Wildlife Biology
BI0872, 10034.1112

15 Hp
Pace of study = 100%
Education cycle = Advanced
Course leader = Guillaume Chapron, Gustaf Samelius

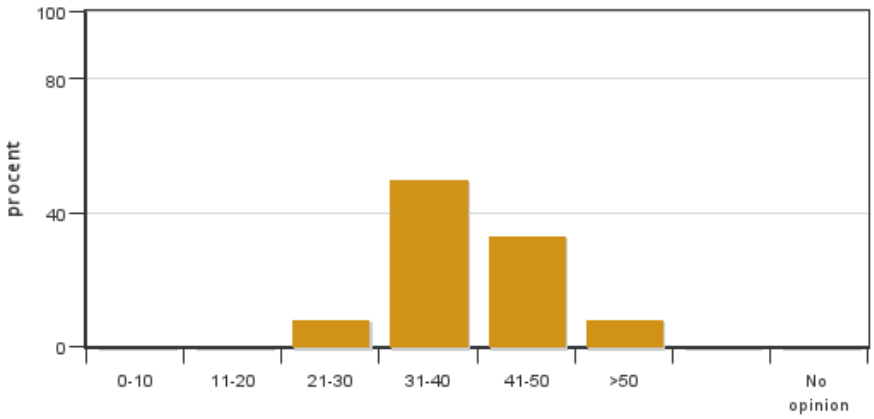
Evaluation report

Evaluation period: 2011-11-04 - 2011-11-21

Answers	12
Number of students	17
Answer frequency	70 %

Mandatory standard questions

1. How many hours per week have you on average spent on the course, including scheduled time?

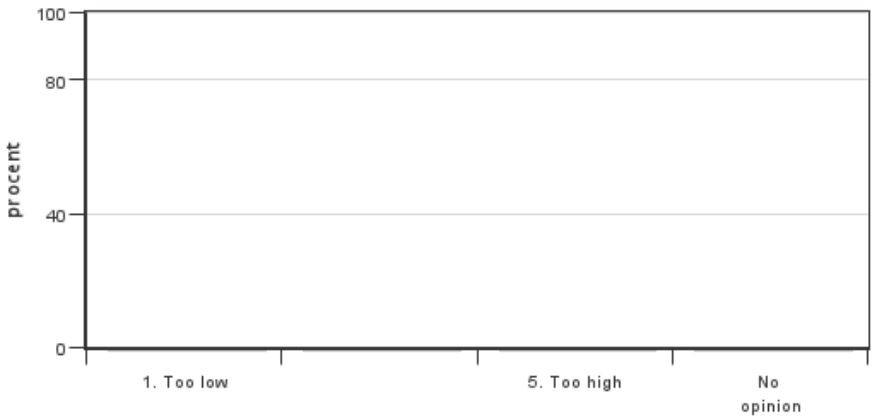


Answers: 12
Medel: 39,2
Median: 31-40

0-10: 0
11-20: 0
21-30: 1
31-40: 6
41-50: 4
>50: 1

No opinion: 0

2. How do you estimate your background knowledge before the course?

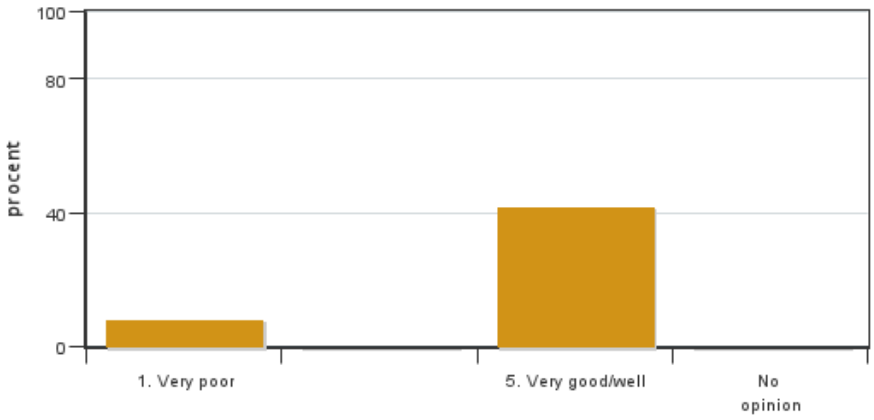


Answers: 12
Medel: 3,2
Median: 3

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

No opinion: 0

