



# Applied Population Ecology BI1301, 20120.2324

15 Hp  
Pace of study = 100%  
Education cycle = Advanced  
Course leader = John Ball

## Evaluation report

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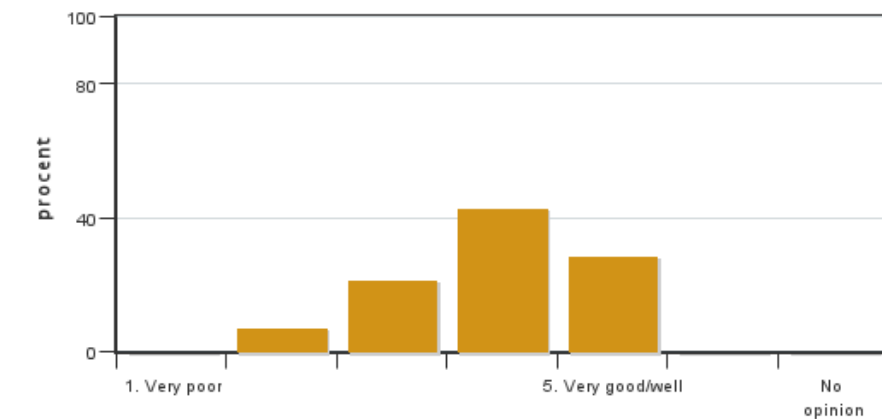
Evaluation period: 2024-01-19 - 2024-02-07

Answers 14  
Number of students 24  
Answer frequency 58 %

## Mandatory standard questions

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### 1. My overall impression of the course is:

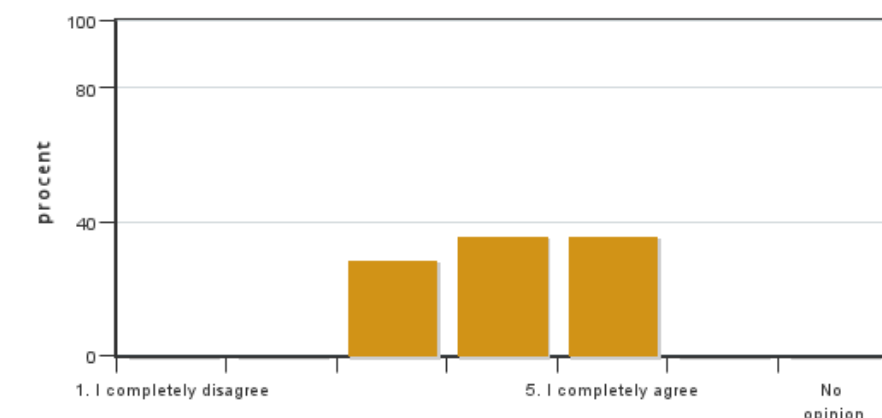


Answers: 14  
Medel: 3,9  
Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0

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

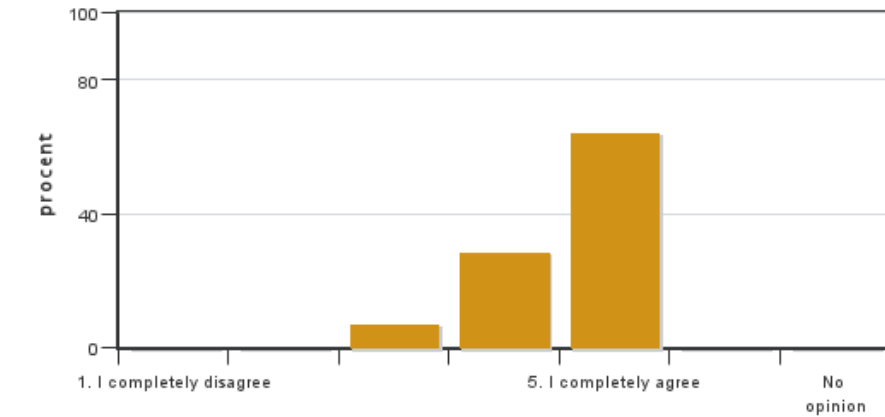


Answers: 14  
Medel: 4,1  
Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0

