Animal genetics - health, behaviour and welfare
HV0167, 40091.2526

15 Hp
Pace of study = 100%
Education cycle = Advanced
Course leader = Hector Marina Garcia

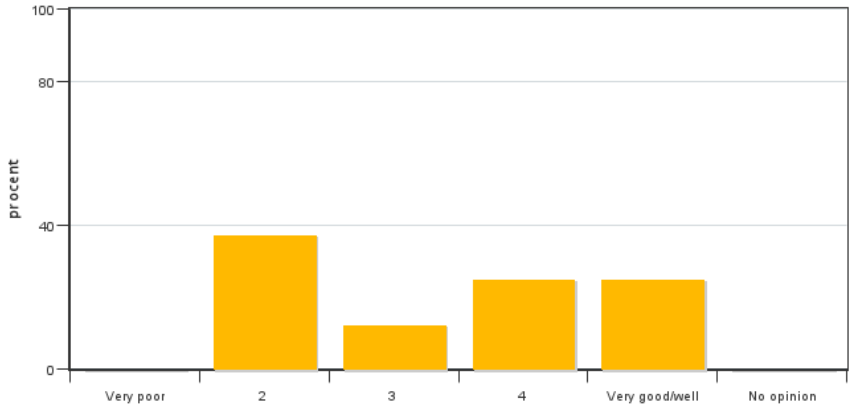
Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2026-05-31 - 2026-06-21

Answers	8
Number of students	24
Answer frequency	33 %

Mandatory standard questions

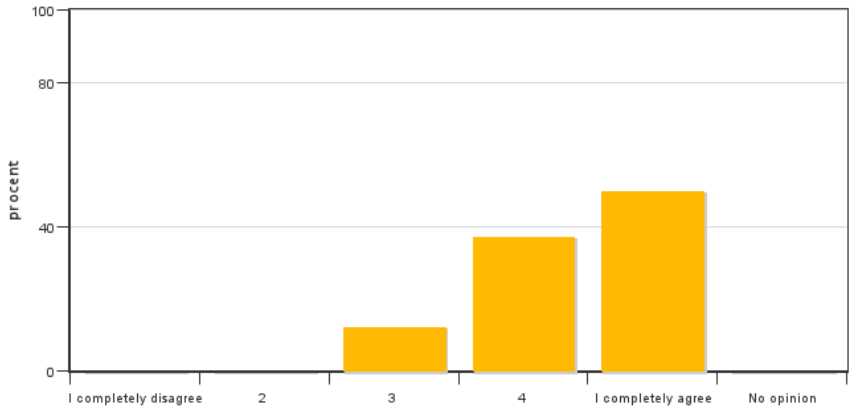
1. My overall impression of the course is:



Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,4
Median: 3

Very poor : 0
2: 3
3: 1
4: 2
Very good/well: 2
No opinion: 0

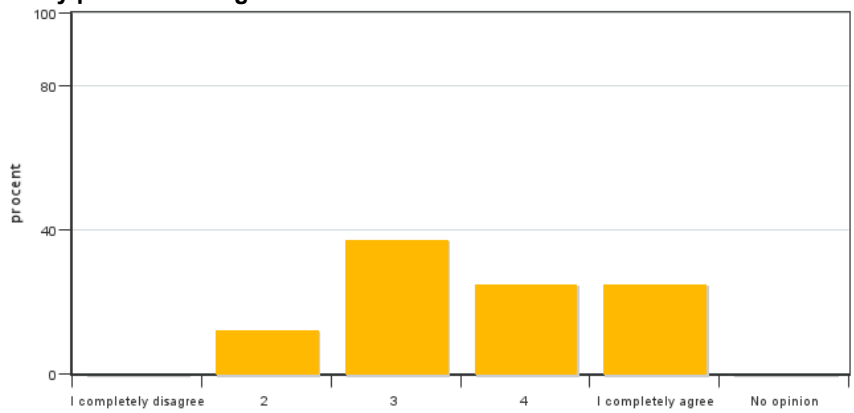
2. I found the course content to have clear links to the learning objectives of the course.



