



Forest History - Human utilisation and vegetation dynamics BI1414, 10281.2324

15 Hp
Pace of study = 100%
Education cycle = Advanced
Course leader = Kelley Gundale, Lars Östlund

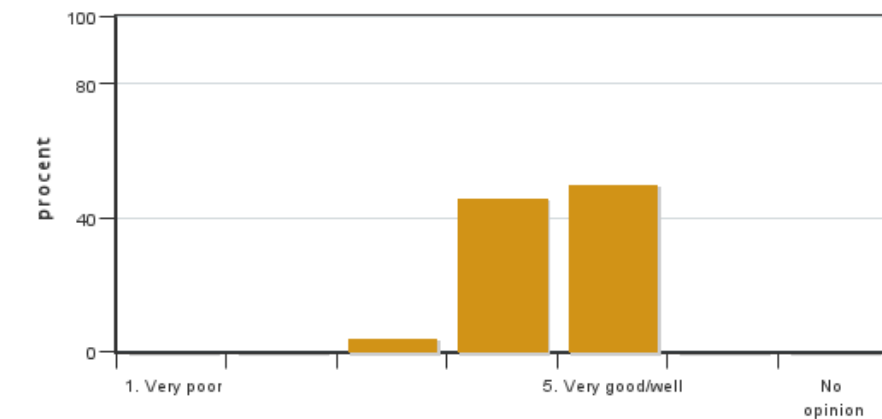
Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2023-10-27 - 2023-11-13

Answers 26
Number of students 43
Answer frequency 60 %

Mandatory standard questions

1. My overall impression of the course is:

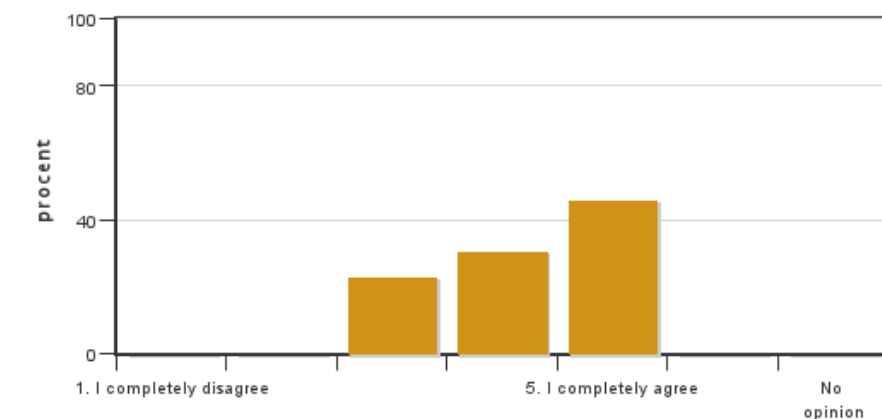


Answers: 26
Medel: 4,5
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 12
5: 13

No opinion: 0

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

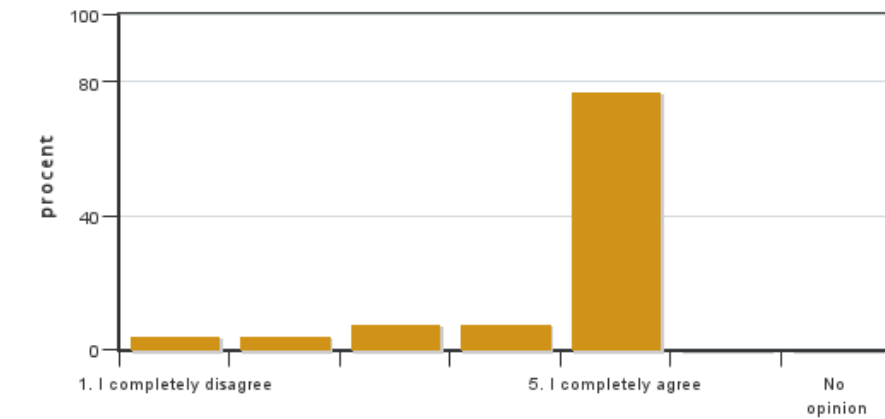


Answers: 26
Medel: 4,2
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 0
3: 6
4: 8
5: 12

