

Evalueringsrapport

The evaluation of course PSYK331A in Fall 2011 has confirmed a pattern of responses we have observed earlier: The students provide positive comments for the lecturers, but are less enthusiastic about the course in general. They still think that the course is demanding, and the score for the overall satisfaction with the course is just above the midpoint of the scale. As a positive development has been seen the fact that comprehensive learning objectives have been provided. The mandatory literature has been reduced, but it is apparently still at the upper limit of what students have to read for other courses. A concrete complaint is that the course is thematically fragmented so that there is no overarching theme that connects the individual course modules, given by different lecturers.

In the short-term, we shall try to improve the connections between the different topics. Despite some attempts at providing such connections at the beginning of the semester, we have to develop an integrative framework for the cognitive course. This will especially be necessary for the judgment and decision making part, which—after the tragic decease of Wibecke Brun—has become more partitioned among lecturers. Concretely, the students will get an overview on the topic and its overarching research questions at the first lecture on judgment and decision making that enables them to integrate the different topics. Moreover, we shall try to coordinate the lectures more than we done so far.

The change from the old to the new *studieplan* will be a welcome opportunity to discuss the setup of the whole cognitive psychology course anew. The outlines have been provided in the course description for the new *studieplan*, but the important task will be to select new mandatory course literature and to streamline the course contents. In the process of this streamlining, the development of an overarching theme from which the detailed course topics can be derived will be of utmost importance. Given the results of the evaluation, and that we do not like to wait until the final implementation of the new *studieplan*, we shall start the discussion and implementation of improvements for the Fall semester 2012, which is still run according to the old *studieplan*.

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