

Evaluation report Energy Conversion Technology

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The evaluation committee has evaluated the course Energy Conversion Technology by sending an online questionnaire to 58 students. 17 students filled in the questionnaire, which gives a response of 29%.

The course Energy Conversion Technology scores an average mark of 3.7 which is sufficient for a master course. Unfortunately, it scores insufficient marks for the coverage (3.1) and quality (3.3) of the study material. The cause of this seems to be the book used during the course, which will be covered later on. Apart from the extra questions asked by the lecturer, these are the only marks that do not score sufficient. All the other marks do score sufficient to good.

There do seem to be some comments on the part about wind and solar energy: the lectures were hurried and covered too much content. The lectures of prof. dr. ir. Brem and dr. ir. Pozarlik are rated better than the lectures of dr. Reinders.

Some students claim there were too much assignments and they didn't have time to finish them all properly. The assignments about solar energy got a lot of comments, they were too general and consisted mostly about making calculations in a computer program. This caused the assignments to be uninteresting. The requirements for these particular assignments also seem to be unclear.

The lecturer asked some questions himself in the questionnaire. The assignments do seem suitable for group work (3.9) but there is insufficient time to complete them (3.1). The workshops did lead to a better understanding of the course material (3.9) and the multi-lecture nature had a positive influence on the course, according to the students (4.1). The book scores very badly with a 1.8, a lot of students make comments about this too. It was found unnecessary and expensive and also very outdated for the solar energy part.

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:

- Review the lectures about solar and wind energy. Simply too much information is trying to be covered.
- Improve the assignments on solar energy. A lot of comments are made about them being uninteresting.
- Lessen the amount of assignments. Students remark they found the other assignments interesting but there are too many assignments to really get the most out of them.
- Use different study material. There are a lot of complaints about the book used now.

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.