Number of answers: 8
Average: 4,4
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 3
I completely agree: 4
No opinion: 0

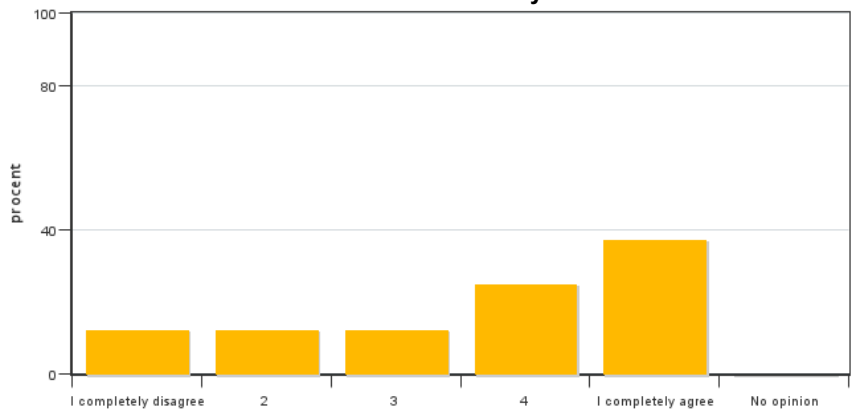
3. My prior knowledge was sufficient for me to benefit from the course.



Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,6
Median: 3

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 3
4: 2
I completely agree: 2
No opinion: 0

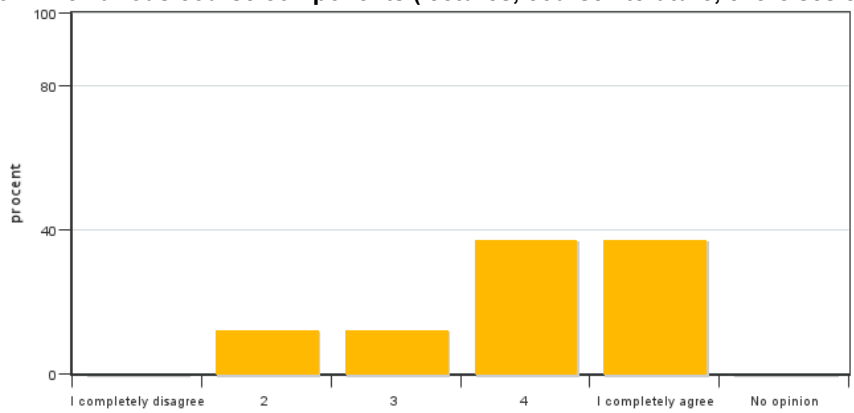
4. The information about the course was easily accessible.



Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,6
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 1
2: 1
3: 1
4: 2
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 0

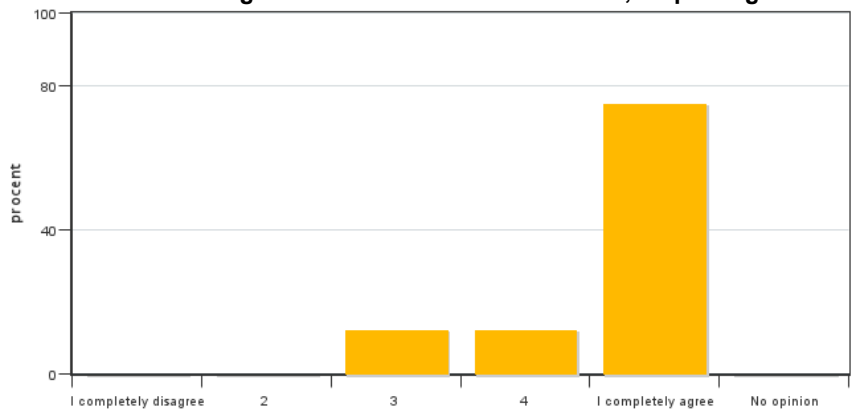
5. The various course components (lectures, course literature, exercises etc.) have supported my learning.



Number of answers: 8
Average: 4,0
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 1
4: 3
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 0

