

Selvevaluering av emner høst 2017 - INFO125

The course was thought for the 3rd time by me. The course had 156 registered, of which 120 registered for the exam on the 19th of December. The distribution of grades on the exam was:

15 - F
14 - E
29 - D
42 - C
12 - B
8 - A

The total points from the exam that could be won were 100. Maximal won was 93. Average points won 50.

There continues to be a deer-in-front-of-headlights attitude for the exam. Students are too stressed and anticipate to be tricked during the exam or by the exam thus diminishing their own performance. There also seems to be a confusion on the open-book-exam concepts. We need to be able to move away from this antiquated one-point exam form as it is merely a source of stress and does not contribute to the learning process. I have my suspicions it also does not really evaluate the level of acquired knowledge of the students either.

The course offered a crash course in discrete mathematics which was oversubscribed. Since the number of participants grows steadily we need a bigger room for the crash course booked that can seat 100 people.

The students class attendance rate, as usual, peaked in the first two weeks of the course and suffered a continuous fall out till the end of the course. At the end some 30 students were continuously present.

It is my view that the course material is not difficult but it is too diverse. The students are exposed for the first time to many new concepts and they need to be given some space to internalise these concepts before being presented with new ones. In the light of this I have proposed that the material is revised, removing the XML, XPath and XQuery part of the course, shortening the Lectures from 20 to 17 and adding NoSQL databases as a material topic. NoSQL is conceptually closer to the first part of the course material on Relational Databases and I expect the transition between the topics to be easier.