Course Summary for GISN21 – GIS and Statistical Analysis (VT 2021)

Course coordinator: Vaughan Phillips

Teacher in the course: Vaughan Phillips

Number of students: about 18 students completed the course in (HT/VT) 2020-2021

during the period of the survey (November 2020 – April 2021)

Grade distribution: Pass marks for 100% of students who finished

Evaluation

Summary of the course evaluation

Number of survey responses: 18, which is all of the students who completed the course during the period of the survey.

Short summary of the evaluation responses: Students who responded were satisfied that the course achieved its aims with an overall score of 4.1, on a scale of 1-5.

AC worked well for this course.

Most thought that the workload was appropriate for the course credits (scores of 2.6 and 3.7, signifying it is about right, close to the optimum score of 3). Students thought that there was an adequate amount of feedback on their submissions (overall score of about 3 out of 5), which is similar to the previous year. Inevitably, since the teacher never meets the students on this course and all communication is by written electronic messages, scores are never high regarding the amount of feedback owing to the remoteness of the virtual classroom. Distance learning hinders the task of engaging with the students generally.

Comments from the teaching team

The teacher believes that the course went quite well.

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

In November 2020, there was a global email sent to all students explaining some of the critical issues (e.g. order of maths operations, the definition of maths symbols for probability). This was an informative initiative creating a more communal atmosphere in the virtual online classroom. Vital facts about statistical techniques were conveyed.

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

The idea for sending global messages to students to clarify key issues where misconceptions arise was fine and will be extended. More frequent global messages, ateast once or twice per semester, will be implemented the next time the course is given.

On 1 April 2021, this summary was done by Vaughan Phillips.