

EMNERAPPORT – INSTITUTT FOR BIOMEDISIN

ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT – DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICINE

Emnekode: <i>COURSE CODE:</i>	BMED340	Semester / år:	Spring semester 2025
Emnenavn: <i>COURSE NAME:</i>	<i>Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience</i>	SEMESTER / YEAR:	
Emneansvarlig: <i>COURSE COORDINATOR:</i>	Margaret Lin Veruki	Godkjent:	Utdanningsleder IBM 19.05.2025
Rapporteringsdato: <i>DATE OF REPORT:</i>	2025.05.16	<i>APPROVED:</i> (admin.)	

INNLEDNING / INTRODUCTION:

Kort beskrivelse av emnet, inkl. studieprogramtilhørighet. Kommentarer om evt. oppfølging av tidligere evalueringer.

SHORT COURSE DESCRIPTION, INCLUDING WHICH STUDENTS/CANDIDATES MAY ATTEND. COMMENTS TO CHANGES BASED ON PRIOR EVALUATIONS.

Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience (10 ECTS) is a course available for students attending the Master's Program in Biomedical Sciences, as well as other students and PhD candidates who fulfil the prerequisites.

The course is designed as an introductory course in Neuroscience at the Master's level, with the expectation that the student has a Bachelor's degree in biological or physical science. Previous knowledge of neuroscience is not a prerequisite, but the course level is high with a fast progression. The course covers a large amount of material and aims to give students the basic intellectual tools to work in the field of Neuroscience. The format for the course is a series of 2-hour lectures and 3-4 workshops where special topics and techniques are discussed in more detail. The course runs over ~10 weeks to allow time for the students to read the recommended text book and work with the material.

10 students were registered for the course this semester

- 6 Master Students in Biomedical Sciences (MAMD-MEDBI), and
- 1 visiting/exchange student (INTL-MED)

at the Faculty of Medicine,

- 1 Master student in Molecular biology (MAMN-MOL), and
- 1 visiting/exchange student (INTL-MN)

at the Faculty of Science and Technology, and

- 1 visiting/exchange student (INTL-PSYK)

at the Faculty of Psychology.

For course descriptions, visit <http://www.uib.no/en/course/BMED340>

For previous evaluation reports, please visit <https://kvalitetsbasen.app.uib.no/popup.php?kode=BMED340>

The evaluation report for 2024 listed following changes planned for 2025:

We will emphasize to the students the importance of reading the recommended text book and to participate in class discussions.

To minimize overlap with MOL214, BMED340 will increase the emphasize human neuroscience in the presented materials.

Comments to this:

It was stressed on the first day that it was important to read the assigned chapters in the textbook before the lectures so that students could participate and ask questions during the lectures.

We have incorporated small changes in the course material to emphasize human neuroscience, and added a full workshop where the students explore the anatomy of the human brain using the Visible Body software program. We continue with a workshop on Neurohistology and Microscopy.

STATISTIKK / STATISTICS (admin.):

Antall vurderingsmeldte studenter: <i>NUMBER OF CANDIDATES REGISTERED FOR EXAMINATION:</i>		10	Antall studenter møtt til eksamen: <i>NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ATTENDED EXAMINATION:</i>				10
Karakter- skala <i>GRADING SCALE</i>	«A-F»	A:	B:	C:	D:	E:	F:
		3	1	1	2	1	2

KOMMENTARER TIL KARAKTERFORDELINGEN / COMMENTS TO THE STATISTICS:

Emnerapporten utarbeides når sensuren etter ordinær eksamen i emnet er klar. For muntlige eksamener er da resultatfordelingen endelig, men for skriftlige eksamener kan endelig resultatfordeling avvike noe om evt. klagebehandling ikke er fullført.

THIS REPORT IS PREPARED AFTER ORDINARY EXAMINATION. FOR ORAL EXAMS, THE RESULTS ARE FINAL, FOR WRITTEN EXAMS, THE FINAL GRADING DISTRIBUTION MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY IF CANDIDATE COMPLAINTS/APPEALS HAVE NOT BEEN PROCESSED.

Mean grade: C, Number of failures: 2 (20%)

In general, the results of the final exam are consistent with previous years.

SAMMENDRAG AV STUDENTENE SINE TILBAKEMELDINGER / SUMMARY OF EVALUATIONS GIVEN BY THE STUDENTS

Spørreundersøkelse via Mitt UiB, annen evaluering, tilbakemelding fra tillitsvalgte og/eller andre.