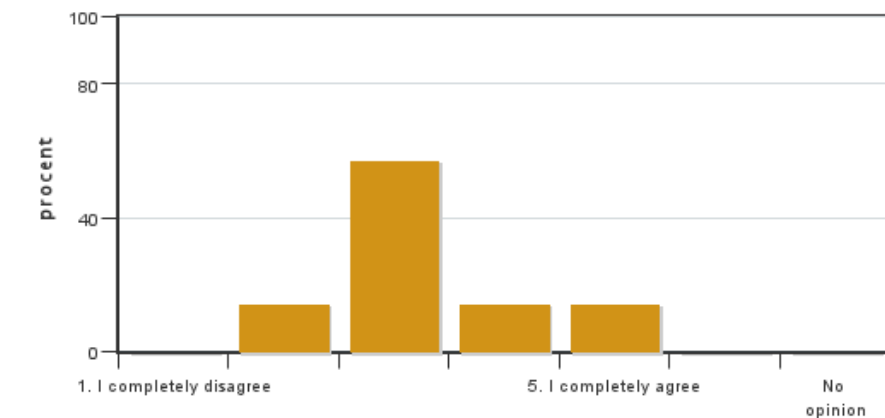
**3. My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course.**



Answers: 14  
 Medel: 4,6  
 Median: 5

1: 0  
 2: 0  
 3: 1  
 4: 4  
 5: 9  
 No opinion: 0

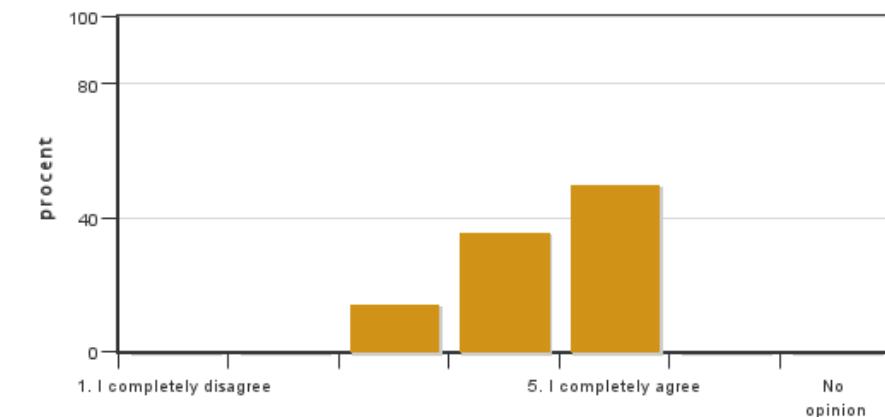
**4. The information about the course was easily accessible.**



Answers: 14  
 Medel: 3,3  
 Median: 3

1: 0  
 2: 2  
 3: 8  
 4: 2  
 5: 2  
 No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 14  
 Medel: 4,4  
 Median: 4

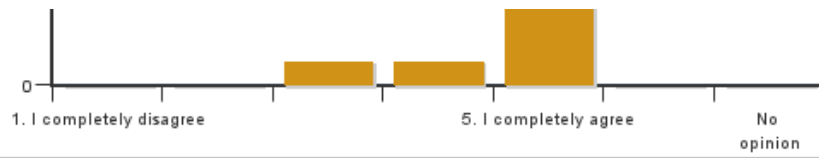
1: 0  
 2: 0  
 3: 2  
 4: 5  
 5: 7  
 No opinion: 0