3. How has the administration of the course worked?

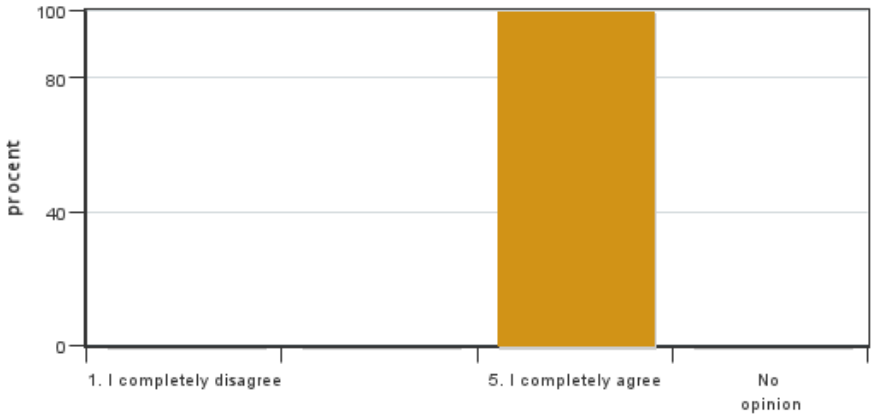


Answers: 12
Medel: 4,0
Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0

4. The overall impression of the course is very good.

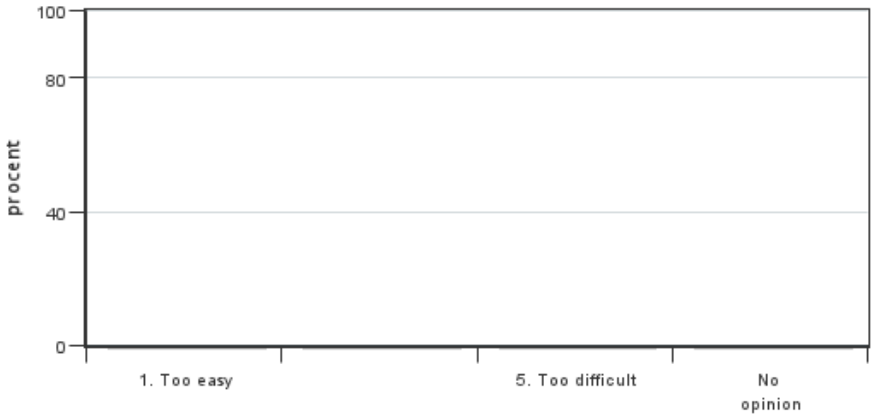


Answers: 12
Medel: 5,0
Median: 5

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

No opinion: 0

5. The level of difficulty for this course has been

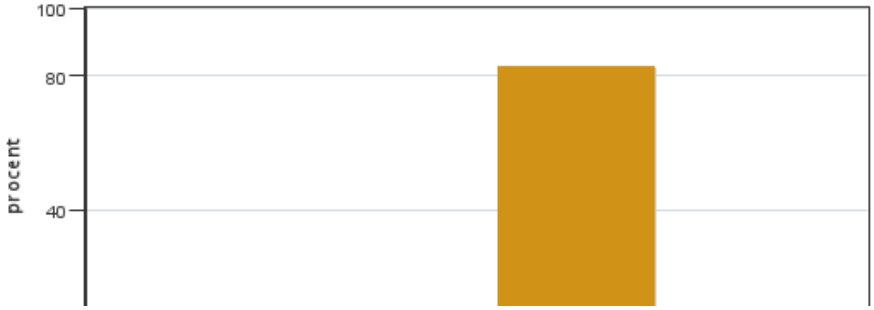


Answers: 12
Medel: 2,8
Median: 3

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

No opinion: 0

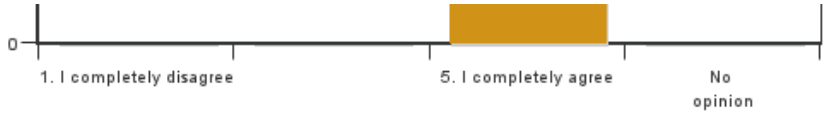
6. I consider that this course has taken up all of the learning outcomes described in the course syllabus. If you select (1), (2), (3), or (4) please describe which learning outcome(s) has/have not been sufficiently covered.



