

DT6018 (Data Communication, HT 2025, Halmstad, H3430, X3430)

Number of possible respondents: 54

Answers: 17

Response rate: 31,48 %

Study pace: 50 %

Examiner's course analysis

Based on the course evaluation result - which are the strengths of the course?

The lectures and the labs were ranked as the strengths of the course. The lectures have been consistently ranked as the strength of the course for the past iterations and it is due to the dialogical nature of the lecture, the approach of building and re-visiting a coherent and cohesive narrative, and the fact that we design each year's series of lectures modularly so that we cater to the interests of the students that year. Also, the labs have been ranked as a strength this year, which is a product of the process of constant improvement and refining of the series of labs we have designed and have been implementing for three years now --- also modularly, so that except a competence-building lab is repeated.

We have, for the first time, included exercise sessions that replaced more individualized sessions (office hours) which we noticed were being used by just a few students. The drop-in approach was not efficient and we decided to provide the same face-to-face contact through exercises to approach the analytical part of networking. Students who attended the exercises did so constantly, but this falls within strengths and weaknesses,

Based on the course evaluation result - which are the weaknesses of the course?

Here we stopped having over-arching notes from the students, e.g., about the nature of the labs, and now they are very specific notes (e.g., they are right in pointing out some ambiguities in the instructions), but it is also that we did not manage to convey the nature and need for repetitiveness in experimentation.

As expected when we switched labs to be based on OMNET++, the shift towards this tool would be painful for some students as it was for us when we were learning OMNET++. However, many students managed to understand the utility of this simulation tool even for their professional life.

This was not a note from students, but we did collect information on estimated attendance for Exercises (through a question in the course evaluation) and we still have to make students realize the need of mathematical analysis to describe network performance.

Comments about the collaboration with the course ambassadors

We did not use course ambassadors. Students are free to express what they feel can be improved. This trust in the lecturer is a constant in this course, where students can express their opinions freely and it enables a relationship building that is reflected on how many students ask for B.Sc. thesis supervision from the lecturer --- even though this is not even a topic that is touched usually during the course.

Conclusion and suggestions for course development or already made decisions

Next year, it is expected for this course to run on LP2. So, many changes will not be executable due to the overlap with another high-demand course.



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Ideally, our plan is to:

- Run more labs on Packet Tracer and one or two labs in the CISCO lab at HH.
- Design a lab for streaming services on unreliable media and see how error detection and correction work.
- Have the exercise sessions less spread out.
- We have already modified the second part of the course to add more granularity on layers 5--7 and explore network security not as a single lecture but spread out also on lectures that are specific to layers and protocols (e.g., TLS)

Other comments

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I am overall satisfied with the course.

	Number of responses	Distribution (%)	Index (%) I am overall satisfied with the course	85
0 = I definitely do not agree	0	0%		
1	0	0%		
2	1	6%		
3	1	6%		
4	8	47%		
5 = I definitely agree	7	41%		
No opinion	0	0%		
Total	17	100%		

How much time have you spent on the course in relation to the course's study pace?

	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
Less time than the course study pace	4	24%
Corresponding to the course study pace	9	53%
More time than the course study pace	4	24%
Total	17	100%

The design of the course (teaching methods, literature, pedagogy, etc.) has been well adjusted to help me achieve the learning outcomes in the syllabus.

	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
0 = I definitely do not agree	0	0%
1	0	0%
2	1	6%
3	2	12%
4	9	53%
5 = I definitely agree	5	29%
No opinion	0	0%
Total	17	100%

Index (%) The design of the course (teaching methods, literature, pedagogy, etc.) has been well adjusted to help me achieve the learning outcomes in the syllabus.

81

During the course examinations, I have had the opportunity to show that I have achieved the learning outcomes in the syllabus.

	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
0 = I definitely do not agree	0	0%
1	0	0%
2	2	12%
3	2	12%
4	5	29%
5 = I definitely agree	8	47%
No opinion	0	0%
Total	17	100%

Index (%) During the course examinations, I have had the opportunity to show that I have achieved the learning outcomes in the syllabus.

82

I have experienced the social study environment as good during the course.

	Number of responses	Distribution (%)	Index (%) I have experienced the social study environment as good during the course.	
0 = I definitely do not agree	0	0%		
1	0	0%		
2	1	6%		
3	1	6%		
4	3	18%		
5 = I definitely agree	12	71%		
No opinion	0	0%		
Total	17	100%		91

Course satisfaction index

Satisfaction index % (summary of all statements)	85
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Check all the occasions or means you used to contact the teaching staff

Check all the occasions or means you used to contact the teaching staff	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
Lectures	14	82%
Exercises	10	59%
Labs	17	100%
Consulting outside lesson hours with the lecturer	4	24%
Blackboard	6	35%
E-mail	5	29%
Total	56	329%

THIS IS ONLY FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES: How much did you attend these course activities?

Lectures (8 total)

Lectures (8 total)	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
None	1	6%
Around 25%	3	18%
Half	4	24%
Around 75%	5	29%
All scheduled	4	24%
Total	17	100%

Labs (6 + 2 online)

Labs (6 + 2 online)	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
None	0	0%
Around 25%	2	12%
Half	2	12%
Around 75%	6	35%
All scheduled	7	41%
Total	17	100%

Exercises (4 total)

Exercises (4 total)	Number of responses	Distribution (%)
None	3	18%
Around 25%	11	65%
Half	2	12%
Around 75%	1	6%
All scheduled	0	0%
Total	17	100%

ONLY IF YOU ATTENDED 2 OR MORE EXERCISES: Do you think they helped you understand networking concepts better through mathematical analysis? What would you add, remove, or modify from the exercise sessions?