

Periodisk Emnerapport - ENG 4416
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2015

1. Provide an assessment of

Pensum / curriculum: - The curriculum worked well, although attempting to deal with time, money, and a broad range of historical contexts did sometimes prove to be a bit of a problem in the classroom sessions. In future versions of this course, I would consider emphasizing either time OR money as central concepts, or think about ways of narrowing the classes' historical scope.

Undervisning / Teaching: Teaching combined lecture and discussion, with an emphasis on direct engagement with the literature.

Ressurser og infrastruktur / Resources and Infrastructure: Fronter and the audiovisual set up worked well. The classroom set up is not that conducive to discussion. It would be more effective to teach this class in a room set up so that students can face each other. The rooms on the first floor of PAM don't seem well suited to M.A. seminars.

Eksamen: Students wrote a 10 page paper, which allowed them to work with the concepts, texts, and methodologies of the class. I think that this form of evaluation is appropriate for M.A. students, who need to develop both their writing ability and their ability to undertake a sustained analysis of a literary text or texts. Overall the papers were strong and showed that students had done well in assimilating and thinking through the main ideas of the class. However, this form of examination does not test students' mastery of all the assigned material, which is a bit of a shortcoming.

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

The learning outcomes fit the course material well, but I think the lectures could do more to emphasize the different genres of the American novel (realism, naturalism, modernism, etc...).

3. **Fungerer emnebeskrivelsen tilfredsstillende? Sjekk følgende:**

- *Statistikk over karakterer, frafall og klager.* 20 students signed up for the class, and 19 ended up writing the final exam. Those who did write the final paper did well, with most students receiving C or higher.

- *Tilbakemeldinger til lærere og administrasjon. Ok.*

- *Tilbakemeldinger på informasjonen/veiledningen studentene får om emnet. Good.*

- *Hvordan emnet fungerer i emnegruppene det inngår i. The course works well, providing students with both a grounding in the development of the American novel and access to a set of more specialized topics within the study of American literature (time and money). I think the course is also an effective way of introducing students to different forms and uses of critical theory in literary analysis.*

- *Om emnet er riktig plassert med hensyn til nivå/anbefalt semester. Yes.*

- *Om emnet er riktig definert med hensyn til anbefalte/påkrevde forkunnskaper. – Yes.*

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

I have not taught this class before.

5. Forslag til forbedringer:

Given the available classroom time and the difficulty of some of the theoretical readings, I think that the emphasis on money in the course should either be reduced or removed.

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