

Course Summary for Introduction to GIS, NGEA11 ht 2019

Course coordinator: Micael Runnström

Teachers in the course: Helena Borgqvist, Karin Larsson, Vaughan Philips, Enass said al-Kharusi, Perola Olsson, Micael Runnström

Number of students: 38 registered students

Grade distribution: G=23, VG=12, F=3

Evaluation

I. Summary of the course evaluation

Number of survey responses: 11, which is ~29 % of the registered students

On average the students graded the course as good (overall score of 3.9, on a scale 1-5). In general students think it is an interesting course but difficult and quite high workload (3.6). Some extra time had been given in the beginning of the course by adding time by moving exercise deadlines one day. The students get good motivation and inspiration from the teachers (3.6). As every year students finds it frustrating to be stuck at things (for days ??) when there is no teacher scheduled. Teacher resources cannot be expected to be higher next semester and I still think that students sometimes need to find solutions by themselves instead having a teacher to ask. It is an essential part of the learning process of GIS to be able to search and find solutions to problems that arise along the way. This introductory course shouldn't only be to follow instructions but also to try to formulate questions to use the Help function available in the program and also on the Internet.

Most complaints are given to the IDRISI tutorials that they think is too much to read and too detailed (4 days of practical work) and do not see the advantage to learn another GIS program that is less powerful than ArcGIS and instead wants to keep working in ArcGIS with raster exercises.

Exercise 9 (windpower potential) also gets complaints for being difficult and with bad instructions.

Some students (one or two) don't like that the studying for the exam is scheduled so it splits the last project work.

II. Comments from the teaching team

Teachers' opinion is that the course went well. Most students are motivated and eager to learn about this spatial tool.

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

The added digitisation exercise is good but some wants it earlier in order to be able to use digitisation in the last project. There is now more time and not so hectic in the beginning since I added some extra time for the exercises in the beginning of the course.

IV. Suggestions for changes to implement before the course is given the next time

I will try to schedule the digitisation exercise to occur before the last project.

IDRISI tutorials: They will need IDRISI skills for the Advanced GIS course but I will see if they can do a shorter IDRISI introduction, maybe at the end of the course instead. Maybe the IDRISI tutorials can be compulsory only for the students that will continue to GIS 2. The raster exercises (Interpolation techniques and Wind power potential will be given in ArcGIS.

I will see how the suggested changes fits with re-arranging the last project vs the theoretical examination.

For next semester the practical work (pass on all exercises) is planned to give a pass on 50% of the course; whereas the last 7.5 hp should come from the theoretical exam (graded) + the final GIS project.

2020-04-30, this summary was done by Micael Runnström

The summary should be mailed to the director of studies, ulrik.martensson@nateko.lu.se, Yvonne.kedstrom@nateko.lu.se for archiving, and published on the course homepage.