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DM503 Programming B, Fall 2010, Action Plan

The course DM503 Programming B was evaluated as it is a first year course. Out of the 62 students, 26 have answered the course evaluation sheet. One of them only answered partially.

The course seems to have been at the right level for most of the participants as demonstrated by their use of time and their relative assessment of difficulty and work load. There are only 4 respondents which consider the work load to be higher than in other courses.

As for DM502 Programming A, the teaching material seems to be mostly okay (with potential to improve in the next iteration of the course) with the verdict on the book remaining unclear. For the next iteration of the course, alternative books will be considered, especially if one of them covers the parts of the course where extra notes had to be used.

The use of projects for the exam was received well and seen as appropriate. It seems logical to continue with this exam form. The electronic supervision with help of a discussion board was considered to be a good supplement, but based on the answers should not replace personal supervision.

The use of group work during the lectures as well as the use of mentors for in-class assessment of the learning progress were well received and should become a regular part of the course.

The students were very satisfied with the lecturer (academic level 100% positive, pedagogical 100% positive, preparation 100% positive, commitment 92% positive and no negative). The tone of the lectures was praised to be informal and entertaining while still facilitating student learning.

The picture for the teaching assistants is less clear. Here, according to the comments especially language and cultural barriers were a problem. Both TAs were new to Denmark and the Danish university system and did not speak sufficient Danish. In the future, TAs for such a first year course should probably be recruited among Danish students.

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