GEO-SD304 (2025 Autumn) Course Evaluation Response

DEPARTMENT: System Dynamics Group, Department of Geography, UiB

COURSE TITLE: System Dynamics Modelling Process (2025 Autumn)

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Christina Gkini, Birgit Kopainsky

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Verneri Vaelimaa

TOTAL NO. OF RESPONSES: 6

2: Statistics

Signed up for exam: 31
Absence: 8
Grade distribution:

A: 10
B: 9
C: 1
D: 3

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.
GEO-SD304 provides an overview of the entire system dynamics modeling process in terms of theory, tools and practice. The main change with regards to previous years was that I removed a lot of the advanced materials and focused entirely on practices and principles that would also be part of the independent modeling project.
Another important change was that, due to budget reasons, we only had one teaching assistant. This led me to ask students to work in teams of two for the independent modeling project.

B. What is your opinion 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.
I am quite happy with how the changes worked out. Working in small groups and eliminating a lot of the advanced teaching material made students advance faster in their modeling project compared to previous years. This had the extra advantage that they had enough time to focus on model analysis.

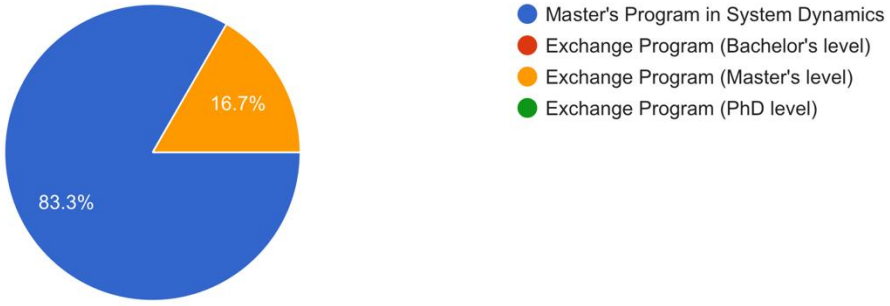
C. What adjustments will you recommend for the next time the course is offered? Give a brief assessment of which parts of the teaching plan should be continued and what, if any, should be changed.

Based on my own experiences and the evaluations, I plan on largely continuing with the changes implemented this year.

4.Results

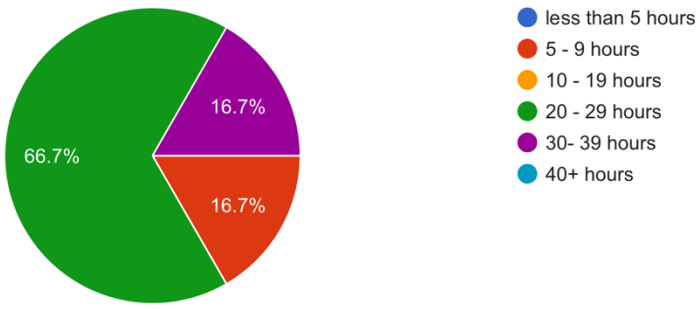
I took this course as part of:

6 responses



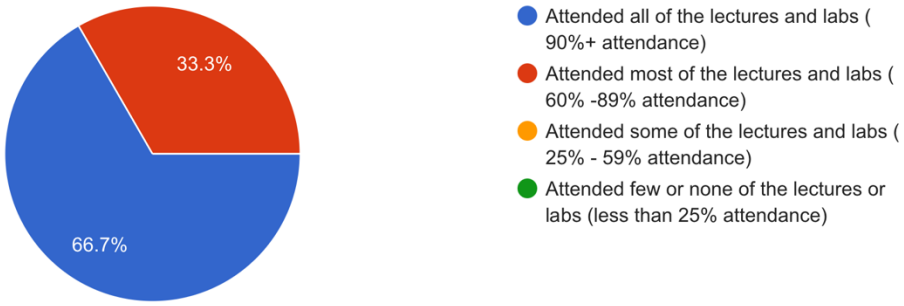
How many hours per week on average did you spend on this course? (include all time spent studying, doing homework, attending lectures and labs, etc.)

6 responses



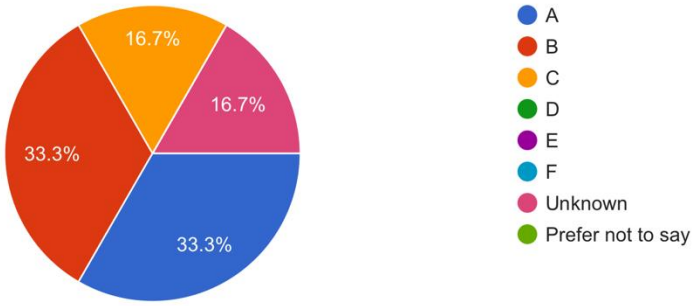
To what extent did you participate in the lectures/labs?

