Evaluation report:
GEO-SD325: Client-based modeling project

1. Information about the course

Course: https://www.uib.no/en/course/GEO-SD325

Semester: Fall 2020

Course coordinator: Birgit Kopainsky

Teacher: Birgit Kopainsky

Forms of assessment: Assessment consists of evaluating a modeling project. The modeling project consists of
•A portfolio assessment containing a simulation model and an executive summary describing the implications from the modeling process (50%)
•an oral presentation and response to examiners' questions (50%)

Teaching methods: ive-streamed, recorded and stored lectures, seminars, and data labs with active participation by students; individual and group assignments as well as project modelling; individual and group support in-person or remotely from teaching assistants and professors.

Pre-scheduled interactions with the client organizations.

Major project requiring a simulation model, written report and presentation.

2. Statistics

Signed up for exam:20

Absence: 0
Fail: 0
Average grade: B

Grade distribution
A=6
B=10
D=4

3. Self-evaluation

Assessment of the teaching program in relation to the objectives and results

A. What did you focus on in the teaching plan? Give a short description of the teaching plan in the course, with emphasis on what was new this time.

In 2020, I organized GEO-SD325 so that it focused much more on the principle of iteration than previous versions of the course. Rather than gradually working through the modeling project, I tried to follow the logic of rapid prototyping and designed the assignment such that students had to submit two draft versions of the final model during the course.
Another important change with respect to pervious years was that I introduced what I called "à la carte teaching" where I created a Google Doc in which students could enter those topics that they were most interested in but that had not yet been taught in the course of their studies. Topics ended up being innovation and system dynamics, design thinking and system dynamics, experimental methods and agent-based modeling.

B. What is your assessment of how well the teaching plan worked? Give a brief description of any evaluations that have been made, and give an assessment of the experiences with this year's teaching plan.

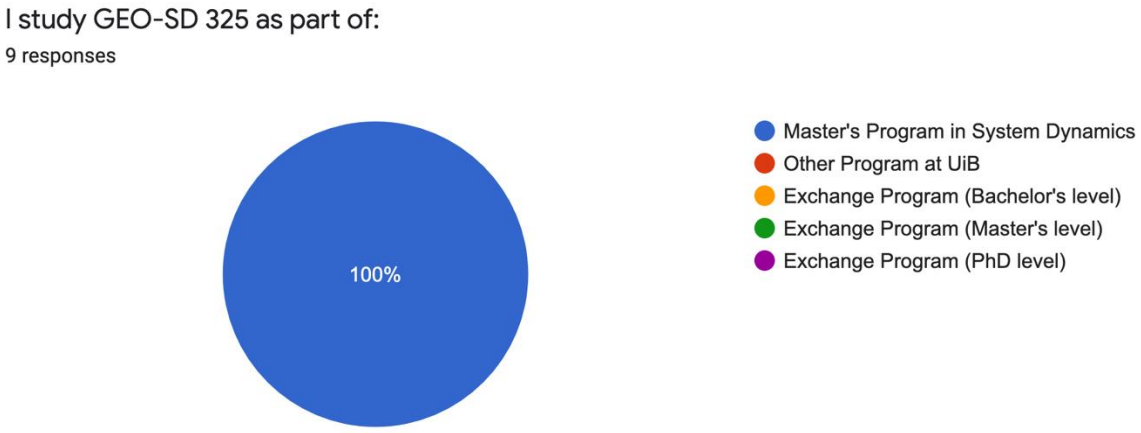
Overall, the new elements seem to have worked well. I will address some avenues for improvement under point C. Covid-19 and the restrictions it imposed on interactions – both among students and with the case owner obviously played an important role this year. This was particularly unfortunate as GEO-SD325 is designed around such interactions.

C. What adjustments will you recommend for the next time the course is offered? Give a brief assessment of which parts of the teaching plan should be continued and what, if any, should be changed.

