



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



Course 1MV501 – Worldviews and Visions 5 ECTS Fall 2013

Number of students: 64

My comments concerning the evaluation

It's been a really good course to teach/facilitate this fall. We have had so many interesting and rewarding discussions and seminars together. This fall, I also discovered that you can give the students even more responsibility for their own education (for instance the student lectures) and it works even better. The student group has been inspiring, with urgent interest and willingness to learn and discuss more. A great seminar group!

Some of the challenges this fall have perhaps been the size of the group and the course in relation to the introductory course. Two things that I will work with in the future.

The results from the evaluations are included at the end of this document. But I will make some general comments here based on those results. When I have summarized the students' comments, I have included the more general and often appearing things you have mentioned.

Best things

When it comes to the best things about the course, I agree with you. Discussions in general, and the possibility for you to contribute and interact were very much appreciated. The discussions and workshops, and for instance value exercises were all graded as very good.

The lectures and themes were also mentioned as good. The Art-project was also mentioned as a rewarding experience. The range of ideas and the variety of the lectures and themes/perspectives were appreciated.

From my perspective I think it is important for you to be able to explore your personal approach to the course topics. Sustainability can be difficult to discuss, since it's close to heart, but that's also why it's so important to discuss!

The art-projects serve as an excellent example of this, but also the more classic assignments and seminars show how the students benefit from learning from each-other. This co-learning approach signifies higher education and is vital for helping the student in their future careers of choice. At the same time this can be perceived by some as not structured enough or not "hard" enough to those who are not used to this kind of learning. This is perhaps because a lot of the methods are only as good as you make them – the students in this case has to take a lot of responsibility for their own studies.

I think the course would benefit if I explained more about how the course is planned at the beginning and the methodology, as well as what will be expected of the students. One could also discuss if the course should perhaps have other grades than PASS/FAIL. (This is something that is often under discussion.)

The course received good grades throughout and a general grade of:

Median:4 Mean:3.9

Things to work with

Things that were mentioned by several people as possible points to improve were the connection to the other courses - this is also in relation to the examination tasks. To have varied discussions is appreciated, but in some cases clearer structure is needed. Also, the course would improve from more clear purpose of the lecturers (perhaps other themes or more experience based?) and a clearer red thread. The definition of Sustainable Development can also be problematic.

My comments here are that I agree with the connection to the other courses, although I do feel I did try to attain this, more programme general planning is needed – as well as more course specific planning. Concerning the structure of the seminars some students can feel that it becomes more “what I think” that it should be. This is a critique I will look closer in to and try to work with improving. I think this also is linked to explaining the purpose of the course. The purpose is not to just have opinions, but to use opinions to attain an interesting outcome. The opinions should therefore be clearly based on academic arguments. This is the critical thinking that is so important. Perhaps we could have one seminar were we discuss the methodology of the discussions as such and how to attain the discussion we want. I think the discussions went overall really great, and that the learning outcomes were achieved to a high degree, but I realize, especially with a larger student group, that the discussions also can become unevenly good so to speak (depending on what group you are assigned).

One other thing I think could be developed is the participation of the guest lectures. This also goes for the connection to research and how the research environment could be used in the course. I do think we had several “practitioners” this fall, but this is also something to look in to.

I think also that I can do more to give the students additional literature in the form of articles (something often asked for). I thought I have included it in the final paper, but realize I could do this more. Finding a way to train the students’ to find their own literature could also be included in some seminar tasks. To be able to relate to current research is very important.

Finally: I want to thank everyone for a great course and all your very appreciated and useful comments! The comments and numbers are really useful in the future course planning.

Kind wishes/Malin

Sustainable Development - Worldviews and Visions - a Seminar Series, 5 c

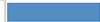
Course code:1MV501, Report code:MV501, 20%, DAG, NML, week: 38 - 51 Semester: Autumn 2013 - Autumn 2013

Result

This evaluation is answered by 69% (44/64) of the respondents.