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

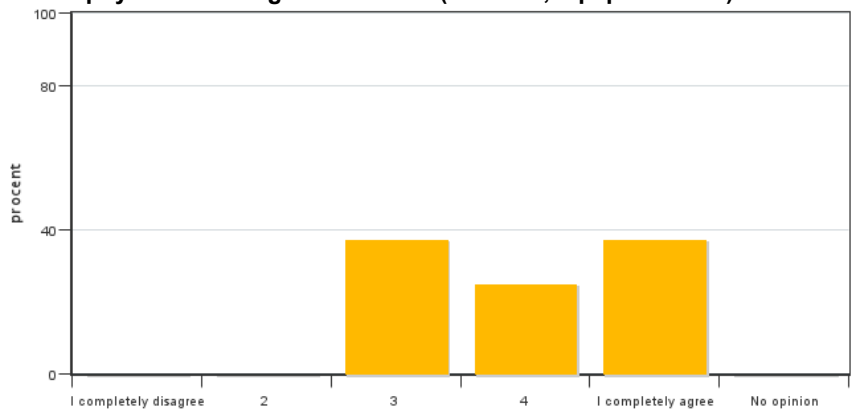


Number of answers: 8
Average: 4,6
Median: 5

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 1
I completely agree: 6

No opinion: 0

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

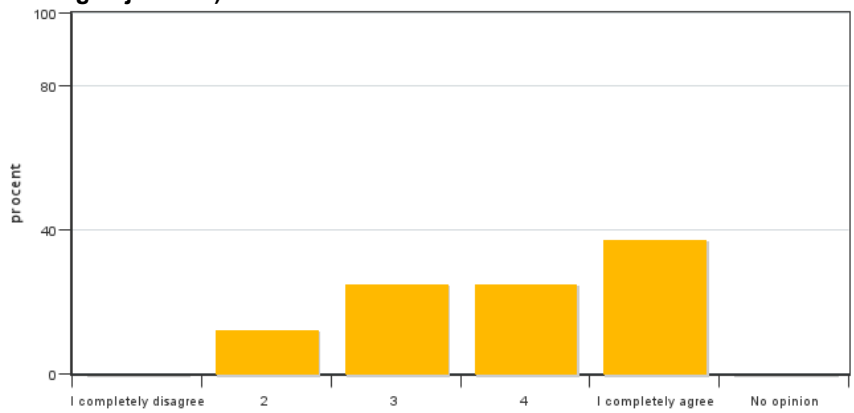


Number of answers: 8
Average: 4,0
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 3
4: 2
I completely agree: 3

No opinion: 0

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

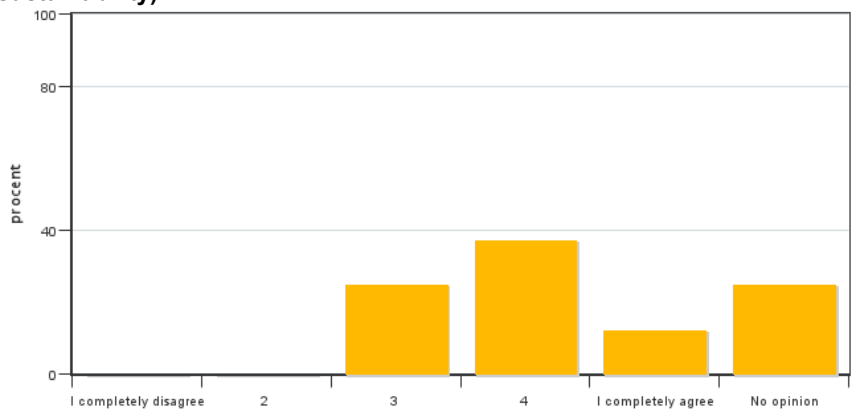


Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,9
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 2
4: 2
I completely agree: 3

No opinion: 0

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

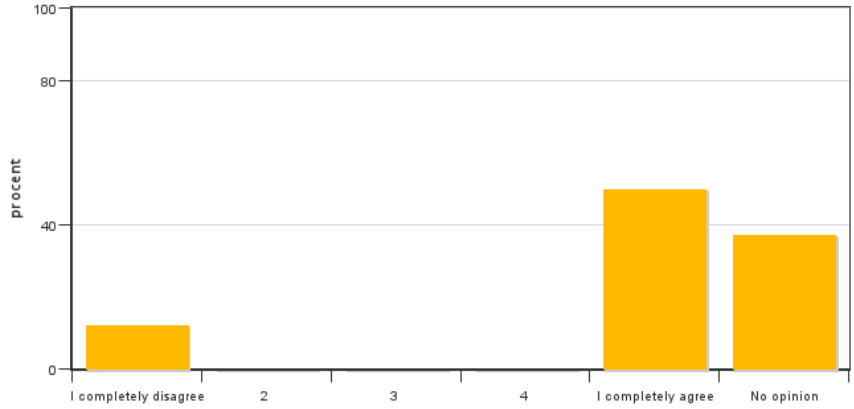


Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,8
Median: 4

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 2
4: 3
I completely agree: 1

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).