No opinion: 0

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

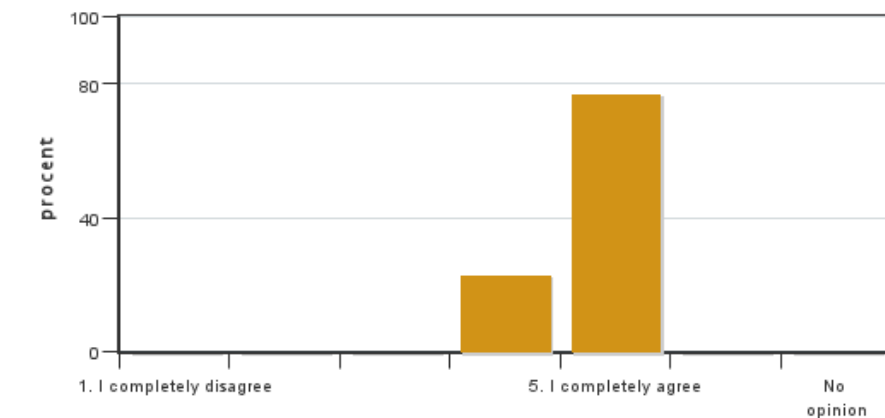


Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,5
 Median: 5

1: 1
 2: 1
 3: 2
 4: 2
 5: 20

No opinion: 0

4. The information about the course was easily accessible.

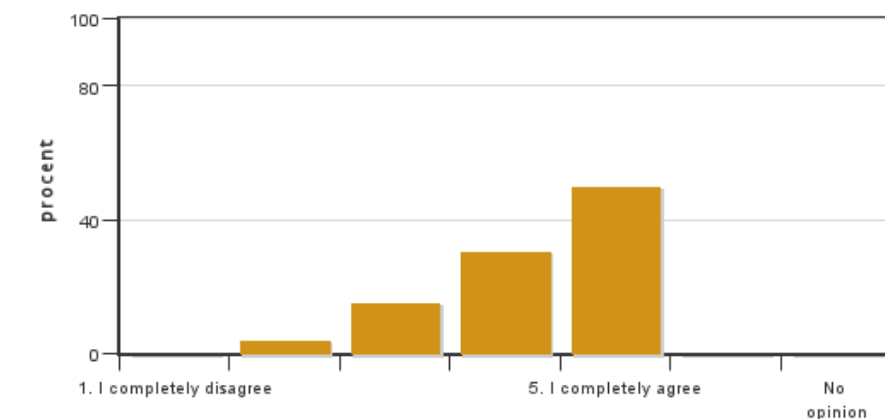


Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,8
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 0
 4: 6
 5: 20

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,3
 Median: 4

1: 0
 2: 1
 3: 4
 4: 8
 5: 13

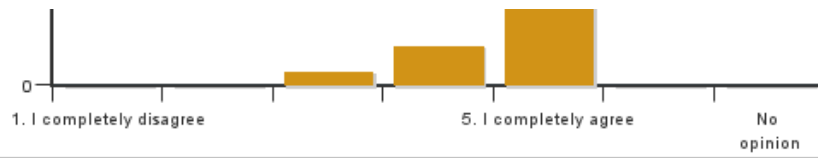
No opinion: 0

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



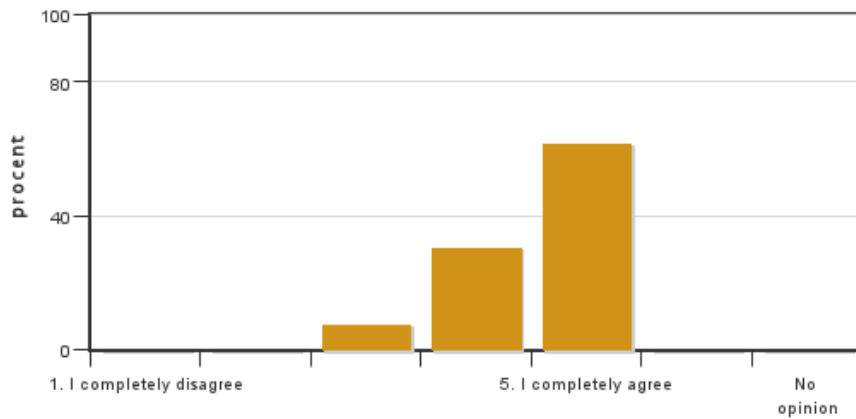
Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,8
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 1
 4: 3
 5: 22



