



Course Evaluation for the In-depth Studies in Research Methodology, 7,5 hp

Course name: In-depth Studies in Research Methodology PEA467
Number of students examined: 30
Number of students who passed the course: 29
Number of students who answered the written course evaluation: 15
<p>Specifics of the course: In 2021, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the course content was delivered partly via Zoom (most lectures), partly on campus or hybrid (most workshops). This was a certain change compared to 2020 when all teaching (lectures, seminars and workshops) was delivered online via Zoom and 2019 when all teaching was on campus.</p> <p>More content was added on quantitative analysis, as students earlier have asked for.</p> <p>As a new element an optional workshop on qualitative analysis with NVivo-Software was offered.</p> <p>Of 15 students who answered the written course evaluation, 12 students answered that they worked between 25 and 50 hours (in average 35 hours) for the course, one worked less than 25 hours and two students providing vague or no answer.</p>
<p>The strengths of the course (based on the quantitative results and written comments given in the course evaluation):</p> <p>Most students indicate that the course and the examination was relevant with regards to the expected learning outcomes. The diversity of methods was described as a strength. Content of the hands-on workshop was described as engaging.</p> <p>The Athena page was described as clear and helpful.</p>

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The weaknesses of the course (based on the quantitative results and written comments given in the course evaluation):

The qualitative feedback included wishes of having the course earlier during the programme, possibilities to discuss and compare different methodological approaches, for example in a group work and having more time for writing the examination task and possibilities for individual drop-in earlier during the course.

The lecturer's analysis of the course:

This course provides for a 7.5 ECTS course a lot of teaching, both in form of lectures and workshops. Analysis according to different research traditions is in the focus of this In-depth studies course. Data analysis is central moment to grasp in order to be able to conduct an own study for the master thesis and in order to understand published research. Therefore, the course covers different approaches of analysis within quantitative and qualitative research schools. This year, attendance was not controlled as strictly as usual during the online learning sessions but students still seem to have invested a good average study time.

Conclusion and suggested changes to the course:

In oral feedback from students, it became clear that many students were quite stressed during this course, mainly in relation to the need to pass the examination in order to be admitted to the master thesis. For the coming year we will therefore try to divide the examination task in different parts.

In order to bridge different ways of analysis, one lecture is planned to be added on data analysis in the ICE field.