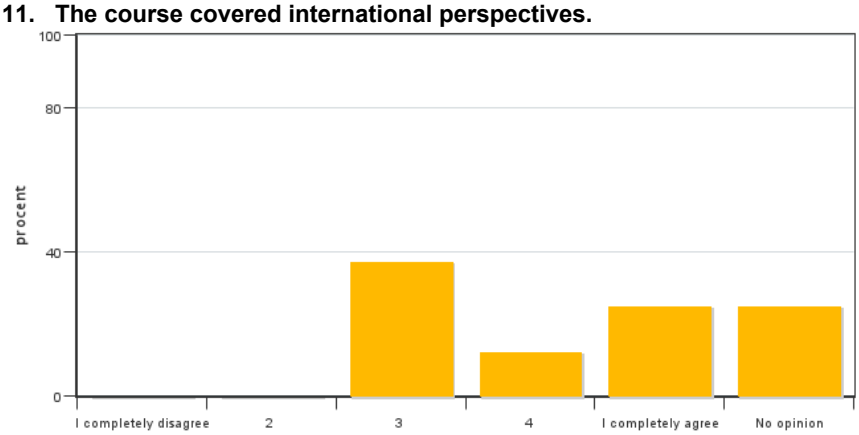


Number of answers: 8
Average: 4,2
Median: 5

I completely disagree: 1
2: 0
3: 0
4: 0
I completely agree: 4

No opinion: 3

11. The course covered international perspectives.

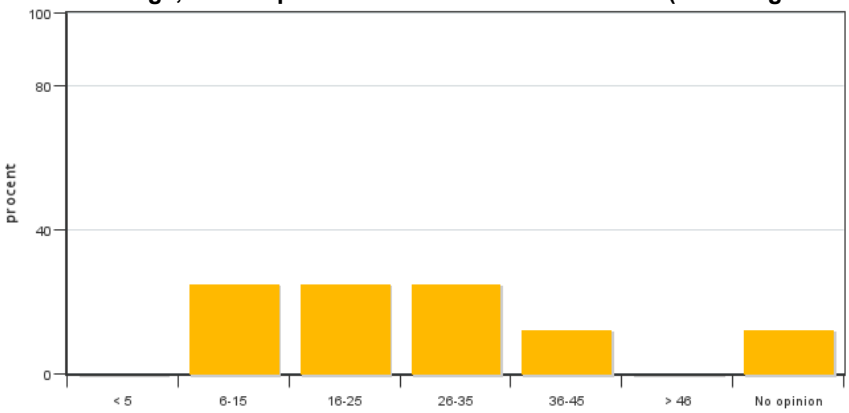


Number of answers: 8
Average: 3,8
Median: 3

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 3
4: 1
I completely agree: 2

No opinion: 2

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



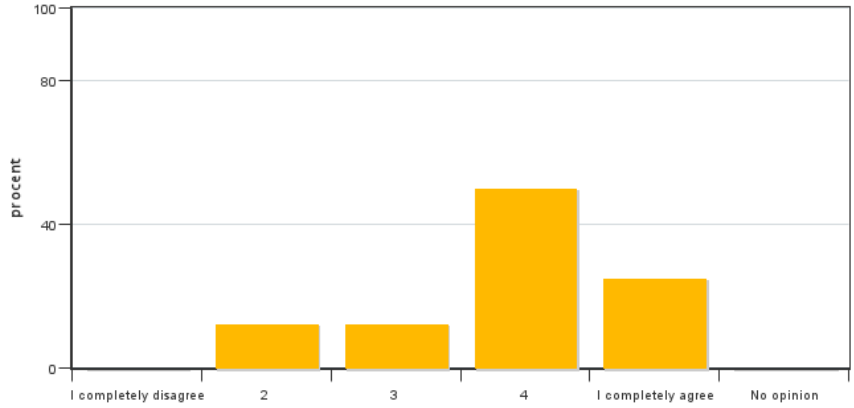
Number of answers: 8
Average: 22,9
Median: 16-25

< 5: 0
6-15: 2
16-25: 2
26-35: 2
36-45: 1
> 46: 0

No opinion: 1

Additional own questions

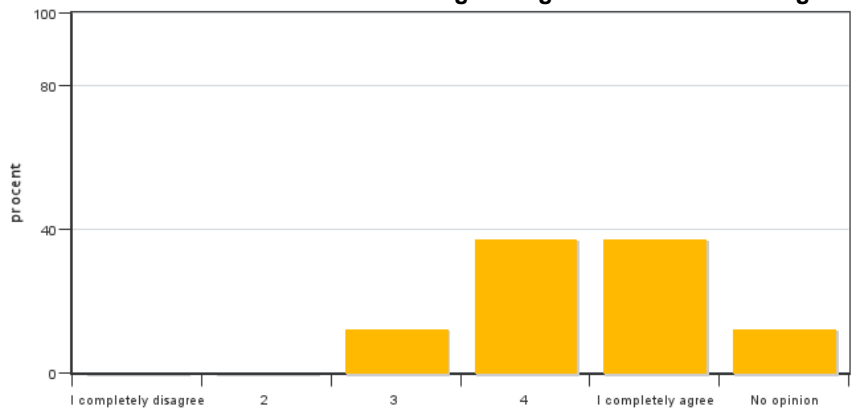
13. The lectures were well planned and supported my learning.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 1
4: 4
I completely agree: 2
No opinion: 0