No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 26

Medel: 4,5

Median: 5

1: 0

2: 0

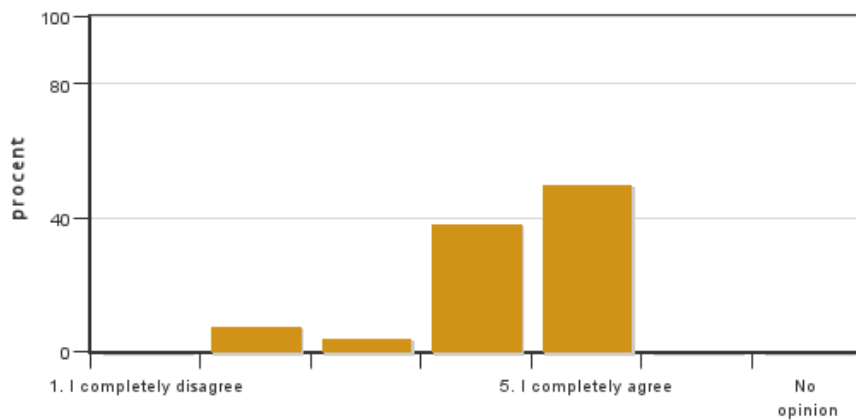
3: 2

4: 8

5: 16

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 26

Medel: 4,3

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 2

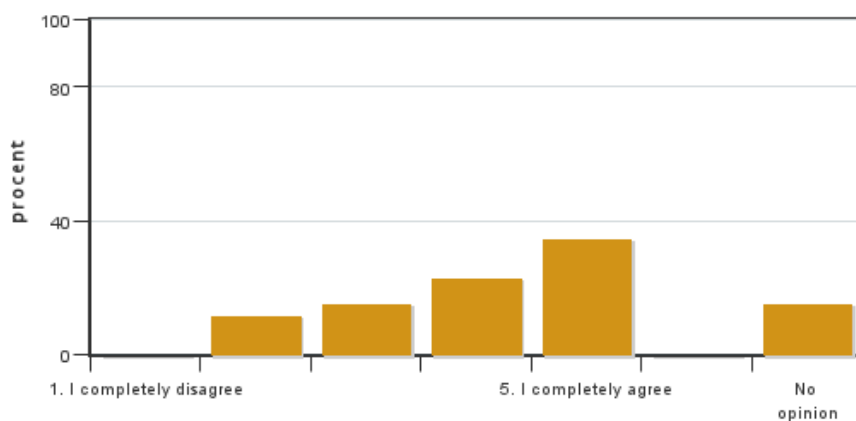
3: 1

4: 10

5: 13

No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 26

Medel: 4,0

Median: 4

1: 0

2: 3

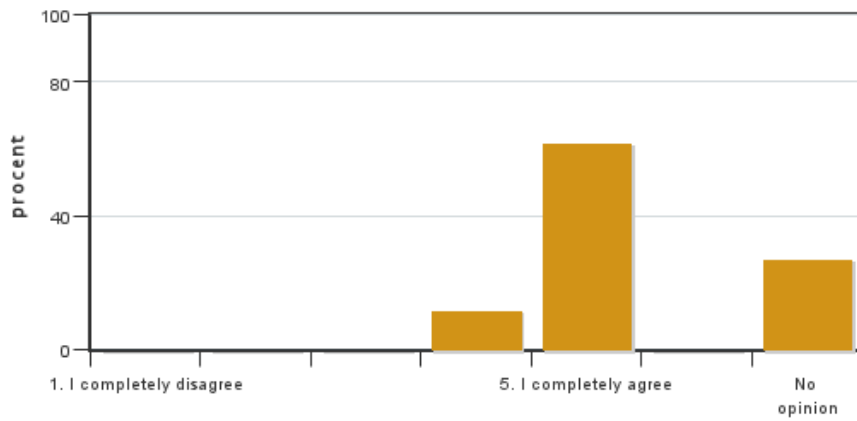
3: 4

4: 6

5: 9

No opinion: 4

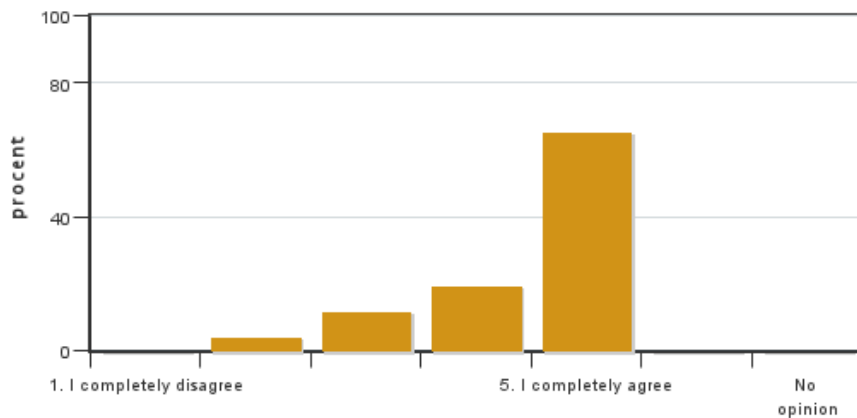
10. I believe the course has included a gender and equality aspect, regarding content as well as teaching practices (e.g. perspective on the subject, reading list, allocation of speaking time and the use of master suppression techniques).



Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,8
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 0
 4: 3
 5: 16
 No opinion: 7

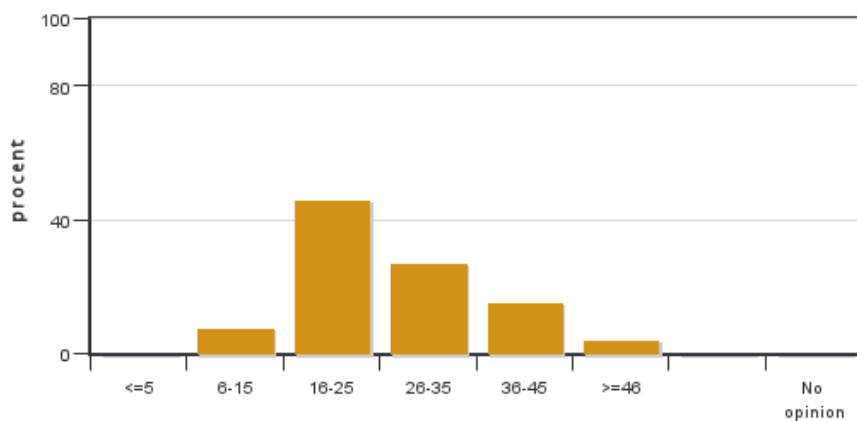
11. The course covered international perspectives.



Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,5
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 1
 3: 3
 4: 5
 5: 17
 No opinion: 0

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



Answers: 26
 Medel: 26,0
 Median: 16-25

≤5: 0
 6-15: 2
 16-25: 12
 26-35: 7
 36-45: 4
 ≥46: 1
 No opinion: 0

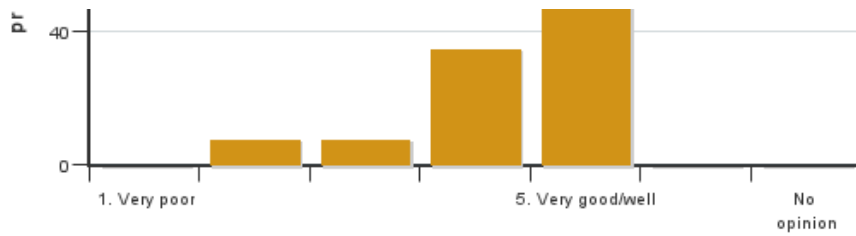
Additional own questions

13. What is your opinion of the Karats fieldwork, following lab work and the report writing in groups (Lars, Kelley, Magda)?



