

## UiBs kvalitetssystem for utdanning

### Emnerapport med studentevaluering

**Emnekode – tittel** LING251 – Language Variation in Time, Space and Society

2021 vår

**Emneansvarlig:** Vadim Kimmelman

#### Faglærers vurdering av gjennomføring

**Praktisk gjennomføring:** The course was implemented as planned. In comparison to previous years, there were only 8 lectures (instead of 11-12), due to insufficient teaching capacity in our group. Therefore, some of the topics (and some of the chapters in the textbook) were not covered, including one core topic (syntactic change). It seems disadvantageous to the students to have an 8-lecture course on such an important subject. The BA thesis component of the course was implemented as planned, with an obligatory draft submission and one obligatory meeting with the supervisor. Some students asked for (and received) much more detailed and frequent feedback, from which they benefited.

**Strykprosent og frafall:** 25 students initially registered for the course. 17 students submitted their BA theses

#### Karakterfordeling:

A – 7

B – 6

C – 1

D – 2

F – 1

**Studieinformasjon:** informasjon var tilgjengelig på Mitt UiB. Det ble også gitt informasjon på orienteringsmøtet ved semesterstart.

**Tilgang til relevant litteratur:** a textbook available for purchase at Akademika. The literature for individual BA theses was accessible to the students via the library.

#### Faglærers vurdering av rammevilkårene

**Lokaler, undervisningsplattformer:** The course was given partially via Zoom, and partially on campus with streaming for the students who could not attend. Both the teacher and the students experienced the on-campus presentations as more lively and interesting. While this is partially out of our control, it makes sense to try and organize on-campus education as much as possible (possibly with streaming to accommodate all the students).

#### Andre forhold:

#### Faglærers kommentar til studentevalueringen

**Metode og gjennomføring:** The questionnaire was announced at Mitt UiB and answered by 8 students.

### **Oppsummering av svar fra studentene:**

Most students (7 out of 8) were satisfied or very satisfied with the course in general (1 was neutral); all the students highly evaluated the course's cohesion and the lectures; all but one students were positive about the course literature (one student considered the textbook to be difficult to comprehend; however, if the obligatory courses in the BA program are taken, it should not be a difficult textbook); all but one students indicated that they learned a good amount or a lot from the course. Thus, in general, the course is well evaluated.

Concerning the medium of teaching, 6 students preferred on-campus classes, 2 were neutral, and 1 preferred Zoom classes.

In the free text part of the questionnaire where the students were asked for both positive and negative feedback, the following was mentioned:

- Lectures were evaluated positively, and the lecturer as engaged
- The amount of supervision of the BA thesis was positively evaluated, but one student suggested that the work on the thesis should start earlier in the semester. This will be addressed by splitting the course into two separate courses next year.
- One student appreciated the optional exercises that were given for every lecture

### **Faglærers samlede vurdering, inkl. forslag til forbedringstiltak:**

In general, the course is in a good shape. Next year, it will be split into a language variation course and a BA thesis course, which is a positive development because (1) it will allow testing the language variation component directly and (2) it will allow more freedom of choice of topic for the BA assignment, and potentially more supervision.

Concerning the future of the course, two notes are in order:

- 1) As much as possible, the course should be on-campus or in a hybrid format.
- 2) It would be beneficial to the students to have more than 8 lectures (at least 10 lectures seem to be necessary).