

Evaluation report Energy from Biomass

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The evaluation committee has evaluated the course Energy from Biomass by sending an online questionnaire to 58 students. 7 students filled in the questionnaire, which gives a response of 12%. According to [1] for this number of students a response rate of 31% is required for adequate results. Hence, the outcome of this report can't be totally considered as representative.

The course Energy from Biomass scores an average mark of 3.7, which is sufficient for a master course. 'The study material (written and electronic) covered the subjects sufficiently' and 'The questions/assignments were clear' score lowest with a 3.1 and a 3.3, respectively. 'The exam / the assignment(s) was / were well related to the major subjects in the course' scores highest with a 4.4.

Considering the study material, students indicate that the book did not really help with making the assignments. However, it helped to get a better understanding of the subject. The assignments also covered the subject very well. However, the first assignment was not very clear. Students did not know what was expected of them. Furthermore, students indicate that the planning of the lectures were most of the time corrected afterwards.

It seems that students do not have anything to say about the recommendations of the previous evaluation.

These are the main conclusions of the evaluation. The interpretation is based on the remarks of the respondents. For an overview of the results, see the graph at the end of this report.

Recommendations of previous evaluation

The last evaluation was in 2014

- Try to give some more information on the expected level of the final report. This can be achieved by providing a more clear assignment description.
- Make sure that all required study material can be found on Blackboard. Looking through all lecture sheets to find information can be annoying.

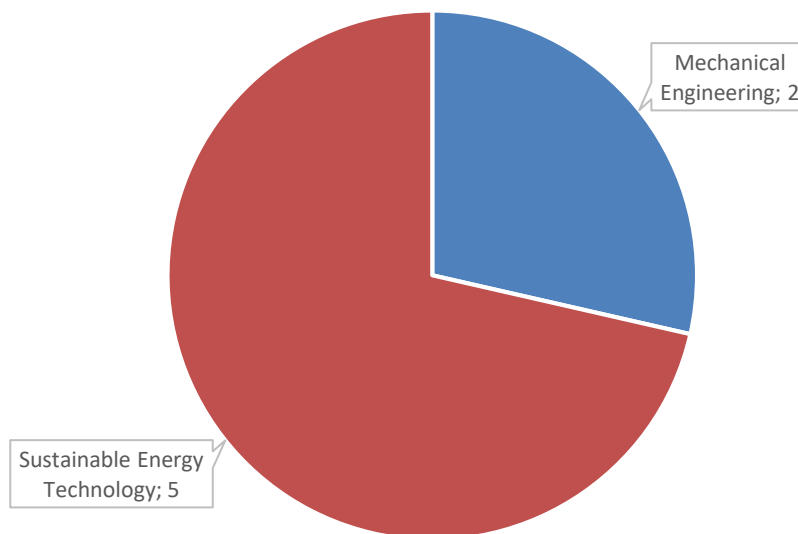
Recommendations by the committee

The quality of the course can be improved. Based on the results of the questionnaire, some recommendations for improvement are provided. The most important recommendations are:

- Make the first assignment clearer. This can be done by putting a clearer description on Blackboard or giving a lecture beforehand with clear expectations for the assignment.
- Organize the lectures better. Make sure the planning is clear before the first lecture, so that students know what to expect.

¹ Nulty, D.D. (2008). The adequacy of response rates to online and paper surveys: What can be done? *Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education*, 33, 301-314.

Composition of respondents



Overview

- All marks are given on a Likert-scale from 1-5. For master courses, a mark of 3.5 or higher is sufficient.
- The height of the bars in the graph represents the mark. The thin line at the top of the bars gives the standard deviation.