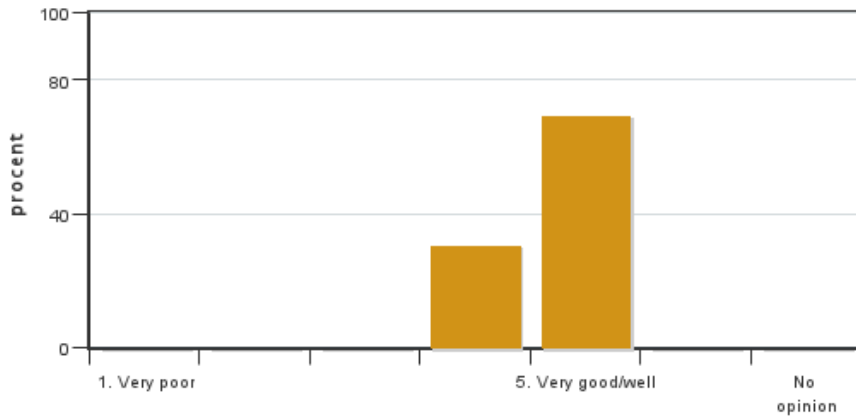
Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,3
 Median: 4

1: 0
 2: 2



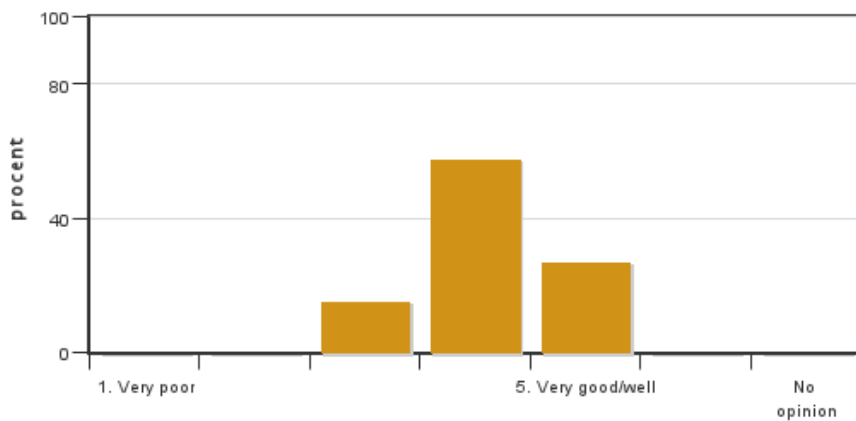
3: 2
 4: 9
 5: 13
 No opinion: 0

14. What is your opinion about the interview project including the written report and oral presentation?



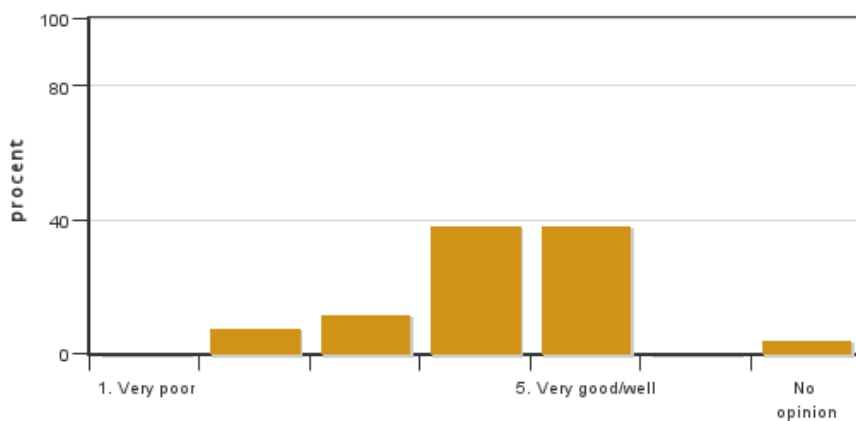
Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,7
 Median: 5
 1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 0
 4: 8
 5: 18
 No opinion: 0

