FACULTY
OF SCIENCE

Department of Biology
Education- Bachelor's and Master's
level

COURSE ANALYSIS

Date 2021-03-23

Main Teacher: Olivier Van Aken
Number of students: 37
Number of answers: 17
Grades: U (10), G (19), VG (8)

Course Analysis BIOR79 Methods in Molecular Biology, autumn 2020

Summary of the course evaluation

The student satisfaction was overall very high (average 3.8), with no unhappy students (1-2/5 score). The teachers generally received very positive feedback, and especially the lab assistants were highly appreciated. Overall communication was perceived as good. The level of the course was seen as appropriate (3.9/5), and for most the preknowledge seem to be sufficient.

Some found the exam harder than expected in comparison to the intermediate Tests, which were also in a different format. We should clarify better that the exam will not be in that form (rather like the previous exam questions) and that the intermediate tests are just to help them study and get some extra points.

The lab received excellent reviews (4.7/5).

Comments from the teachers team

The teachers were very happy with the course evaluation, considering how much time was spent in reorganising the course from last year.

Evaluation and changes made since the previous course

The course had been re-organised extensively, mainly on restructuring the order in which content was given and removing

redundant parts or expanding parts that were lacking. This seems to have been appreciated by the students as most complaints about lack of preknowledge/difficulty, accumulation of deadlines around the same period and communication with the main teacher have disappeared from the evaluation since last year.

Suggested changes for the next course

We should clarify better that the exam will not be in the same form as the intermediate tests (rather like the previous exam questions, which should be updated) and that the intermediate tests are just to help them study and get extra points.

Still some questions were perceived as memorisation- and detail-focused, and not so much on big picture or understanding. There is a lot of focus on various protein expression systems, which I think is too much for this course. Some basic bio-informatics could be added, but this would need to be planned/discusses properly.

The lecture on ESS should be streamlined to be more like a lecture, and it should be made clearer that this will be part of the examination as well.

Other teachers involved in the course

Wolfgang Knecht, Allan Rasmusson, Claes von Wachenfeldt, Klas Flärdh, Marita Cohn, Ana Maria Labrador, Zoe Fischer, David Stuart, Manuel Orozco, Cuong Tran.