I will definitely continue with the philosophy of rapid iterations and with the à la carte teaching. Points that I plan on changing are:

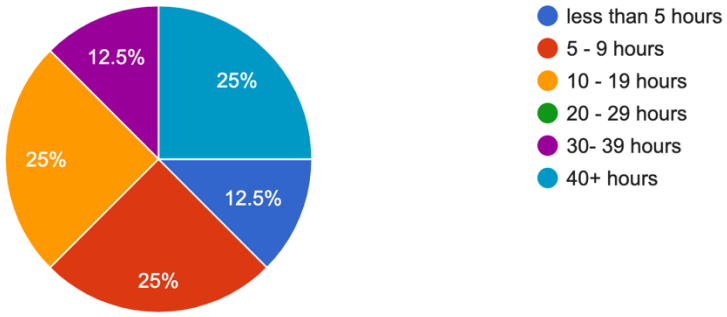
- Provide a more explicit overview on how the course activities contribute towards the course objectives
- Organize more client interactions

4. Results



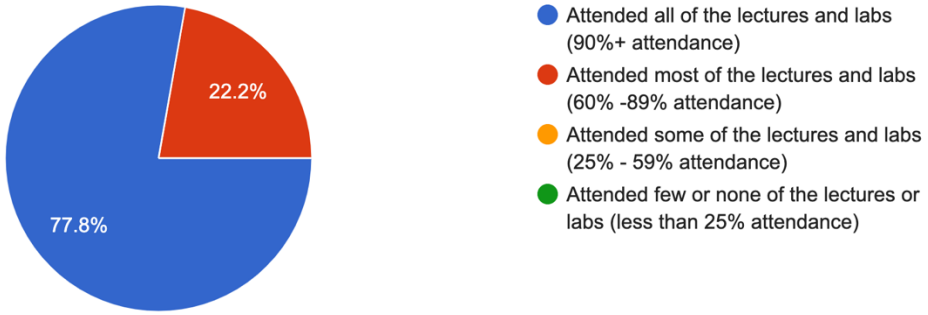
How many hours per week on average did you spend on this course? (include all time spent studying, doing homework, attending lectures and labs, etc.)

8 responses



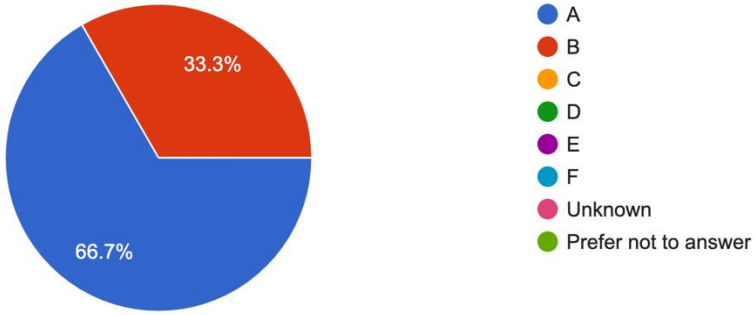
To what extent did you participate in the lectures/labs?

9 responses

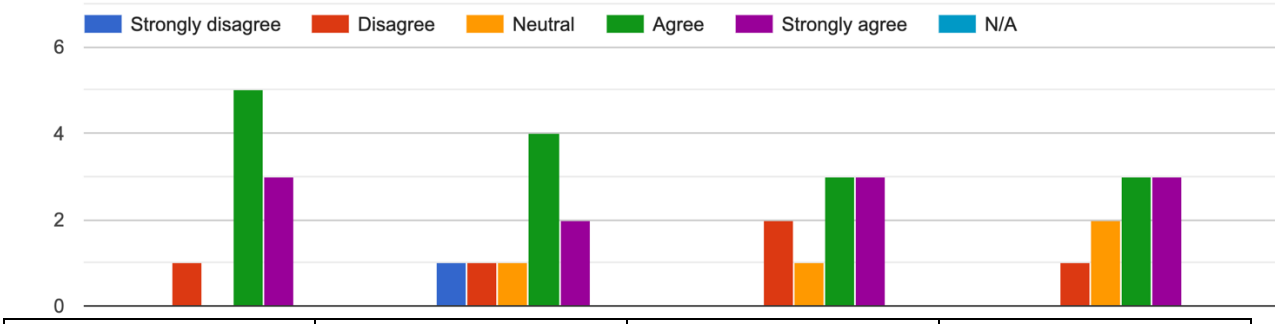


What grade do you expect to get in this course:

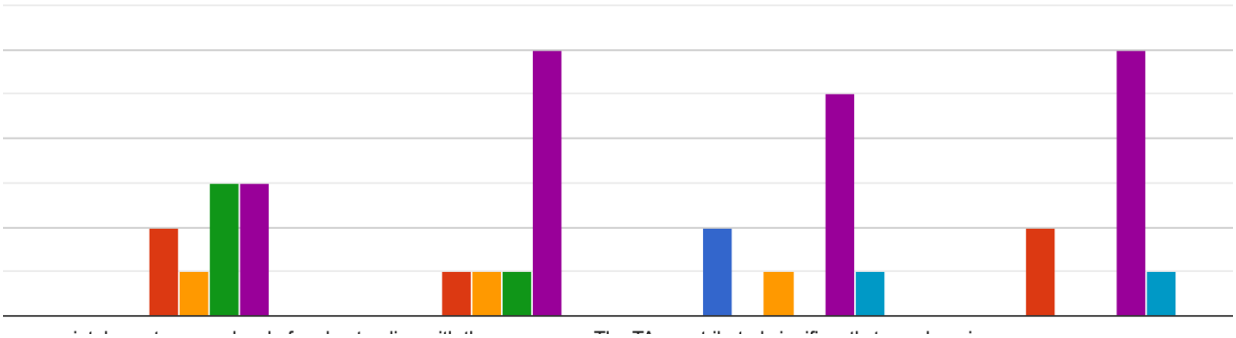
9 responses



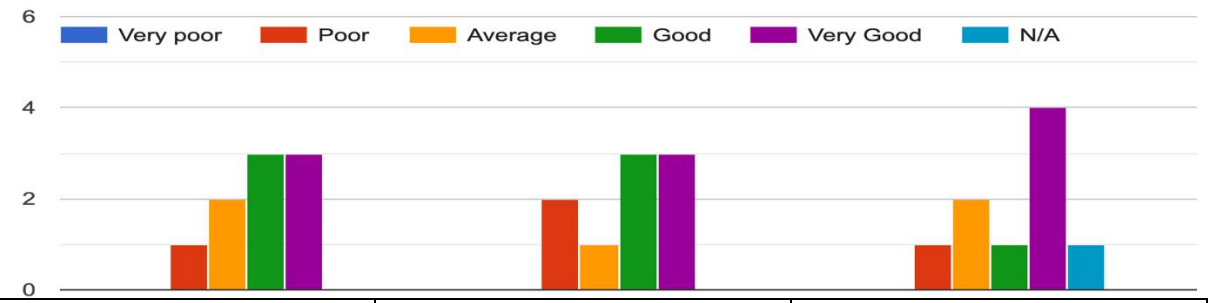
Please mark how you feel about each of the statements listed below:



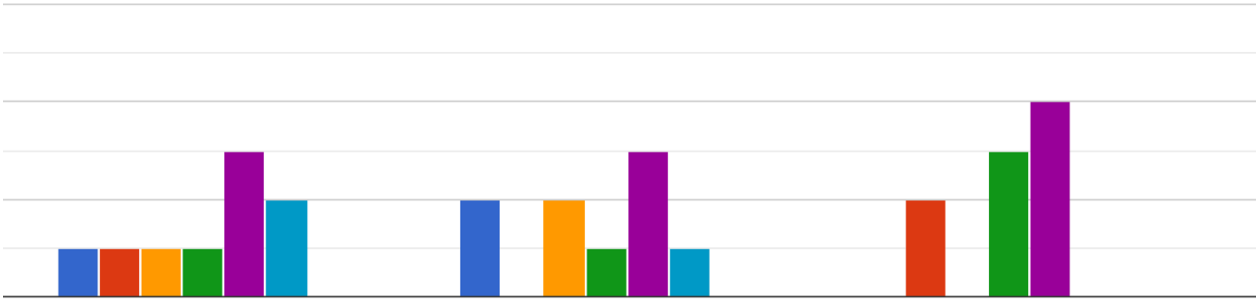
This course is relevant to my interests	I gained valuable insight and understanding from this course	I would recommend this course to other students	I achieved the learning outcomes of this course