15. What is your opinion about the Disturbance and disturbance history week (Torbjörn J, Anders Granström)?



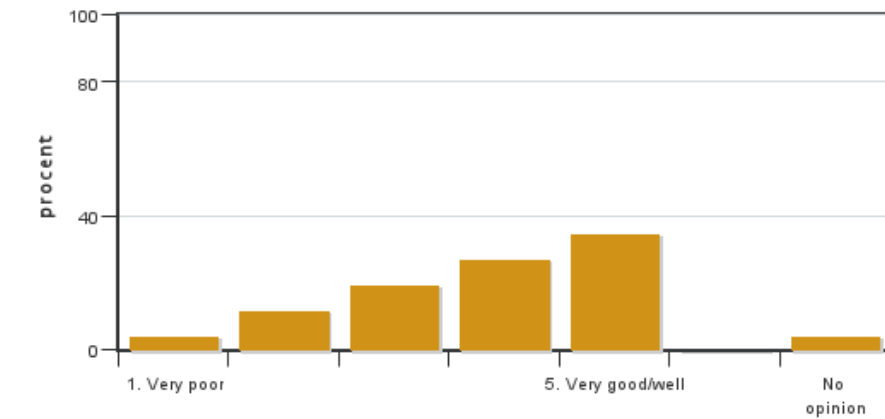
Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,1
 Median: 4
 1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 4
 4: 15
 5: 7
 No opinion: 0

16. What is your opinion about the Long term human land use week (Gudrun Norstedt, Anna Rimpi, Lars)?



Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,1
 Median: 4
 1: 0
 2: 2
 3: 3
 4: 10
 5: 10
 No opinion: 1

17. What is your opinion about the Outdoor fire experiment day in Stenliden?

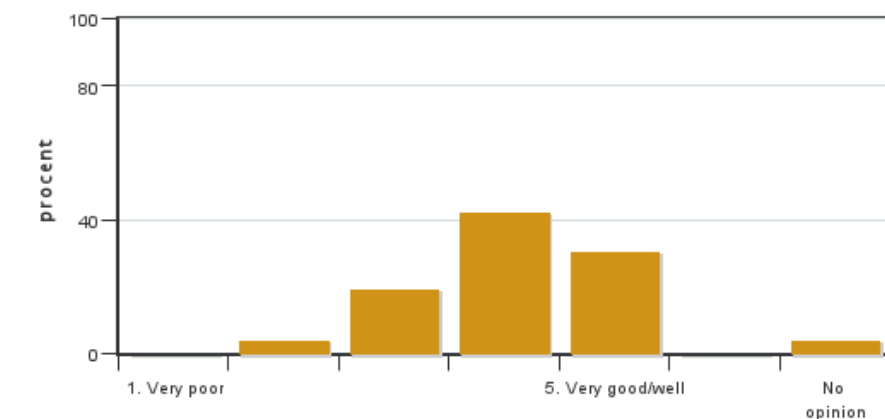


Answers: 26
 Medel: 3,8
 Median: 4

1: 1
 2: 3
 3: 5
 4: 7
 5: 9

No opinion: 1

18. What is your opinion about the Conservation, cultural legacies and management week (Torbjörn J, William L)?

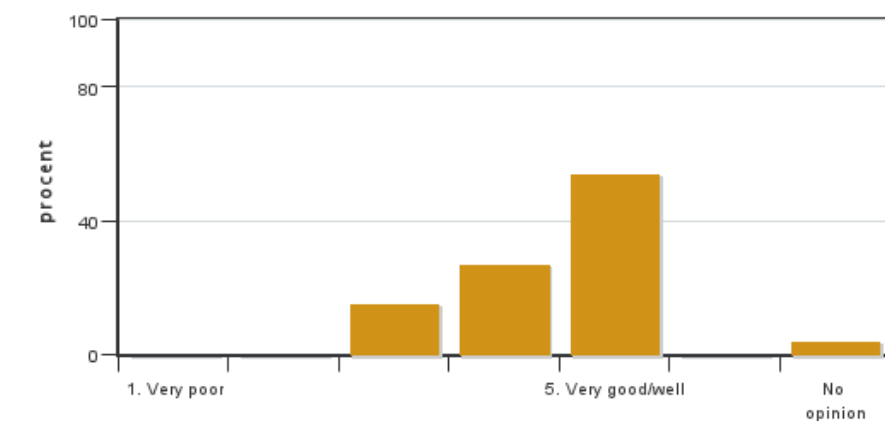


Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,0
 Median: 4

1: 0
 2: 1
 3: 5
 4: 11
 5: 8

No opinion: 1

19. What is your opinion about the Forest management history week (Arne Pommeringen, Erik Törnlund, Michael Gundale, Marie-Charlotte Nilsson, Kelley, Lars)?