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



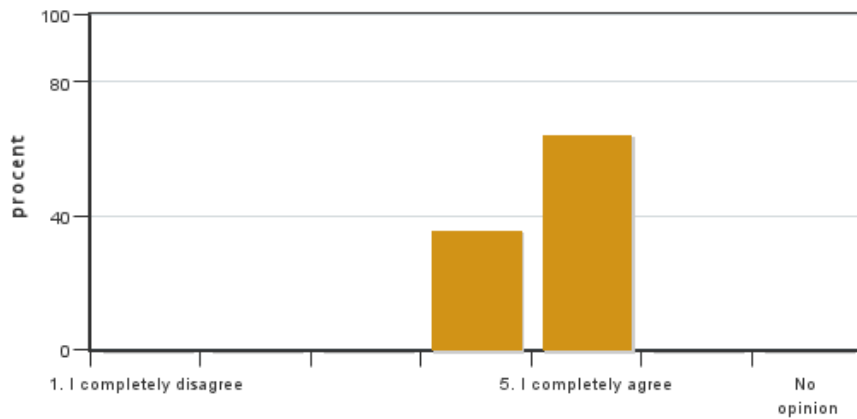
Answers: 14  
 Medel: 4,8  
 Median: 5

1: 0  
 2: 0  
 3: 1  
 4: 1  
 5: 12



No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 14

Medel: 4,6

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

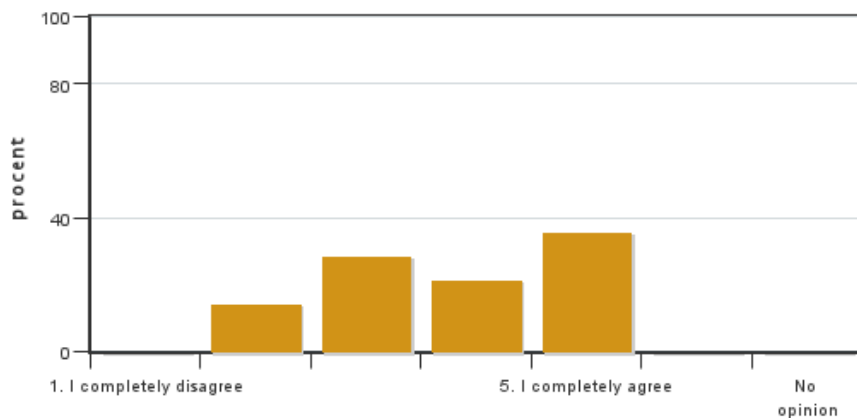
3: 0

4: 5

5: 9

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 14

Medel: 3,8

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 2

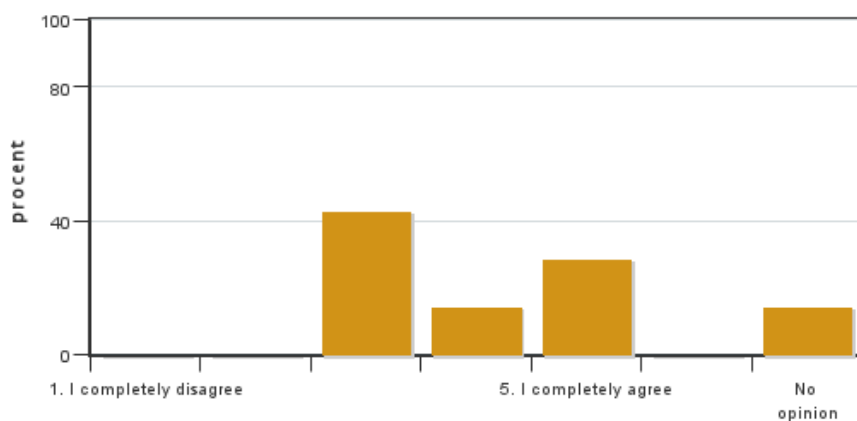
3: 4

4: 3

5: 5

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 14

Medel: 3,8

Median: 3

1: 0

2: 0

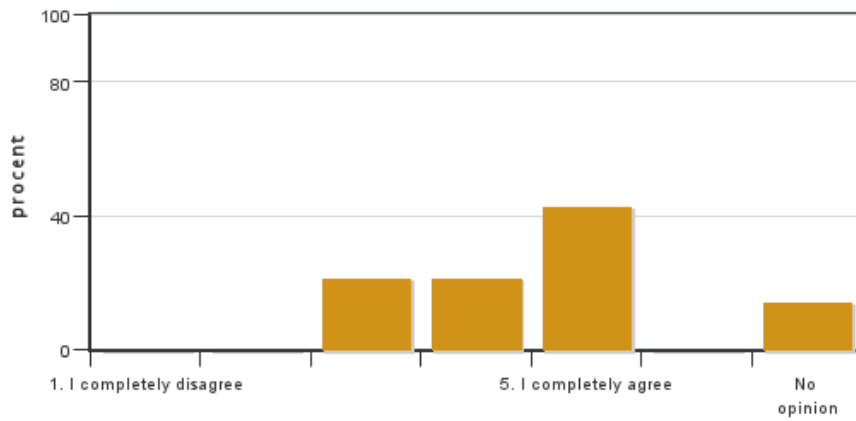
3: 6

4: 2

5: 4

No opinion: 2

**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).**

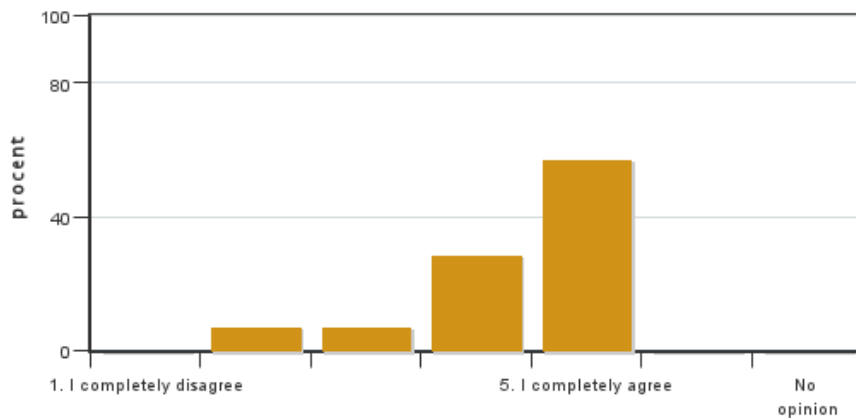


Answers: 14  
 Medel: 4,3  
 Median: 4

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

No opinion: 2

