

Course evaluation template

After the course has ended, the course leader must fill in this template. The program director and education management will use your reflections to make adaptations to the program and/or the next time the course is given. The reflections will also be posted on the program web for students to read.

Course	Course title	Credits
code	Applied Epidemiology 2 - Determinants of Health	14 hp
4FH095		
Semester	Period	
HT23	20231109-20240112	

Course leader	Examiner	
Yajun Liang	Yajun Liang	
Other participating teachers	Other participating teachers	
Yvonne Forsell, Chengxuan Qiu, Karin Engström, Ebba Du	Katalin Gémes, Hong Xu	
Rietz, Ying Shang		

Number of registered students 19	Number who have not completed the course ¹	Number passed after regular session ² 17		
Methods for student influence other than course survey ³ Have course feedback after each module, and feedback of the students representatives				

¹At the time of completed grading and mandatory assignments/revisions.

² After first summative examination.

³ State: how the students were given the opportunity to participate in the preparation and decisions at course level, how the students were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the course and how this forms the basis of the analysis and proposals below, response frequency (for example, concluding survey 70 % response frequency, post-it notes – improvement suggestions after the second course week 90 % response frequency, course council 85 % attendance).

Conclusions from the previous course evaluation

• Insert reflections from previous course evaluation.

The current course structure and organization are good.

Some modification is needed for the next year:

- 1. Need to motivate the students' participation of each week by the evaluations of mandatory sessions.
- 2. Don't extend the deadline of previous module to affect next module.
- 3. Remove the seminar of infectious epidemiology or reduce the time and move it earlier.
- 4. Add some half-time control of final assignment to keep students on right track.

Description of conducted changes since previous course occasion

1. Removed the infectious epidemiology.

- 2. Added a 2-day module of clinical epidemiology
- 3. Added a half-day including lecture on time-series study design and statistical lab work.
- 4. Shortened the module of genetic epidemiology from 5 days to 3 days, and removed the basic genetics and kept the sibling design, twin design, and familial confounding
- 5. Added a short occasion for the introduction of final assignment one week before

Summary of the students' response to the course valuation

 Graphs and selected quotes from course surveys and any other instruments can be added as appendices if required.

Positive comments:

In my view, the course has promoted a scientific way of thinking and reasoning (e.g. analytical and critical thinking, independent search for and evaluation of information).



Course leader kept track of the course and took the class concerns The assignment was good and feedback was helpful

Negative comments:

In my view, there was a common theme running throughout the course – from learning outcomes to examinations.



No immediate change after students' feedback.

Too many group work/assignments

The submodules were organized differently, CVD epi week were intense, but others were not (social and psychiatric epi) There was lack of recall of the methods given in first week

Lack of time to digest the advance methods

There was a lack of track or communications between courses in the program.

Lecture room was small without window

The course leader's reflections on the implementation and results of the

course

Reflections on the course's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, limitations within, for example, the following areas:

• How have the students' previous knowledge, experiences and prerequisites been used as a basis during the

There were several ways of reflection of previous experiences:

course? **Strengths and opportunities:** This course focus on the application of epidemiological methods, which provide an opportunity to the students to use and reflect their previous knowledges on epidemiological methods and statistical skills.

During the lectures and seminars, the lectures discuss with the students on the methodological issues for which the previous knowledges are very much needed. For some statistical training in this course, their previous knowledge on statistical software and basic programing are needed as a basis. For the formative assignments and final examination, the students need to design a study which also needs their previous knowledge on epidemiological methods.

Weakness and limitations: There is a long interval between their previous courses on epidemiology/statistics and this one. Thus, some of the students are not familiar with the previous knowledge. It takes them some time to recall.

• In what way the work methods used during the course contribute to the students' attaining the learning outcomes? (Reflect on the selected learning activities and the students' type of engagement and presence in class)

Strengths and opportunities: The way of teaching in this course includes lectures, statistical practice, article seminars, group discussion and presentations. Through lectures and seminars, the students can learn the most commonly used epidemiological methods in different research areas. Through group work, the course also gives a lot of opportunities to work together to decrease the amount of work to put in, thus, scientific discussions and cooperation are encouraged. There were several occasions (e.g., summary in each week, supervision of individual assignment, and examination feedbacks) where the students were able to discuss how they have learned.

Weakness and limitations: Many subjects can give an overwhelming feeling. The students were less active in the lectures but were more engaged in the article seminars and group discussions. We noticed the absence of lectures either online or in classroom had led to a worse performance of their final assignment.

• How has the course worked with -constructive alignment - from learning outcomes to examination form and examination content?

Strengths and opportunities: The lecturers are active researchers from several different departments in KI and outside KI, and they are professional with a lot of expertise in their research areas. First, I coordinated with the responsible lecturers in each week to list the weekly learning outcomes, discuss about the content, and organize the way of teaching. The form and content of formative assignment was based on the weekly learning outcomes, e.g., quiz, critical reading, group presentation. At the end, the final examination was decided based on the overall contents and learning outcomes from each week.

Weakness and limitations: The course cannot cover too many topics, and there is a lack of close relationship between different modules. Students lose connections and cannot reflect what they have learned in the previous weeks.

• How do examinations and assessment criteria ensure that students achieve the learning outcomes of the course? (Reflect on the choice of examination form and formative assessments.)

Strengths and opportunities: In each week, we assessed if the students could achieve the weekly learning outcomes through the formative assignments. At the end, we assessed the overall learning outcomes of the whole course through a big summative assignment by covering the formative information from each week. Through the weekly formative assignments and final examination, the students' progress in study design, analytical skills, and scientific writing can be clearly viewed.

Weakness and limitations: Some students didn't take the opportunity of learning during the weeks on final individual assignments. Since the course lasted over a long period, the students have less impression on the course week in the beginning. A summative session is needed to have a reflection session before their final assignment.

Course leader's conclusions and suggestions for improvement

The whole course needs to be restructured by using methods-oriented instead of topic-oriented.

Some modification is needed for the next year:

- 1. Need to motivate the students' participation by adding some credits weekly
- 2. One week focuses on one method, give students more time to reflect
- 3. Have good communications with students, and react quickly after feedbacks

Other comments

The students were a bit difficult to communicate in this year. They were always late for the lectures, and the regular attendance rate was very low (10%-30%) if that was not mandatory.

Due to the budget issue and low attendance, I would like to reduce the onsite teaching by either online or pre-recorded lectures.