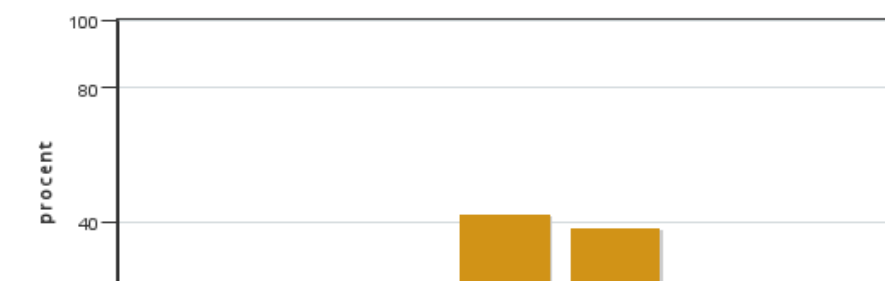


Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,4
 Median: 5

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 4
 4: 7
 5: 14

No opinion: 1

20. What is your opinion of the Forest vegetation history/Pollen analysis week (Matts Lindbladh, Elisabet Bohlin, Marcus Klaus, Magda and Tuomas Aakala)?



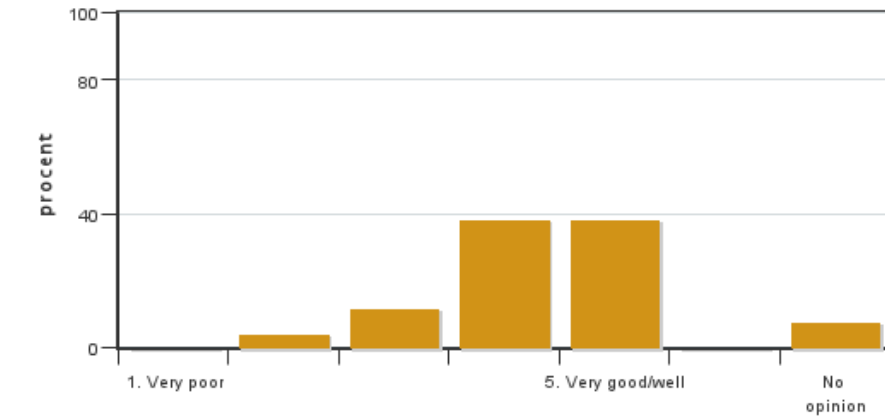
Answers: 26
 Medel: 4,2
 Median: 4

1: 0
 2: 0
 3: 5
 4: 11
 5: 10



No opinion: 0

21. What is your opinion about the International forest history week (Nancy Turner (Canada), Matthias Buergi (Switzerland), Oscar Nilzén (Japan) Lars (USA))?