**11. The course covered international perspectives.**

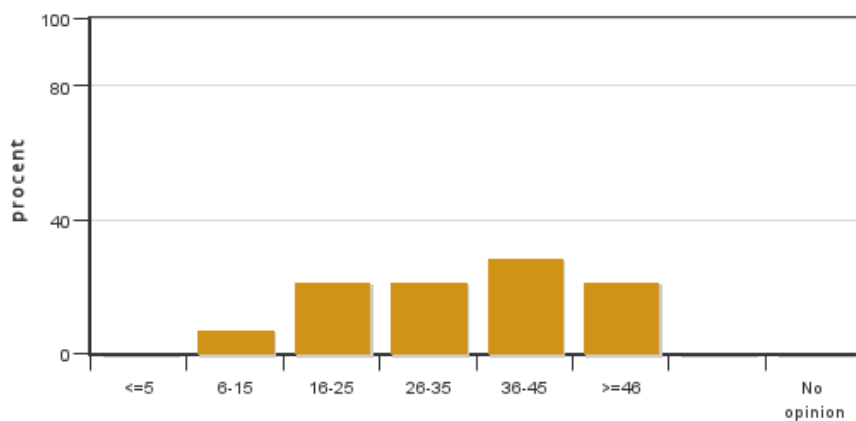


Answers: 14  
 Medel: 4,4  
 Median: 5

1: 0  
 2: 1  
 3: 1  
 4: 4  
 5: 8

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 14  
 Medel: 32,7  
 Median: 26-35

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

No opinion: 0

**Course leaders comments**

Overall, I am pleased to see such a positive review by students. However, the background of students taking the course can change over time, and both the teachers that contribute to the course and I are always trying to find ways to improve.

Q1) "My overall impression of the course is" got an average score of 3.9 and a median score of 4. A good result.

Q2) "I found the course content to have clear links to the learning objectives of the course" received a very positive average score of 4.1 and a median score of 4. We have been careful to link to the learning objectives, so we are happy to see this high score.