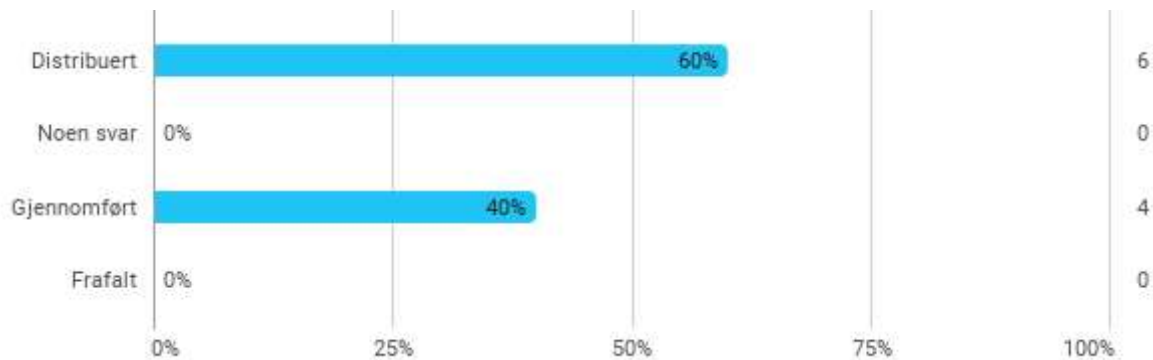
COURSE EVALUATION ON MITT UIB, OTHER EVALUATIONS, RESPONSES FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND/OR OTHERS.

SurveyXact was used as the digital evaluation system. Some of the questions were Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ), while others opened for the students to give their own opinion as written text.

The survey was set up as an anonymous survey, and distributed to the students by use of their E-mail addresses at UiB (one of the students had only an external E-mail address). The Survey was distributed 11 April to the students registered for attendance to the course. Examination took place the 5 May. Reminders was sent the 5 and 8 May to those that hadn't responded so far.

The attendees were asked about the academic content, the organization, and the educational level of the teaching, and asked to evaluate the total workload of the course. There were also some questions regarding the exam and their learning outcomes. Open fields for comments were provided.

When the survey closed the 12 May, one week after the exam, responses from 4 (40 %) students were registered.

Overall status:

Distributed (but no responses): 6 (60 %) – Some answers: 0 – Completed: 4 (40 %)

RESULTS:

The number of students who gave their feedback on the survey was too small to draw any unequivocal results, and in addition, there was no general agreement among the comments.

Notably, only one of the four respondents had read all the chapters in the text book that were assigned, with three students saying there was not enough time to read. Two of the four thought the level of the textbook was too difficult. This is unfortunate, as the text book is written for undergraduate and first year Master's students. Two of the responding students suggested that we increase the number of lectures and include more material. It is not clear whether these are the same students that reported that the workload was too much.

Overall the respondents thought the course was adequately organized with a high educational level.

EMNEANSVARLIG SIN EVALUERING OG VURDERING / EVALUATION AND COMMENTS BY COURSE COORDINATOR:

Faglæreres vurderinger av emnet. *TEACHER COMMENTS.*

Eksempel: Kommentarer om praktisk gjennomføring, undervisnings- og vurderingsformer, evt. endringer underveis, studieinformasjon på nett og Mitt UiB, litteraturtilgang, samt lokaler og utstyr.

EXAMPLE: COMMENTS ABOUT PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT METHODS, IF NECESSARY. FUTURE CHANGES/CHANGES IN PROGRESS, STUDY INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET AND MITT UIB, LITERATURE ACCESS, LOCALES AND EQUIPMENT.

As of Fall 2024, a new Bachelor-level neuroscience course (MOL214) is offered at UiB (MATNAT). Our hope is that students at UiB that are interested in Neuroscience will take this lower-level course before they take our course which is designed for the Master/PhD level. We hope that having two university level courses in Neuroscience will strengthen the Neuroscience environment in Bergen.

This year, 2025, we were faced with the new problem that only between 2-5 students attended any given lecture. Some students did not come to any lectures, and only showed up for the mandatory workshops. We think this is directly related to the poor performance on the exam for ~50% of the students and the two failures. We do not understand why students register for a course when they are not interested to learn the material.

We have two ideas to increase student participation and thereby student learning outcomes.

First, we could change the format of the course from (non-mandatory) lectures to (mandatory) seminars where we add a participation component such as a student-led discussion or a 15 min lecture by one student at each meeting. This would contribute to 10% of the final grade.

The other idea is to start or end each lecture with a short quiz that will contribute to 10-15% of the final grade. These quizzes can be implemented in Canvas/MittUiB and will be only available during the lecture period.

For 2026, we plan to lengthen the period of teaching to ~12 weeks to endure that students have enough time between lectures to read the material.

MÅL FOR NESTE UNDERVISNINGSPERIODE – FORBEDRINGSTILTAK / PLANNED CHANGES FOR THE NEXT TEACHING PERIOD – HOW TO BE BETTER:

We will implement one of the suggestions above to increase student participation.

FS – resultatfordeling (graf) / FS – DISTRIBUTION OF GRADING (GRAPH):



FS580.001 Distribution of results

Exam: BMED340 0 S1 2025 VÅR
 Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience - Skoleeksamen
 Grading scale: Letter grades - Passed

10,0sp

	Total
Number of candidates (registered):	10
Number appearing at the examination:	10
Number of passes:	8
Number of failures:	2 20%
Number of withdrawals during examination	0
Mean grade:	C
Number presenting medical certificates:	0
Number of withdrawals before examination	0

GradeNumber

E	1
D	2
C	1
B	1
A	3

