

Evaluation report: Design Principles for Precision Mechanisms – 2010/2011

The evaluation committee has evaluated the course Design Principles for Precision Mechanisms (DPPM) by sending an online questionnaire to 72 students. 8 students filled in the questionnaire, which gives a response of 11%.

The overall appreciation of the course DPPM is slightly below the required 7 for a master course (6.8). Students appreciate the availability of the teacher (8.8) and think the contents are interesting (8.0). However, the lectures and exam assignment leave some space for improvement.

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 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:

- Focus more on the headlines during the lectures. Students did not get the basic principles in the lectures. Provide more derivations instead of too many examples. Due to this, the subject became not totally clear (6.9).
- Speed up the lecture tempo a bit. According to 5 out of the 8 respondents the speed of the lectures is too slow.
- Try to improve the exam assignment. The assignment was not totally clear (6.3) and the information provided was very minimal.

Overview:

- Most marks are given on a scale from 1-5 and converted to a scale from 2-10 by multiplying with a factor 2. For master courses, a mark of 7.0 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.

Orange	General
Yellow	Lectures
Blue	Study material
Purple	Examination / Final Assignment

Marks	
Total appreciation	6.8
Ability to study	7.6
Relevancy	7.3
Quality of education	7.4
Coordination / planning	8.4
Examination / Assignments	7.1

Explanation of marks:

- Total appreciation is the mark given to the question: Overall appreciation.
- Ability to study is the average point of the marks given to the part of study material.
- Relevancy is the mark given to the question: Relevancy of the course.
- Quality of education is the average point of the marks given to the parts "lectures" and "practices".
- Coordination / Planning is the average point of the marks of "Adequate Information on Blackboard" and "Teacher available for questions".
- Examination / Assignments is the average point of the marks given to the Examination /Final Assignment part.