Q3) "My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course" Every year, the other teachers and myself

monitor how students are doing, and adjust our lectures and tasks to reflect any changes over time. We are extremely pleased to see that the average score was a very high 4.6 with the median score of five.

Q4) "The information about the course was easily accessible" On this question, the average score was 3.3 with the median score of 3. While acceptable, this is lower than usual. Unfortunately, this was caused by a number of technical problems as well as an unusual number of teachers who got sick (the flu, Covid-19 and others- and more than once!). In the future if there are any similar problems, I will post the schedule early even if it has to be revised several times! This will not happen again.

Q5) "The various course components (lectures, course literature, exercises etc.) have supported my learning." On this question, the average score was a very positive 4.4 average and a median score of 4. Nevertheless, feedback from students makes us think that we may be able to improve this even further. In the future, we will try to have shorter lectures for several modules. We will thus have a few more lectures and will space them out so that students will have time to reflect on the first lecture before we review the most important things from the first lecture - and then build on them in the next lecture. This is a well-recognised pedagogic method we already use in the course, but we will try to extend it in the future.

Q6) "The social learning environment has been inclusive, respecting differences of opinion" received a VERY positive average score of 4.8 and a median score of 5 out of five. We certainly do pay attention to this in class, but this year's cohort of students was good at respecting others as well.

Q7) "The physical learning environment (facilities, equipment etc.) has been satisfactory" received an excellent average score of 4.6 and a median score of five. We had no choice in the room we were assigned, but I will try to book a different room in the future in order to try to improve on this already excellent score.

Q8) "The examination(s) provided opportunity to demonstrate what I had learnt during the course (see the learning objectives)" received an average score of 3.8 with a median score of four. This is acceptable, but some students felt that the workload was high so we will consider how we can reduce this in the future, perhaps by combining two existing tasks or eliminating one

Q9) "The course covered the sustainable development aspect (environmental, social and/or financial sustainability) received an average score of 3.8 and a median score of three. This question has an unfortunate wording (at least in the English version) and would be better if the word "sustainable" had been omitted. As far as sustainability goes, \*everything\* in the course was about sustainability, ranging from how can we continue to harvest populations such that we can harvest them year after year, to how do we conserve small and/or fragmented populations, including endangered species.

Q10) "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). This question received a very positive average score of 4.3 and a median score of four. Teachers represented both males and females because every course should have different role models.

Q11) "The course covered international perspectives" received an excellent average score of 4.4 with a median score of five. I am very pleased with this. Teachers were in part selected because of their international backgrounds and continued international contacts, which included Sweden, Finland, Canada, India, the Netherlands, and Lebanon. Teachers drew on their backgrounds and continued connections in their lectures and tasks in the course to make it quite international.

Q12) " On average, I have spent ... hours/week on the course (including timetabled hours)" scored an average score of 32.7 hours with a median of 25-35. This is quite normal, but as noted above, based on a number of students who thought that the work load was high, I am considering combining two assignments or changing when they are due to improve the distribution of the work load over the course.

\*\*\* Note added later: In discussion with the student representative, we both agreed that this year's exam was long. I do plan on shortening it in the future but I forgot to put it in my comments until now. :-) \*\*\*\*

## Student representatives comments

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I agree with all the comments made by the course leader. As we discussed previously the main concern of the students was regarding the work load. I am very happy to see that our suggestions have been taken into account and that in the future the workload will be reduced.

I am also very pleased to see that our suggestion to space out the lectures and reduce their extent has been considered. We believe that this measure will give more time to the students to review materials between classes, allowing for a better understanding of the content in the long run.

The only aspect that we had discussed and it was not mentioned in the course leader comments is the reduction of the exam's length. The general feeling of that class was that this year's exam was too long. Even though we understand it is difficult to convey all the class content in an exam, we strongly suggest the reduction on the amount of questions, and the inclusion of different question types such as true or false, or test.

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Kontakta support: [support@slu.se](mailto:support@slu.se) - 018-67 6600