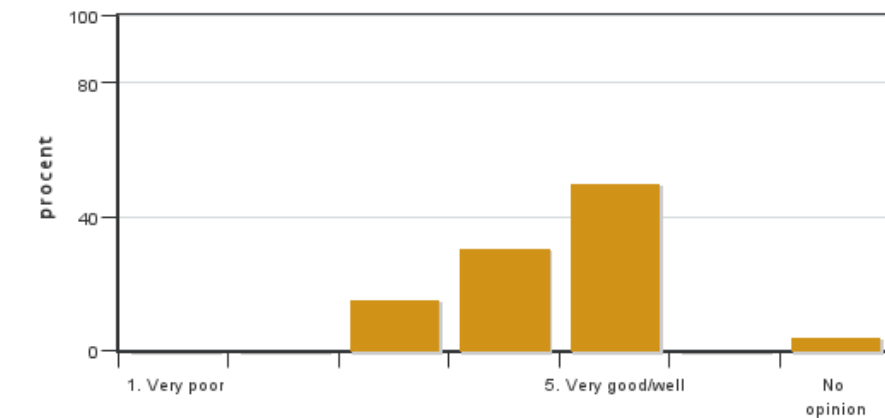


Answers: 26
Medel: 4,2
Median: 4

1: 0
2: 1
3: 3
4: 10
5: 10

No opinion: 2

22. What is your opinion about the seminars during the course (Torbjörn J, Kelley and Marcus K)?

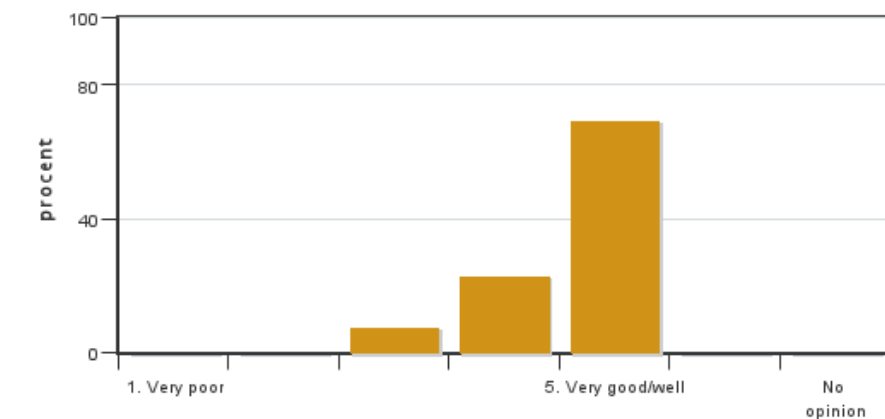


Answers: 26
Medel: 4,4
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 4
4: 8
5: 13

No opinion: 1

23. What is your opinion about the grading system on the course (mandatory tasks (pass/fail) and extra tasks to get higher grade)?



Answers: 26
Medel: 4,6
Median: 5

1: 0
2: 0
3: 2
4: 6
5: 18

No opinion: 0

24. Do you have any final comments to the course leaders on how to improve the course for coming years? Constructive ideas most welcome!

Course leaders comments

In general, the course has been going well and apparently, the students seem mostly satisfied. A big challenge this year was the number of students admitted to the course. The course is designed for 30 students (regarding fieldwork/labwork/seminars/examination forms). The fact that the university admitted 13 extra students (in total 43 students) on the course without notifying the course leaders in advance was very surprising and caused many organisational problems for us. We have tried to solve these problems, but have had to do so on very short notice in many cases.

Also this year, the individual interview project, the fieldwork and reports from Karats and the seminars have been appreciated. As always though, there is room for improvement for coming years. We note the following things based primarily on the comments from the students: more detailed instructions regarding the fieldwork in Karats and providing a better context for some lectures which appear a bit "on the side" from a forest historical perspective. Then the focus could be on the interviews and the supplementary tasks for higher grades during the final weeks. While the students clearly appreciate the examination system we also note some new ideas and we will have a discussion about how to fine-tune this for next year. Regarding the time the student spend on the course: It is a bit low now but we want to make it possible to do extra tasks for higher grade within a reasonable time. When only a part of the students elect to do extra tasks to get grade 4 or 5, the average time spent on the course get a bit low. Here we are unsure how to solve this dilemma. Next year, though, we will increase the preparation before and during seminars and also add more seminars at the beginning of the course. We will also include more advanced dendrochronological methods and techniques, something which was impossible this year due to the high number of student

Student representatives comments

The students' overall impression of the course was highly positive. Key highlights included the Jokkmokk trip and interview project, both widely appreciated by the students. The Canvas page provided easy access to course materials, communication with teachers for support was easy. Much of the concerns and negative feedback were due to the higher number of students than intended for the course. Most students dedicated around 16 to 25 hours per week to coursework.

The Karats trip and following report were seen as valuable learning experiences, alongside the interview project and other field excursions. Many students appreciated the opportunity to delve deeper into areas of personal interest. The seminars were appreciated for being a place where you could discuss knowledge and process it. Additionally, the international forest history week had positive feedback.

However, negative sentiments primarily revolved around the higher student count, leading to shorter seminars and stretched-out processes for the Karats report. Some students from the Jägmästarprogram felt the course was repetitive. Some of the lectures felt unrelated to the assigned tasks. The Stenliden fire excursion was described as a really nice day, but the purpose of the day seemed unclear to many of the students.

Some commented that the Karats report could've been shortened. There was a desire to learn more about what to examine while on the field trip to Karats before leaving for the trip, perhaps some lectures on Sami land use. Seminars could've been more spread out throughout the course.

In summary, students valued the course's structure and content but highlighted some areas for improvement. Students really appreciated the lecturers' passion for teaching and the favorable environment for discussions.