Please write summaries of the free-text responses for each question before you publish. Work with the course report will be facilitated if you have already written the summaries. Please note that free text responses must be examined through a privacy perspective before they are published or printed. See [guidelines for course evaluations](#).

1: What is your general impression of CEMUS?				Answers: 44
Answer options:				Median: 4 Mean: 4.2 / 5
0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%		
1. Very bad	0 responses	0%		
2.	1 responses	2%		
3.	9 responses	20%		
4.	16 responses	36%		
5. Very good	18 responses	41%		

2: What is your general impression of the course Worldviews and Visions? (1= bad, 5= excellent)				Answers: 44
Answer options:				Median: 4 Mean: 3.9 / 5
0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%		
1. 1	0 responses	0%		
2. 2	3 responses	7%		
3. 3	10 responses	23%		
4. 4	21 responses	48%		
5. 5	10 responses	23%		

3: This has been especially good about the course: Answers: 40

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Discussions in general, and the possibility for you to contribute and interact were very much appreciated. The discussions and workshops and for instance value exercises. The lectures and themes were also mentioned. The Art-project was also mentioned as a rewarding experience. The range of ideas and the variety of the lectures and themes/perspectives were appreciated.

4: This could be improved in the course: (Please make your suggestions as constructive as possible.) Answers: 32

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Things that were mentioned by several people as possibilities to improve were the connection to the other courses, this is also in relation to the examination tasks. To have varied discussions is appreciated, but in some cases clearer structure is needed. Also, the course would improve from more clear purpose of the lecturers (perhaps other themes or more experience based?) and a clearer red thread. The definition of Sustainable Development can also be problematic. Something that was also mentioned was that the discussions could benefit from being more structured since they are sometimes dependent on with whom you discuss.

5: How meaningful have the different lectures so far been for your process of learning? (1=meaningless, 5=very meaningful) Answers: 44

5: How meaningful have the different lectures so far been for your process of learning? (1=meaningless, 5=very meaningful)				Answers: 44
Answer options:				Median: 4 Mean: 3.7 / 5
0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%		
1. 1	2 responses	5%		
2. 2	3 responses	7%		
3. 3	12 responses	27%		
4. 4	18 responses	41%		
5. 5	9 responses	20%		

6: Were there any lectures you found particularly meaningful? Answers: 30

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Several students have commented that the gender seminar was very interesting. In your assignments I can also read that you liked the student lectures and thought you learned a lot from them.

7: How meaningful have the different seminar discussions been for your process of learning? (1=meaningless, 5=very meaningful) Answers: 42

7: How meaningful have the different seminar discussions been for your process of learning? (1=meaningless, 5=very meaningful)				Answers: 42
Answer options:				Median: 4 Mean: 3.8 / 5
0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%		
1. 1	1 responses	2%		
2. 2	4 responses	9%		
3. 3	8 responses	18%		
4. 4	17 responses	39%		
5. 5	12 responses	27%		

8: Were there any seminar discussions you found particularly meaningful? (COPY)

Answers: 26

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Some were mentioned several times here: gender seminar, student lectures, 2052 discussions. In general the ones were you got to interact a lot.

9: How meaningful have the different examination tasks been for your process of learning? (1=meaningless, 5=very meaningful)

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 4 Mean: 3.7 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. 1	0 responses	0%	
2. 2	4 responses	9%	
3. 3	13 responses	30%	
4. 4	19 responses	43%	
5. 5	8 responses	18%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Should the course have grades other than PASS/FAIL?

Should the examination be more difficult?

Some of you like that you can express your own opinions and argue for them for instance: I like that we don't only have to reproduce knowledge in the essays, but also are asked to express our own opinion. Usually university doesn't teach much to argue for one's own opinion, which I think actually is a very important thing to know how to do.

