Emnerapport / Course report ved / at Infomedia #159

Emnekode / Course code	INFO215
Emnetittel / Course title	Web Science
Semester	Spring
Emneansvarlig / Course coordinator	Fazle Rabbi
Sist evaluert (semester / år) / Last evaluation (semester / year)	Vår 2024

Hva er emnets undervisnings- og vurderingsform? / What are the teaching methods and forms of assessment used in the course?

Lectures:
The course comprised 14 lectures (each 1.75 hours) covering a broad range of topics within web science. These included programming syntax and logic, the architecture of client-server communication, dynamic HTML, web scraping, natural language processing, semantic web, and network analysis. Lectures also included discussion of tasks similar to those found in the obligatory assignments and final exam, helping students connect theoretical concepts with practical applications.

Seminars/Lab Sessions:
The course featured 14 seminar sessions with mandatory attendance. These sessions provided hands-on experience in using various programming languages and tools relevant to web technologies. Students were engaged in guided exercises. They received feedback from seminar leaders.

Obligatory Assignments:
Students completed six obligatory assignments throughout the semester. Approval of all assignments was required in order to qualify for the final exam. These assignments focused on applying technical and analytical skills in realistic scenarios.

Final Exam:
The final assessment was a 4-hour, closed-book school exam consisting of 50 short-answer questions and 5 essay-style questions. The exam was designed to assess students' overall understanding of the course content (both technical knowlege and conceptual depth). Pseudocode was accepted for programming-related answers due to the lack of an integrated development environment during the exam.

Oppfølging fra tidligere evalueringer / Follow up from previous evaluations

Exam Format:
The format was revised from an open-book to a closed-book structure like before. The change was found positive and better aligned with the students learning outcomes. The students were found to be engaged more deeply with the material throughout the semester. While some students found the exam challenging—particularly due to the absence of a coding environment—the majority performed well, suggesting strong preparation and consistent effort. Allowing pseudocode helped mitigate some concerns about technical limitations. However it needs to be investigated if a better programming environment can be provided during the exam to reduce the burden of remembering library functions.

Evalueringsmetode(er) / Form of evaluation	Student evaluation

Sammendrag av studentene sin evaluering / Summarize the results from the student evaluation

An anonymous student evaluation was conducted with multiple choice questions where the students can select a score from 1-6 (highest score is 6).

Satisfaction has increased across all measured categories from the 2022/2023 academic year to the 2023/2024 academic year.

Here are some highlights of the questions and avg score:

The difficulty of the syllabus was just right -- How much do you agree with these statements?: Avg score: 4.8

I found the syllabus up to date -- How much do you agree with these statements? Avg score: 4.8

The teaching methods and forms of assessment fits appropriately to the content -- How much do you agree with these statements? Avg score: 5.2

I am satisfied with my own effort in this course -- How much do you agree with these statements? Avg score: 4.4

Emneansvarligs evaluering / The course coordinator's evalutaion

Course Content:
The course content was updated to include more foundational JavaScript material. However, there is a need to expand the syllabus to address contemporary web science issues such as the spread of misinformation and disinformation, fact-checking strategies, and automated detection of fake content. While one lecture briefly addressed fake content detection, this topic should be integrated more comprehensively in future iterations of the course.

Assignments:
Some students completed the obligatory assignments quickly, indicating that the difficulty level may not have been uniformly challenging. Future assignments could incorporate more open-ended, research-oriented tasks that encourage students to apply web science methods to societal issues, such as content credibility, and ethical concerns related to AI and automation on the web.

Evt. kommentar til karakterfordeling / Comments on the grade distribution

The grading is currently ongoing and the grading distribution will be submitted later.

Mål for neste evalueringsperiode - forbedringstiltak? / Goals for the next evalution period - what can be improved?

It would be more useful to get more feedback from the students survey. There were only a few students who completed the survey from.

Nevertheless, some efforts will be made to enhance student engagement and personal investment, as reflected in the score for satisfaction with one's own effort (avg. 4.4). This can be addressed by introducing more challenging and exploratory assignments that encourage independent research and real-world application.