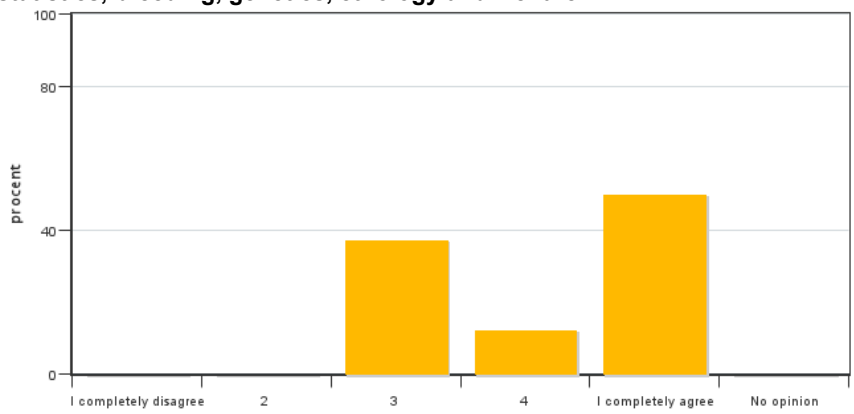
14. The course literature was interesting and I gained useful knowledge.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 3
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 1

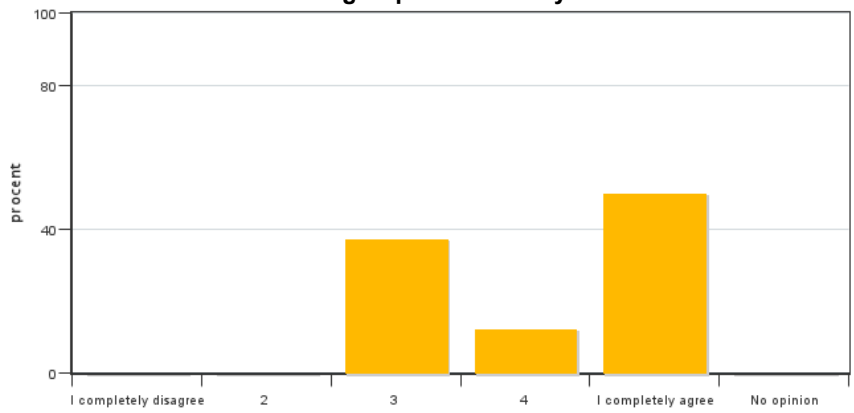
15. The basic study material, quizzes and discussions were helpful to update previous knowledge in statistics, breeding, genetics, ethology and welfare.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 3
4: 1
I completely agree: 4
No opinion: 0

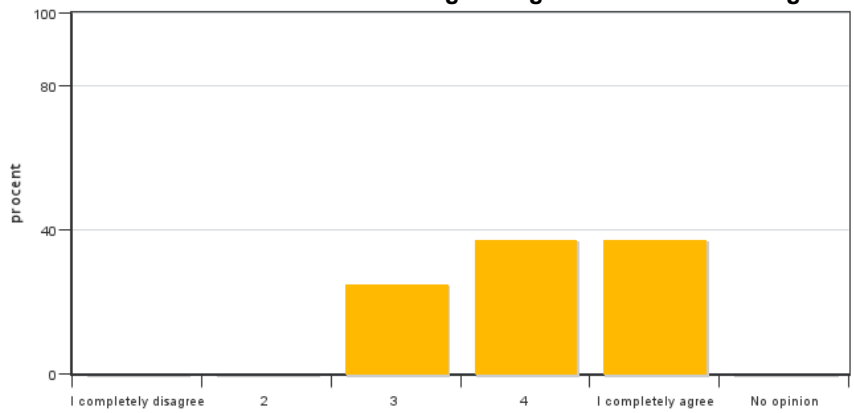
16. The case studies done in groups were clearly instructed.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 3
4: 1
I completely agree: 4
No opinion: 0

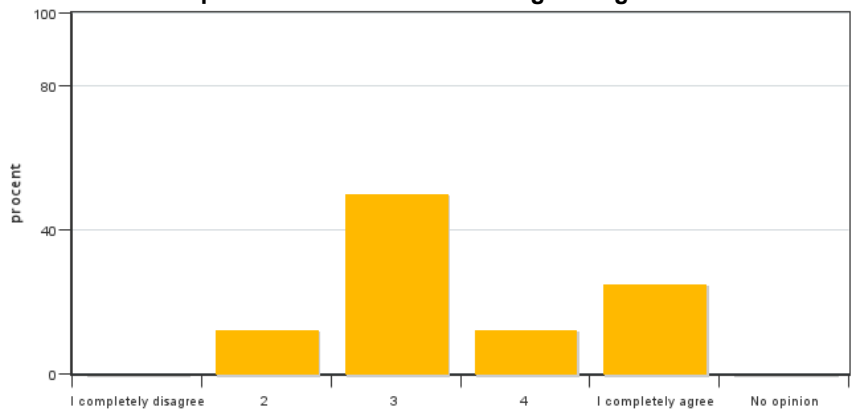
17. The different cases were interesting and I gained useful knowledge.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 2
4: 3
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 0