10: To which degree do you think that your knowledge and experiences have been made visible and been able to contribute to the course?(1=not at all, 5=to a high degree)

Answers: 43

Answer options:

Median: 4 Mean: 3.7 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. 1	0 responses	0%	
2. 2	6 responses	14%	
3. 3	10 responses	23%	
4. 4	17 responses	39%	
5. 5	9 responses	20%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Perhaps we should involve the students even more in the "teaching" and "planning"?

Is 66 student too many?

11: I feel that the level of difficulty of the seminar series course has been:

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 3 Mean: 2.8 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Far too low	2 responses	5%	
2. Too low	7 responses	16%	
3. Just right	33 responses	75%	
4. Too high	0 responses	0%	
5. Far too high	1 responses	2%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

My comment here is that the course is perhaps in need of grades.

12: How do you perceive the general level of your own involvement in the course?

Answers: 43

Answer options:

Median: 4 Mean: 3.9 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Uninvolved	1 responses	2%	
2.	3 responses	7%	
3.	12 responses	27%	
4.	12 responses	27%	
5. Involved	15 responses	34%	

13: How do you perceive the general level of involvement of the teacher(s) you have mainly had in the course?

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 4 Mean: 4.1 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Uninvolved	0 responses	0%	
2.	3 responses	7%	
3.	8 responses	18%	
4.	15 responses	34%	
5. Involved	17 responses	39%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

It depends on the teacher

14: How do you perceive the general level of involvement of the coordinator (Malin) in the course?

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 5 Mean: 4.9 / 5

	0 responses	0%	
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0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer			
1. Uninvolved	0 responses	0%	
2.	0 responses	0%	
3.	0 responses	0%	
4.	5 responses	11%	
5. Involved	39 responses	89%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question
I want to thank you for your kind comments here!/Malin

15: How do you perceive the general level of involvement of other students in the course? *Answers: 44*

Answer options: *Median: 4 Mean: 4.0 / 5*

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Uninvolved	1 responses	2%	
2.	1 responses	2%	
3.	8 responses	18%	
4.	19 responses	43%	
5. Involved	15 responses	34%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question
Some students do not prioritize the course.
My comment here is: Do some students not see the relevance of the course? Why? How do I make this visible?

16: How have the following learning outcomes been fulfilled? ...be able to understand different dimensions of Sustainable Development on a local, regional and global level... *Answers: 44*

Answer options:

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	0 responses	0%	
2. .	2 responses	5%	
3. .	14 responses	32%	
4. .	24 responses	55%	
5. To a very high degree	6 responses	14%	

17: How have the following learning outcomes been fulfilled? ...be able to critically relate to and analyze the history and development of the concept of Sustainable Development *Answers: 43*

Answer options:

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	1 responses	2%	
2. .	4 responses	9%	
3. .	15 responses	34%	
4. .	14 responses	32%	
5. To a very high degree	10 responses	23%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question
Perhaps we could delve more deeply in to development?

18: How have the following learning outcomes been fulfilled? ...be able to critically relate to and value different definitions and indicators of Sustainable Development ... *Answers: 43*

Answer options:

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	0 responses	0%	
2. .	6 responses	14%	
3. .	11 responses	25%	
4. .	19 responses	43%	
5. To a very high degree	7 responses	16%	

19: ... be able to critically relate to and value different actors' visions of a sustainable future and different strategies to attain a sustainable society... *Answers: 44*

Answer options:

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	0 responses	0%	
2. .	3 responses	7%	
3. .	17 responses	39%	
4. .	21 responses	48%	
5. To a very high degree	6 responses	14%	

20: To which degree has the course contributed to develop: Your ability to discern, formulate and solve problems *Answers: 44*

Answer options: *Median: 4 Mean: 3.5 / 5*

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. 1	2 responses	5%	
2. 2	3 responses	7%	

3. 3	15 responses	34%	
4. 4	18 responses	41%	
5. 5	5 responses	11%	

21: To what extent has the course provided you with new knowledge of the subject? **Answers:** 44

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 3.8 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	1 responses	2%	
2.	2 responses	5%	
3.	14 responses	32%	
4.	15 responses	34%	
5. To a very high extent	12 responses	27%	

22: To what extent has the course provided insight into current research in the field? **Answers:** 44

Answer options:**Median:** 3.5 **Mean:** 3.4 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	2 responses	5%	
2.	7 responses	16%	
3.	13 responses	30%	
4.	16 responses	36%	
5. To a very high extent	6 responses	14%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

From the comments it is clear that this is something that could improve.

