



NATUR-  
VETENSKAPLIGA  
FAKULTETEN

KURSSAMMANSTÄLLNING

*Datum* 2019-06-14

Kursansvarig: Jessica Abbott

Antal studenter: 52

Betyg: 8 Fail (U), 3 Pass (G), 41

Pass w distinction (VG).

Sammanställt av: Jessica Abbott

Biologiska institutionen

Grund- och avancerad utbildning

## **Course analysis BIOS14 Processing and analysis of biological data, autumn 2019**

### **Summary of the course evaluation**

Number of answers 39. Overall the students were very pleased with the course (grade 4.0). The students especially appreciated the format of the exam (take home) and the combination of theory and practical exercises, but suggested improvement regarding better integration between lectures and exercises, a more even workload throughout the course, and another graded assignment.

### **Comments from the teachers team**

The teachers on the course considered that the course worked well overall. This is the second time that the schedule has been set up to make it possible to take BIOS14 in parallel with Modelling Biological Systems BIOS13. Although the students who did so felt that taking both at the same time was a heavy course load, it seems that many find it convenient since a majority of the students taking BIOS14 do so. Given the high pass frequency, there don't seem to be very many students who drop out of BIOS14 because they find taking both courses too much.

## Evaluation of changes made since the previous course

After the previous course I moved some parts of the exercises around in order to even out the workload a bit. Although the students still feel the later exercises are much harder and more time-consuming than the earlier ones, I think this change was generally successful – more students managed to complete all the material in the allotted time. However this comes at a cost of reducing the integration between the lectures and exercises, since they are then slightly out of sync.

## Suggested changes for the next course

The next time the course is given I plan to continue updating the exercises and streamlining some of them to remove unimportant material, which should help to even out the workload a bit more. Grading assignments is very time-consuming for such a large course, so although some students suggested making the “mid-term” exercise a graded assignment, some thought will be necessary to decide what is the best way to implement a graded “mid-term” assignment. It should preferably be similar in workload to 1-2 exercises for both students and teachers. The suggestion will therefore be kept under consideration, but not necessarily implemented next time the course is given. A bachelor-level data analysis course is in development, so a larger re-structuring of this course (including better integration of lectures and exercises, and a different distribution of topics) will be undertaken when the bachelor-level course is completed.

## Other teachers

Per-Erik Isberg, Aivars Cirulis, Jacob Roved, Katrine Lund-Hansen