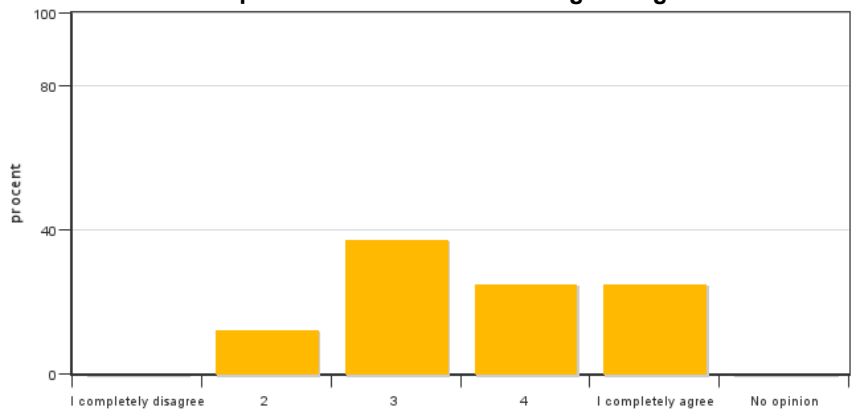
18. The first computer exercise was interesting and I gained useful knowledge.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 4
4: 1
I completely agree: 2
No opinion: 0

19. The second computer exercise was interesting and I gained useful knowledge.

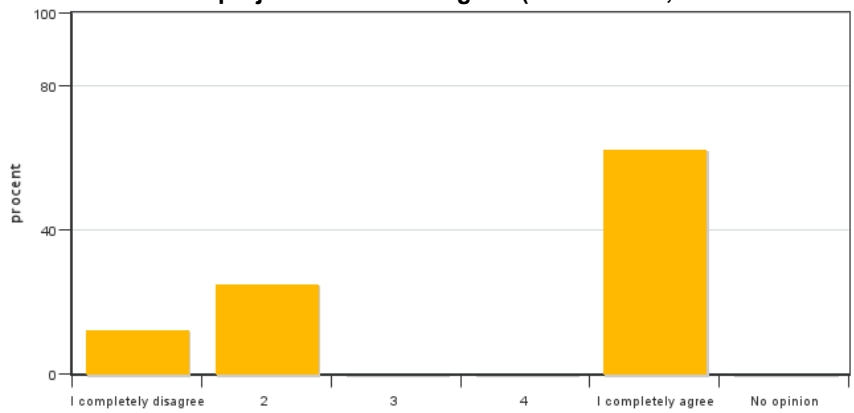


Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 1
3: 3
4: 2
I completely agree: 2
No opinion: 0

20. The in-depth seminar on ethology and welfare was well designed and I gained useful knowledge.

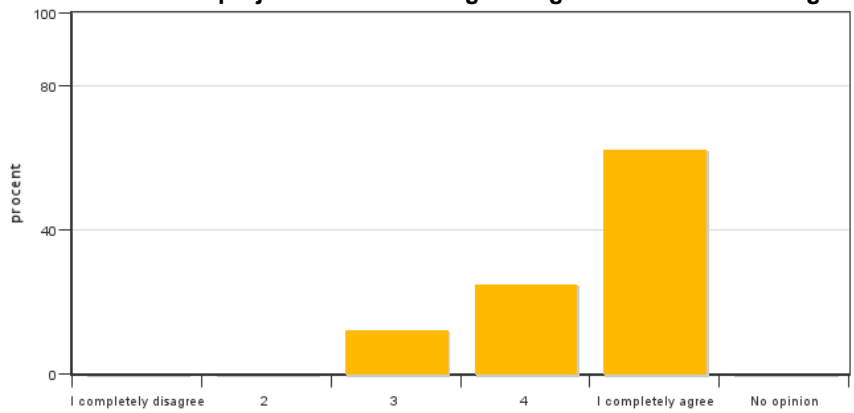
20. The individual project was well designed (instructions, time schedule...)