23: The course has stimulated my interest in the subject. **Answers:** 43

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 4.0 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Not at all	2 responses	5%	
2.	2 responses	5%	
3.	5 responses	11%	
4.	18 responses	41%	
5. To a very high extent	16 responses	36%	

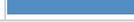
24: The course has helped me develop my ability to think critically. **Answers:** 44

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 3.7 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Not at all	1 responses	2%	
2.	7 responses	16%	
3.	5 responses	11%	
4.	20 responses	45%	
5. To a very high extent	10 responses	23%	

25: The course has helped me develop my ability to communicate orally. **Answers:** 44

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 3.9 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Not at all	0 responses	0%	
2.	2 responses	5%	
3.	15 responses	34%	
4.	12 responses	27%	
5. To a very high extent	14 responses	32%	

26: The course has helped me develop my ability to communicate in writing. **Answers:** 44

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 3.6 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	2 responses	5%	
1. Not at all	3 responses	7%	
2.	5 responses	11%	
3.	9 responses	20%	
4.	15 responses	34%	
5. To a very high extent	10 responses	23%	

27: The teacher(s) we have mainly had in the course has/have kept the instruction at just the right level. **Answers:** 43

Answer options:**Median:** 4 **Mean:** 3.7 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	5 responses	11%	
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1. Do not agree at all	0 responses	0%	
2.	7 responses	16%	
3.	10 responses	23%	
4.	9 responses	20%	
5. Agree completely	12 responses	27%	

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

From your comments here it is clear to me that we have to make some aspects of the course more challenging, at the same time as it needs to address a broad field.

28: We students were given ample opportunity to be active during the various elements of the course.

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 5 Mean: 4.7 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Do not agree at all	0 responses	0%	
2.	0 responses	0%	
3.	3 responses	7%	
4.	9 responses	20%	
5. Agree completely	31 responses	70%	

29: The administration of the course (timetable, examination registration, etc.) has functioned well throughout.

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 5 Mean: 4.5 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	0 responses	0%	
1. Do not agree at all	0 responses	0%	
2.	2 responses	5%	
3.	3 responses	7%	
4.	11 responses	25%	
5. Agree completely	28 responses	64%	

30: How do you feel about the course literature?

Answers: 30

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Many of you liked the two course books, but would have perhaps wanted more. More articles etc are needed.

31: How many hours/week have you devoted to the course (including scheduled instruction)?

Answers: 44

Answer options:

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	4 responses	9%	
1. 0-14h	32 responses	73%	
2. 15-24h	6 responses	14%	
3. 25-34h	1 responses	2%	
4. 35-44h	0 responses	0%	
5. 45h or more	1 responses	2%	

32: I believe I will benefit from what I have learned in the course in my future studies/career.

Answers: 44

Answer options:

Median: 4 Mean: 4.0 / 5

0. Do not know/not relevant/do not wish to answer	1 responses	2%	
1. Do not agree at all	2 responses	5%	
2.	1 responses	2%	
3.	10 responses	23%	
4.	13 responses	30%	
5. Agree completely	17 responses	39%	

33: Other comments:

Answers: 15

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the question

Many of you have positive comments and as I, are excited to start the spring seminar series. Some of the critical comments are related to the relevance of the course, and the perceived level. These are two things we could work on improving communication around since we who plan the course have a clear idea that is sometimes perhaps not communicated to the students. Many good tips and inspiring to read your comments in general, thank you!

Summary of free-text responses/comments for the whole course evaluation

