

Emneevaluering / course evaluation ISV

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Navn / name *

Navn til emneansvarlig

Carl Henrik Knutsen and Philipp Lutscher

Velg kursnivå *

Masterkurs

Bare for Master: velg blokk

Blokk 2

Emnekode / course code *

4550

Emnenavn / Course title

Topics in Autocratic Politics

Semester *

Spring 2024

Emnerapport / course report *

Evaluation-form STV4550 (Topics in Autocratic Politics)

Information

Spring semester, 2024

Course coordinators: Carl Henrik Knutsen and Philipp Lutscher

Date of summary: April 24, 2024

Language: English

Course convener's assessment of the course:

This report is written by one of the course conveners (CHK), who held three lectures, but draws on experiences communicated by the other convener and lecturers previously. This was the third iteration of the course, involving multiple lecturers and related coordination between the lecturers.

There has been good communication and coordination between the different lecturers and, and we were, overall, very satisfied with the execution of the course (and especially the ability to make the course a coherent whole). The structure of the course seems to, once again, have worked well, with a mix of general (early) and specific (later) topics, student participation in lectures was good. The new evaluation form (oral exam) also seems to have functioned quite well, and in addition there was a mandatory essay (students could choose between different topics, and pass/fail assessment). Reports indicate the the quality of essays were overall high, and similar wrt how students performed at the oral exam.

Summary of feedback from student contact-point:

The contact student presented mainly positive feedback, highlighting the quality of the lectures and lecturers, the coherence of the course as well as communication with students and approachability from the lecturers side. Feedback was also generally positive on the reading materials. With respects to main suggestions for improvement, these pertained to

- More preparations on the format of the oral exam: provide example questions, etc.
- More readings and illustrations on specific country cases and autocrats
- The mandatory assignment was extensive for a pass/fail assignment
- Problematic that one lecture was cancelled

Overall assessment and further development

Overall assessment is that the course is working very well, and this likely entails that we should avoid dramatic adjustments related to course structure, readings, etc. We should, however, consider adding more case studies (from different autocratic contexts) to. We should also develop and disseminate specific information on the exam format (including example questions). Further, we should consider scaling down the size of the mandatory pass/fail assignment.

Emneevalueringen bør inneholde:

1. Vurdering av emnet

- Læringsutbytte i emnet
- Undervisningsformer og organisering
- Andre relevante temaer som læringsmiljø, studentenes arbeidsinnsats og eventuelt vurderingsformer

2. Studentens tilbakemelding

- Oppsummering av studentenes viktigste tilbakemeldinger

3. Helhetlig vurdering og videreutvikling

- En samlet vurdering av kvaliteten på emnet
- Justeringer som er foretatt som følge av evalueringen.
- Muligheter for videreutvikling av emnet

The course evaluation should include:

1. Assessment of the course

- Learning outcomes in the course
- Teaching methods and organization
- Other relevant topics such as the learning environment, students' effort and possibly forms of assessment

2. Student's feedback

- Summary of students' most important feedback

3. Overall assessment and further development

- An overall assessment of the quality of the course
- Adjustments made as a result of the evaluation.
- Opportunities for further development of the course