

**Fra:** [MachForm](#)  
**Til:** [Studieutvalget@jurfa.uib.no](mailto:Studieutvalget@jurfa.uib.no)  
**Emne:** Extended evaluation of elective courses (treårig emneevaluering) [#14]  
**Dato:** lørdag 10. september 2022 16:51:58

<b>Course supervisor I Name</b>	Malgorzata Cyndecka
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<b>This course has more than one course supervisor</b>	- No
<b>The course was taught during the following semester</b>	Spring 2022
<b>The evaluation applies to the following course:</b>	JUS291-2-A EU and EEA State Aid Law

**Have changes been made to the course since the last time it was taught? If so, please elaborate?**

There has been made a change regarding the evaluation. From 2015 the final grade was based on an essay (25%) and a school exam (75%). In 2022, the final grade was based on a school exam only. The change has been made to verify whether a reduced workload would influence students' results. There were no noticeable changes as regards the students' understanding of the subject.

**Course structure**

The course has a balanced teaching composition and the course programme seems suitable based on the description of learning outcomes. This has been confirmed by the school exam that consists of a practical and theoretical assignment. The students must not only identify the relevant rules that apply to the case at hand, but also apply them correctly. The assignments are always rather open, which leaves room for identifying potential challenges that may arise and propose solutions. The lectures include discussions, usually based on State aid cases that are well known in the students' home countries. Having some knowledge of the cases facilitates expressing opinion on how the legal framework works in practice. The students can put it in a wider legal and political perspective. The latter is relevant given the political character of State aid rules compared to i.a. Competition law.

**Digital elements of course completion**

Apart from streaming and recording the lectures due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the students have access to a special module in mitt.uib that covers State aid temporary framework for Covid-19 measures. The module consists of a short lecture, a presentation of the objectives of State aid intervention by EU Competition Commissioner, an explanation of the relevant legal framework, a reading assignment, and an overview of aid measures implemented in the EU/EEA member states.

**Literature**

It is rather difficult to propose relevant literature. The legal framework is being constantly changed, which renders the recommended handbooks obsolete. They are also quite expensive. In 2023, it will be possible to change the obligatory literature as a new handbook was published after the 2022 course had been completed.

**How do you assess the students' workload in your course?**

It is suitable given the ECTS the course accounts for.

**Lectures**

As the literature becomes obsolete at a very fast rate, the lectures are essential. The recordings have been published immediately after every lecture and made available until the end of summer holidays. The students have been grateful for the possibility to have access to recordings although that could have resulted in fewer students attending the lectures in person. The 2023 course will most probably not be streamed and recorded. Not all students are active, but there is usually a group that asks questions and engages in a discussion.

**Group meetings**

No.

**Written assignments**

Apart from the last semester, all students have to submit an essay. The topic of the essay is always new. Given that the essay amounts to 25% of the final grade, the students usually put a lot of effort in writing it. There were very few cases when the assignment was of a rather poor quality. They have one week to complete the assignment and that period of time is appropriate. There have never been any complaints about the deadline.

**Mandatory assignment**

See the previous answer.

**Examination question paper and guidance for external examiner**

The exam assignments are prepared by the course supervisor.

The essay usually takes a form of a complaint sent to the EU Commission in which a potentially unlawful and incompatible aid is being reported. The students have to prepare a preliminary assessment of the complaint and identify the relevant rules that apply to the case at stake.

The school exam consists of a theoretical and practical question. The practical question raises many State aid issues that the students need to comment on and address by applying relevant rules.

The students are always offered an extra lecture during which the course supervisor comments on the assignments from the previous years. The time of the lecture is chosen by the students given their preparations to the exam.

#### **External examiner group**

The essay and school exam are evaluated by the course supervisor. The students usually receive the results before the standard deadline set by the Faculty.

#### **Grade distribution, fail percentage and dropout rate**

Grade distribution during the last 5 years:

2022:

A:52,7%

B:21,1%

C:15,7%

E:10,5%

2021:

A: 75%

B:25%

2020:

A:25%

B:50%

C:25%

2019:

A:42,2%

B:21%

C:26,3%

D:10,5%

2018:

A:28,5%

B:33,3%

C:33,3%

D:4,9%

The grades are not distributed as in the obligatory courses, but this may be a result of a rather less strict evaluation and the fact that the students choose what they actually are interested in.

As regards the dropout rate, that is a relation between the number of persons who sign up for the course at the beginning of each semester and who take the exam, it is around 30-45%.

#### **Reassessment of examination grade and any control commissions**

There have been no complaints.

#### **Other elements related to the examination that should be pointed out**

I am considering a change in the form of the exam if it will be compulsory to have two evaluators.

#### **This year's digital feedback from students**

As usual, the students have been very grateful for the extra lecture during which the previous exam assignments were discussed and commented on.

#### **Internationalisation**

The course is based on EU/EEA law and the students work with the Judgments of the EU Court and EFTA Courts as well as decisions of the European Commission and ESA.

#### **Overall evaluation of the course, and any proposed measures for next year's course**

The course attracts a rather stable number of students. They have usually taken other EU/EEA law courses during the previous semester and intend to acquire more knowledge of the EU/EEA law.

During the years before the Covid-19 outbreak, students were often offered a guest lecture. This year the students were invited to a guest lecture on the new Climate and Energy State Aid Guidelines.

As mentioned earlier, introducing an obligation of having two evaluators may lead to the change in the form of exam. The course supervisor has a very good experience with an oral exam based on a written assignment. Yet, this type of evaluation requires more planning and recruiting more evaluators.

#### **Facilities and teaching equipment**

No comments.

#### **Other matters that should be commented upon**

The course used to be taken only by international students, but this has changed during the last years.

The number of Norwegian students increases.