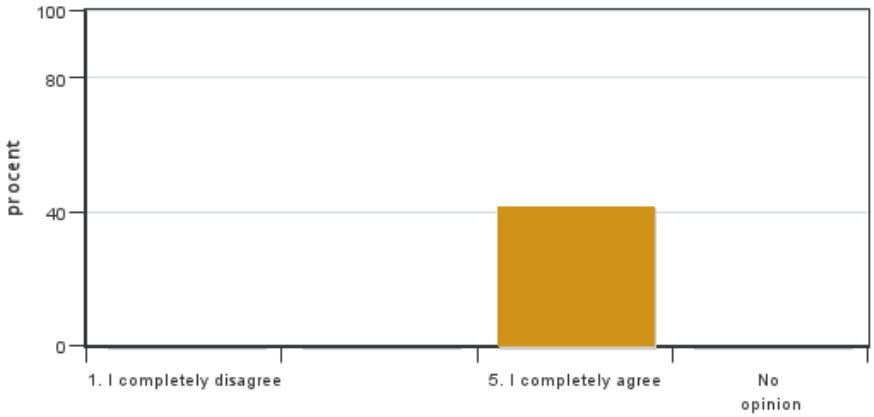
Answers: 12
Medel: 4,8
Median: 5

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

No opinion: 0



7. The grading criteria were clear and easy to understand



Answers: 12
Medel: 4,1
Median: 4

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

No opinion: 0

Course leaders comments

The overall impression of the course was very good (e.g. some students commented on the course being the best course they've taken). The students thought the organization and administration of the course was good but that the work load at the end of the course was a bit too heavy – students therefore suggested (1) to have the book discussions earlier during the course (that would free up time at the end of the course as well as allowing students to relate to the information from the book discussions during more of the lectures) and (2) to move some of the time allotted for the group project to the individual project (where the group project runs during the first half of the course and the individual project during the second half of the course).

Students enjoyed the group projects although some students thought that there was more time allotted than what was necessary – some students suggested that some of the time allotted for the group project could be moved to the individual project as they felt that the amount of time allotted for the individual project was a bit short. Students appreciated the book discussions but thought that the questions for the book discussions should be more problem or discussion oriented rather than look-it-up-in-the-book type. The students also suggest that the main points for the questions should be summarized at the end of the book discussion (instead of stressing just some of the points). Students thought that the lecturers were very good in general although some students commented that a few lecturers would benefit from taking a few pedagocics courses. Students would have liked a few more lectures on birds (e.g. passerines) and a few more practical exercises like the ones by the County Administration Board and students suggested that they should do the calculations from the surveys and the mark-recapture exercise.

The impression of the book (Sinclair et al. 2006) varied considerably – about half of the students found the book very good whereas the other half of the students did not find the book very useful at all and thought (hoped) that there must be better books. One student mentioned that a few paper discussions would have been useful (where they were given a few papers to discuss either the main topics or the methods used).

Students found the living conditions at Grimsö good but that the cleaning was poor and the instructions on what areas they were to clean poorly explained. Students also pointed out that there was a general lack of cleaning material which made it difficult to clean (e.g. no broom or vacuum cleaner at mässen and no broom at the small kitchen by Loftsalen).

For next year we will start the book discussions earlier during the course and transfer some of the time allotted for the group projects to the individual project. We will also strive to explain the cleaning responsibilities better and we will make sure that there is more cleaning material available.

Student representatives comments

General things

In general the class liked the course very much and that it was at a good level and not much missing. Perhaps some lecturers could be switched and some lectures improved but generally the lectures where very much appreciated. The book didn't get very high marks, some thought it a good compliment to the lectures but some thought it a bit hard to read and apply the knowledge into practical use.

Project and discussions

Generally the class seemed to enjoy the group projects and that the subjects were good. The scheduled time for the group projects was generally thought to be too long for such a small project and some of this time could be put on something else instead. For the individual projects the class in general thought there to be too little time so perhaps put some of the time spent on the group works on the individual projects instead. Many thought that the time schedule was a bit crammed at the end of the course so it would have been better if we could have started with the individual projects earlier in the course. The class generally liked the book discussions but many wanted more problem solving tasks and more examples on how to apply the knowledge of the book into more practical use.

Living conditions and final comments

In general the class liked the living conditions at Grimsö but many thought the cleaning wasn't too good and that the information about the students' responsibilities about the cleaning was a bit unclear. There should be more cleaning equipment available for the students to use. Generally the impression of the course was very good. Perhaps some more practical exercises and that the scheduled time could be more even over the course since there was very little to do at the begging of the course and very much at the end of the course.