Course Report for the Optional Course Cyber Law (JU668A, JU668B), 15hp, Spring Term 2025

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About This Course Report

This course report follows the rector's template for course reports (Dnr SU FV 1.1.2-34-20). The course report is a compilation of the students' views on the course that emerged through the course evaluation (see appendix) as well as the teachers' views.

About the Course Evaluation

The course evaluation was answered by 4 students out of a possible 28, (which amounts to a 14 % rate of answer). This answer frequency is low despite numerous attempts to encourage the students to fill in the course evaluation.

Description of Eventual Changes and Decisions Taken Since the Last Time the Course Was Given

The number of mandatory seminars was left unchanged from the previous year. However, the teaching responsibilities for seminar 2, which concerns the course essay, was once again taken on by the course director in order to ensure that the course essay requirements were clearly communicated and assessment criteria covered. In addition, the course essay was graded by the course director. The benefit of this is that there was a correlation between what was communicated to students during seminar 2 (and other course essay supervision) and the expectations regarding the expected performance level of the course essay.

The list of relevant reading was updated so as to include articles that were up-to-date and relevant in relation to current technological and legal developments.

External teachers were also chosen depending on the latest technological and legal developments. Fortunately, most external teachers agreed to work pro bono. The number of visits to law firms remained the same as these external visits are generally appreciated by all students, a recurring comment that comes across from the course evaluation from year to year.

Finally, the focus of the teaching was aligned with the availability of in-house teaching resources.

Strengths of the Course Based on the Opinion of Students (summary based on quantitative results, free text answers and any other evaluation during the course)

It follows from the free text responses that the general theme of the course is appreciated to the extent that it mirrors current technical developments taking place in society. In addition, the visits to law firms were once again highly appreciated. It also follows from the free text responses of the course evaluation that the students were satisfied with the teachers’

efforts. The format of the course was appreciated to the extent that the course essay provides the students an opportunity to delve deeper into an area of law that they regarded as interesting during the lecture phase of the course. This was especially appreciated by students whose next academic stage is the writing of a longer thesis. In addition, the main idea behind the course format is to allow students the space to delve deeper into an area of law they deem interesting. This was achieved, especially taking the free text of the course evaluation into account: '[i]t was a privilege to go outside of the regular hysteria that has been our lives for the past four years and actually learn in a more relaxed manner'.

The examination format was also appreciated to the extent that it promoted self-learning as well as an opportunity to sharpen the writing skills of students. It also gave the students the opportunity for individual research.

The course essay opposition was also appreciated to the extent that it provided feedback both from teacher and student. It provided an informative yet relaxed environment from which to get feedback to a written work from fellow students.

Weaknesses of the Course (summary based on quantitative results, free text answers and any other evaluation during the course)

Based on free text answers, a minor criticism of the course was that there were too many presentations as part of the seminars making up the course. The reason for this is that the course as a whole has only the seminars and a course essay as part of the examination and considering that the seminars are in fact examination, it is necessary to ensure that all students are participating adequately.

It was suggested that more classes/seminars be held earlier on in the course. This is legitimate criticism considering the format of the course; however, the flip side is that there is a risk that the course would lose its momentum if there were too many longer breaks in teaching (considering budgetary requirements there is a limit to how much teaching is possible).

There was a little criticism regarding what was expected of the students from reading the free text answers to the course evaluation. This will be taken into account although the impression was also received during the course that some students had neglected to read the course description, where almost all the aspects of the course are outlined.

Course Director/equivalent and possibly other teachers' analysis of the course implementation and report

The course director and the rest of the teaching team are satisfied with the implementation of the course. The overall comments from the course evaluation were very positive.