

Course report MATM36 Topology vt 2022

Teacher: Sandra Pott

Number of students: 24

Outcomes: 4 fail, 6 pass (G), 14 pass with distinction (VG)

Evaluation

I. Summary of the course evaluation

Number of responses: 2

Short summary of results: The students who responded were fairly happy with the course (4.5 on a scale from 1-5). One student was somewhat critical about the course literature, both were critical about the possibilities to cooperate.

II. Teacher commentary

The teacher thought that the course went ok for the circumstances, but that the hybrid format was problematic. While the hybrid format enabled both students and lecturer to continue with lectures during the frequent periods with flu symptoms during the winter, the format put the students participating remotely at a disadvantage, both concerning interaction during the lectures and concerning the possibility of informal discussions with fellow students before and after lectures. The participation in seminars was fairly low.

There were no remote written exams this year, and the teacher is pleased that the results held up in comparison to last year.

III. Evaluation of changes since the last time the course was given

The course MATM36 was given for the second time in 2022. The course and its predecessor MATM16 were taught entirely remotely in 2021 and 2020, with the written examination carried out at home and uploaded via Canvas. This time, the course was given in a hybrid format, with the teacher and part of the class present, and another part of the class following the lecture/seminar via Zoom. The written examination was carried out in the classical format at University premises. While the hybrid format was not ideal, as pointed out above, it was certainly an improvement compared to the entirely digital format.

IV. Suggestions for changes

I hope that the course can be given entirely the next time, and not in a hybrid or distance teaching format. Even though Zoom lectures seem to work reasonably well and Canvas is a useful digital tool, it is difficult to replace direct contact when it comes to discussions, seminars, and giving feedback.

Moreover, efforts should be made to improve participation in the seminars.

2022-09-30, collated by Sandra Pott

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