6 responses

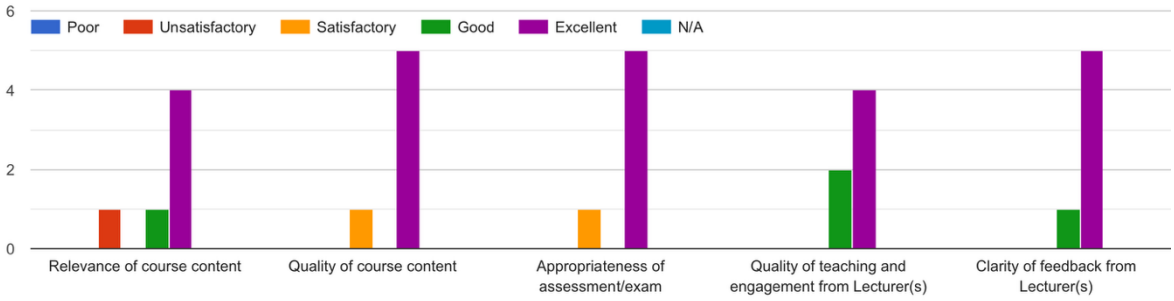


What grade do you expect to get in this course?

6 responses



How do you assess the course content and the lecturer(s)?



What did you like about the main lectures and overall course content?

6 responses

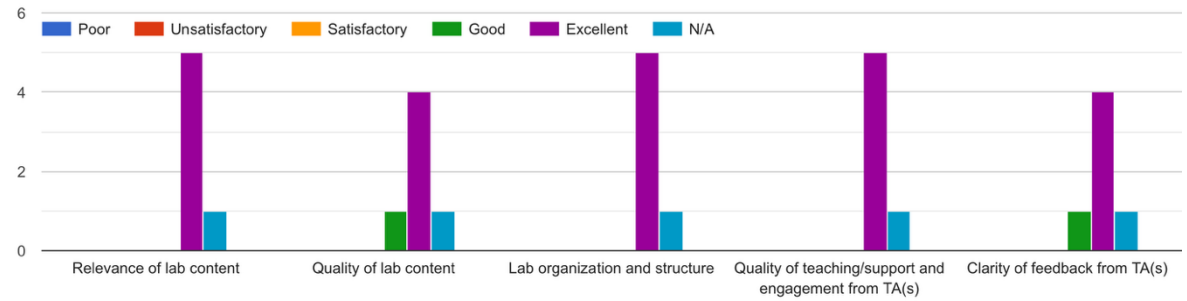
1. Doing a modeling project from A to Z
2. The quality of teaching and content
3. not sure
4. Birgit and Christina, and Verneri!
5. complete a small project I was interested in from start to finish.

6. Good concøusuon of previous lectures. Good idea to get modelling experience as early as possible.

What improvements would you like to suggest to the Lecturer(s)?
6 responses

1. Sometimes the slides were a bit messy (therefore it was difficult to filter the main points) and the exam information was a bit dispersed in the lecture slides and two guidelines (I would have preferred a single document).
2. More class
3. more hands on how to use stella tools
4. Continue the same way
5. adding a bit more step-by-step guidance
6. None

How do you assess the labs and the Teaching Assistant(s)?



What did you like about the labs or other interactions with the TA(s)?
6 responses

1. NA
2. Very easy to communicate with
3. he helped a lot
4. N/A
5. earned a lot from interacting with TA. shared many useful modeling ideas and practical techniques.
6. Very good feedback

What improvements would you suggest to the TA(s)?
2 responses

1. NA
2. None

What is your overall opinion of this course?

What do you feel you have learned by the end of this course?
6 responses

1. Integration of all the modeling steps, experiencing the need for iteration
2. How to use SD
3. to model and analyse better
4. Practical appliance of SD
5. I learned how to complete a project from start to finish using a systematic framework. translate ideas into a model, and apply the methods to build and improve a project iteratively.
6. First modelling steps, self evaluation of modelling skills, how to model.

What do you wish you could have learned more about in this course?
6 responses

1. How to model effects and how to insert scientific literature in this
2. More of the mathematical view of SD
3. not sure
4. N/A
5. More details about examples of different project topics.
6. More practice modelling from stories. But that isn't really something that can be included inside this course

Do you have any additional comments? If so, please discuss here:
1 response

1. No - keep up the good job!!

5. Follow up
Comments on previous evaluations (if any)
How do plan to follow-up based on the course report

See point 3.