

## **Course evaluation summary Master's 15 credits, Master's 30 credits and Magister's 15 credits thesis courses Spring 2016.**

The three courses were held during the Spring of 2016. 27 of 49 students handed in a written course evaluation. We also did an oral evaluation after the first Examiner's seminar. This is a summary of the viewpoints and suggestions that came out of those evaluations.

### **What worked well**

The students are in general very happy with the support they have gotten from their supervisors and point out that the supervisors are a great resource.

They are also happy with the initial lectures that covered the basics of writing a thesis. Of course the students who have already written a bachelors thesis in Informatics, did not find them quite as useful as the students who have never written a thesis before at our department, but that is in line with how the lectures are designed: to get everyone to the same starting level.

The examiners' seminars also worked really well and many students indicate that they got useful feedback that they could employ in their thesis process.

Many students were happy with the format of the final seminar, which this year included an audience category.

### **Room for improvement**

The Master's 15 credit students thought that the Examiners' seminar was scheduled a bit too late in the course and would have preferred if it came earlier. Interesting to note is that some Magister's students said the same thing, and their seminar was earlier than the others.

Some students point out that time management is a big concern, and that depending on how well you communicate with your supervisor during the process, this might or might not be an issue.

A couple of students thought that the feedback they got from the final seminar was too critical, and would have liked to see more discussion. However, others point out the great discussions as the best thing with the final seminar, so opinions diverge.

Not a single thesis fully adhered to the formatting guidelines, especially with regards to the reference list.

### **What should be changed**

The examiner's seminar should, if possible, be scheduled earlier for the Master's 15 credits students.

An additional effort to clarify expectations and roles for the final seminar could be made during the Seminar preparation lecture.

Obviously we need to pay more attention to the formatting guidelines during the writing process, to avoid unnecessary work before the publication in DiVA.