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 1
2: 2
3: 0
4: 0
I completely agree: 5
No opinion: 0

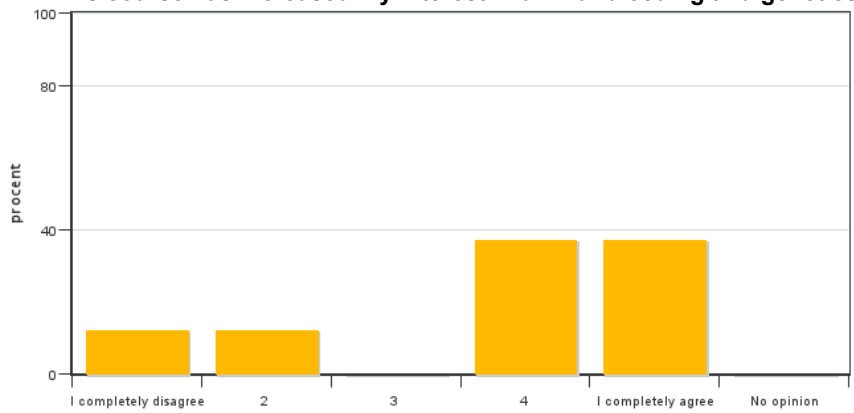
21. The individual project was interesting and I gained useful knowledge.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 1
4: 2
I completely agree: 5
No opinion: 0

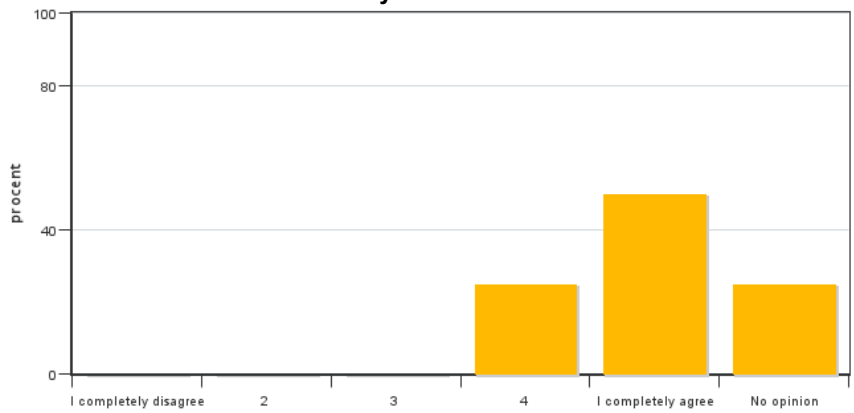
22. This course has increased my interest in animal breeding and genetics.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 1
2: 1
3: 0
4: 3
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 0

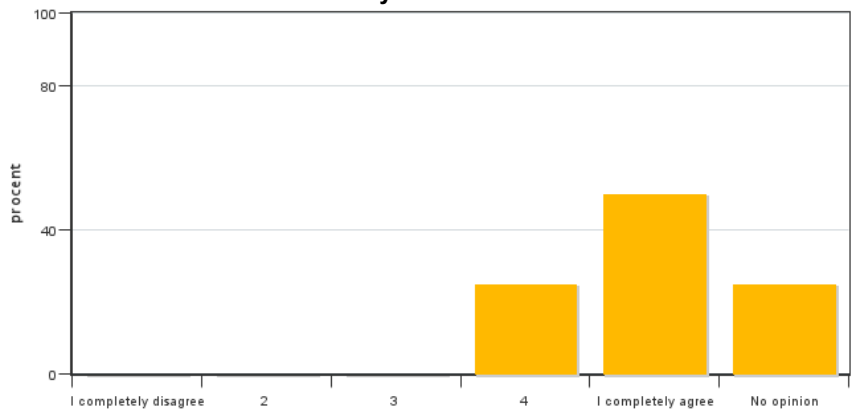
23. This course has increased my interest in animal behaviour.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
I completely agree: 4
No opinion: 2

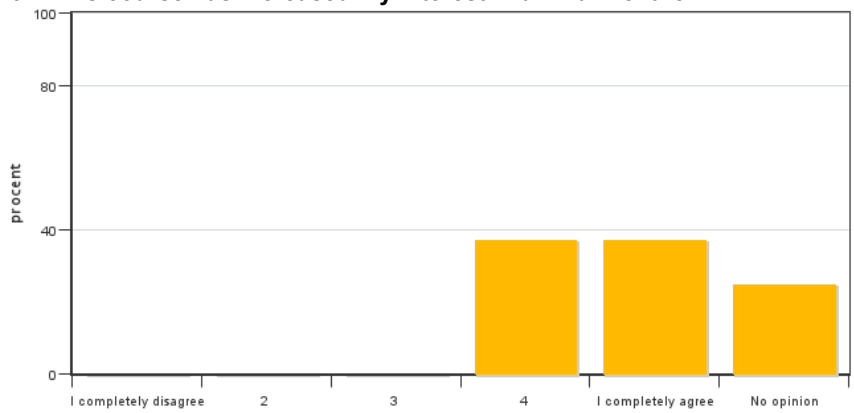
24. This course has increased my interest in animal health.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
I completely agree: 4
No opinion: 2

