Umeå University, 901 87 Umeå, Sweden
Department for Geography and Economic History
www.geoekhist.umu.se

Summary of course evaluation

Course name, course code
Advanced Spatial Analysis, 2KG057

Start and finish date
170116-170321

Date of summary
170425

Number of registered students/participants in evaluation
14/12

Forms of evaluation
Written

1. ***General comments about the course and its implementation***
In general, the students are satisfied with the content of the course, and all state that they have learned a lot (although struggled quite hard).

2. ***What has worked (particularly) well during the course?***
Many students appreciated the incremental increase in demand over the assignments as well as the relevance of methods. Especially the latter part of the course (with GIS) were reported to be very good and rewarding.

3. ***What has worked less well or failed?***
Similar to previous semesters there are two diverging comments regarding the course. First, some students with previous experience of quantitative methods argue that the first half is too basic and practically a repetition of bachelor level courses. They did appreciate the latter part with more spatial analyses. Second, the other half of the class with less/no experience of quantitative methods felt that the course was too demanding since we expected some knowledge to be given. They thought that we should give more detailed and basic instructions. A general comment is that there could be a greater variation of data used in the assignments (e.g., EU-level data etc rather than Swedish housing market and Swedish regional data).

4. ***What needs to be done before the course is given next time?***
A recurrent issue is the divergent opinions regarding the course as some finds the first half too basic while others find the entire course too demanding with a lot of tacit knowledge expected from the start. Consequently, there are reasons to consider a revision of the course to put more emphasis on the latter half and perhaps provide students with less experience some preparatory assignments before the course starts. We should also consider whether it is possible to improve the lectures for some exercises to give a deeper conceptual background.