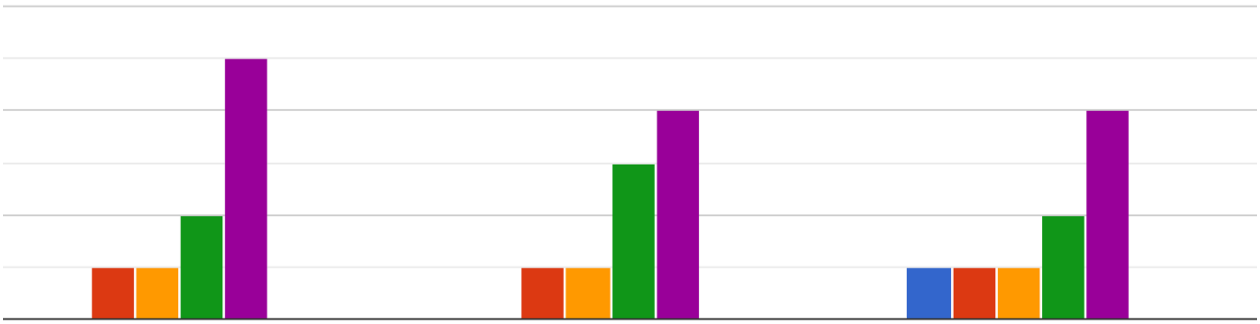
How do you assess different parts of the course:



Relevance of course content	Quality of course content	Interactions with the professor



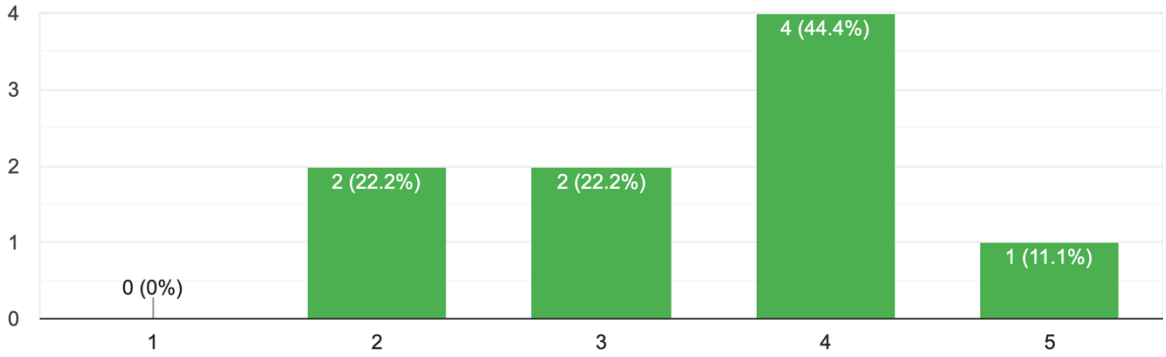
Interactions with the TA	Clarity of feedback you received throughout the course	Course organization and structure



Teaching Methods	Weekly Lectures	Weekly Labs

To what extent did the 'distance learning' style of this course affect your experience with the course and your ability to achieve the learning outcomes?

9 responses



5. Follow-up

Comments on previous evaluations (if any)

How do plan to follow-up on the basis of the course report

Cf. point C under 3. Self-evaluation