

Evaluation report Nonlinear Solid Mechanics

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The evaluation committee has evaluated the course Nonlinear Solid Mechanics by sending an online questionnaire to 79 students. 15 students filled in the questionnaire, which gives a response of 19%.

The course Nonlinear Solid Mechanics scores an average mark of a 4.0 which is good for a master course. The statements 'The teacher was available for questions' and 'The organization of the lectures was good' score the best with respectively a 4.4 and a 4.2. The statements 'During the lectures the subject became clear to me' and 'the requirements for the exam were clear' score the lowest with both a 3.5, which is still sufficient.

The relatively low grades are supported by the students with some comments. The students say that, although the lectures were given well, not everything became clear during the lectures due to the difficulty of the course. Due to the fact that the lectures were recorded, it was possible to review the difficult part, which was of great value according to the students and resulted in a better understanding of the course. Some students mention that they sometimes lost the 'big picture' during the derivations, and therefore the subject didn't become clear. With regard to the exam requirements, students mention that it wasn't always clear whether it was expected from them to be capable of deriving a certain formula or just know them by heart.

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

No previous report was found. It is therefore not possible to state the recommendations of the last evaluation.

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:

- Continue with recording the lectures. Students think they are very useful.
- Provide a helicopter-view after the derivations. Some students lose the 'big picture' during certain derivations, a helicopter-view could be useful to provide them this 'big picture'
- Make the exam requirements more clear. Let students know whether they are expected to be capable of deriving a certain formulas or just have to know them by hart.

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.