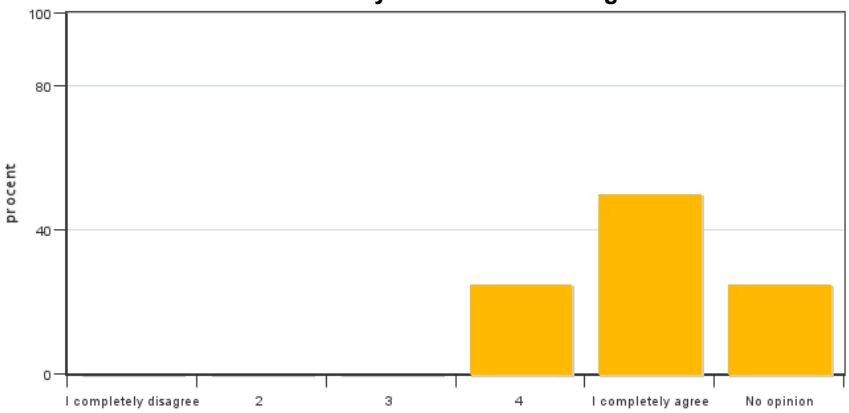
25. This course has increased my interest in animal welfare.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 3
I completely agree: 3
No opinion: 2

26. This course has increased my interest for working with research in the future.



Number of answers: 8

I completely disagree: 0
2: 0
3: 0
4: 2
I completely agree: 4

No opinion: 2

27. In this course, I especially appreciated...

27. How can the course be improved?

27. My tips to the students for next year are...

Course leaders comments

Animal genetics – health, behavior and welfare was held on site at campus. Twenty-four students were enrolled in the course this year, of which 8 students (33%) provided a written course evaluation. In association with the final days of project presentations, an additional oral course evaluation was held with the students, which was used as support when interpreting the written report. The low response frequency should be kept in mind when interpreting the results. In general, the course evaluation indicated an acceptable impression of the course, with a mean score of 3.4 out of 5. However, several specific course components were evaluated more positively, including the links between course content and learning objectives, the social learning environment, the course literature, the basic study material, the case studies, and the individual project.

The course included several assignments and deadlines, which required students to plan their work from the start of the course. Some students commented that course information, schedules, deadlines, and assignment instructions could have been communicated earlier and more consistently across Canvas and TimeEdit. This is an important point and will be reviewed before the next course. For next year, the course administration will aim to make all major assignment instructions available earlier, improve the structure of information on Canvas, and ensure that changes in the schedule are communicated more clearly.

The students appreciated the possibility to work with realistic case studies and to choose their own topic for the individual project. The individual project was considered interesting and useful, particularly because it gave students the opportunity to write a research application. However, some students also expressed that instructions and feedback could be provided earlier, especially before the final presentations. This will be considered for next year, together with a review of how the individual project and group case deadlines are distributed throughout the course.

As in previous years, the diverse academic background of the students remains both a strength and a challenge. Some students found parts of the course demanding, particularly when prior knowledge in genetics, breeding, ethology, or welfare was limited, whereas others benefited from the opportunity to deepen their knowledge. The basic study material, quizzes, and discussions were generally appreciated and will be kept, but we will consider how these materials can be made more useful for students with different backgrounds.

Overall, the evaluation indicates that several parts of the course function well, particularly the learning-objective alignment, the inclusive learning environment, the case studies, the course literature, and the individual project. The main priorities for next year will be to improve the organization and accessibility of course information, provide assignment instructions and feedback earlier, review the structure of the course, and ensure that lectures are scheduled in closer connection with the assignments they support.

Internal comments

Students appreciated several parts of the course, especially the possibility to work with realistic case studies, choose their own topic for the individual project, and write the project as a research application. The learning environment was also perceived as supportive, with students highlighting the availability and kindness of the teachers and the possibility to ask questions without pressure. The ethology and welfare seminar was particularly well received and should be kept as a valuable component of the course.

For the next course, the course leader will improve the overall organization of the course information. This includes preparing and publishing the main assignment instructions earlier, ensuring that Canvas and TimeEdit contain the same information, and making deadlines, mandatory activities, and schedule changes clearer from the beginning. The course leader will also work more closely with the participating teachers before the course starts to agree on common instructions, expectations, and responsibilities, so that students receive consistent information throughout the course.

The course leader and the examiner will review the timing and structure of feedback, particularly for the individual project, to ensure that students receive comments early enough to use them before the final presentation. For next year, the aim will be to provide clearer step-by-step guidance, more active student participation, and more explicit assessment criteria.

Student representatives comments

No comments from the student representatives