

Høst 2010 Emnerapport ENG 1304: Introduction to American Literature

1. Gi en vurdering av:

- Pensum (innhold, omfang):

In general the students seem satisfied, although it does seem that some of the students have read a couple of the novels before, as part of their videregående education. Also, the most recent text dates from 1988. The other main teacher and I have started a discussion on whether or not we should change the pensum slightly to reflect this feedback.

- Undervisning (undervisningsformer, timeantall, spredning over semesteret, obligatoriske aktiviteter, kvalifiseringsoppgaver).

We get the same two complaints every single semester, and neither are negative:

1. The first and most frequent, as reflected in this year's evaluation, is that the students want more teaching—both more lecture and more group teaching. This is a direct result of the drastic cutting of 20 hours from the course back in 2008; we have to squeeze a lot of material in a short amount of time, and the students know this and want more; they are the ones to suffer from this time requirement.

2. Obligatory essays: the students work hard on these; after revising their essays based on teacher comments, they receive neither a grade nor any kind of final "tilbakemelding," again as a result of the lack of resources at ILOS (it would cost too much to pay the timelærer to comment on final drafts.) This way they go into the exam unsure of what their strengths and weaknesses are.

Neither of the major "undervising" issues for this course are due to the actual teachers or the teaching itself (I think the evaluations show the students are pretty happy with the actual material,) but to a question of time and resources decided "from above."

- Ressurser og infrastruktur (undervisningsrom, audiovisuelle hjelpemidler, bibliotekressurser m.m.).

No issues.

- Eksamen (eksamensordning, vurderingsform).

We are considering changing the final exam format to include short answers as well as an essay.

2. Gir læringsutbytteformuleringene i emnebeskrivelsen en god beskrivelse av hva studentene skal kunne etter avlagt eksamen?

Yes.

3. Fungerer emnebeskrivelsen tilfredsstillende? Sjekk følgende:

- Statistikk over karakterer, frafall og klager.
- Tilbakemeldinger til lærere og administrasjon.

- Tilbakemeldinger på informasjonen/veiledningen studentene får om emnet.
- Hvordan emnet fungerer i emnegruppene det inngår i.
- Om emnet er riktig plassert med hensyn til nivå/anbefalt semester.
- Om emnet er riktig definert med hensyn til anbefalte/påkrevde forkunnskaper.

All is in place.

4. Har du gjort noen endringer siden forrige periodiske evaluering? Hvilke?

No changes.

5. Forslag til forbedringer.

See no. 1 above; we are considering some changes in pensum, as well as the “innhold” for the exam (see above.)