appreciated and we plan to add a further industry visit to either a glulam and/or biotech facility in the 2023 course.

On behalf of all the lecturers I would like to thank the students for their good participation (all lectures were almost fully attended!), interactions and interest in the wood science and technology subject area.

Student representatives comments

No comments from the student representatives

Kontakta support: support@slu.se - 018-67 6600