

**Semester / Teaching Semester**

Spring 2026

**Emnekode og navn / Course code and title** MEVI310-8

**Navn på emneansvarlig / Name of course coordinator** Silje Kristiansen

**Hvordan foregikk undervisningen? / Content and teaching**

This course is an intense course over a few weeks only, hence, we meet several times a week. I structured the course to have a few lectures from me or a guest lecturer, and then much of the time was used to workshop style lecturing. Students would have specific tasks to work on and I would go around the classroom and help them with their individual questions.

Related to the content, this year was the first time I dared to try, and succeeded in teaching this course as a research project from A to Z. That meant that students had to read the assigned literature before the course even started. To "control" for this they had to hand in a written assignment in the form of a literature review, before the course started. This way, we were able to start off with a research process, where everyone had a good grasp of what had already been researched in this specific field of research. I then asked them to in groups come up with a novel and relevant research question that could be answered using a quantitative media content analysis. To speed up the process, and this was key to manage to get through literature review, research question development, operationalization, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, and writing up a research paper, we used a ChatGPT prompt that I had developed and tested to collect data. Thus, students used this prompt to analyze media articles, after they had sampled media articles from Retriever, that made sense for their specific research question. They did test the AI prompt with manual coding as well, and did perform a simple intercoder reliability test.

**Hva fungerte og hva fungerte ikke? / What worked well, and what didn't?**

I thought the whole course worked very well. I am so happy that students were able to work as research teams in groups, and that they got to experience and develop all steps of a research project, including data collection and data analysis, as well as visually presenting this and writing up an "academic paper" at the end, where they actually reported on novel knowledge.

Since I was not sure we would manage to get through with the entire research process, I did not communicate all the deadlines at the beginning of the course. I let it develop organically. Sometimes we were behind my thought plan, and sometimes things were quicker than I had thought. During the last session when I asked students for feedback, this was a point someone mentioned. They would have liked to know the assignments at the start, or at least that there would be assignments that I could not give all details about at the start of the course. I take this feedback and will implement this going forward.

The students really liked the course, and I got a lot of positive feedback during this last session. And I also got good pointers to things that they thought could be improved. For example, my colleague Finn Corus who came to talk about the AI prompt, was maybe a bit too technical.

Several times during the workshop hours, I would hear students say to each other "I am so proud of this figure, look!", or "Look at this, it looks exactly like the figure Silje herself published".

To see how students learned lots of different things, from knowing the field of research, to knowing how to collect data, how to make figures in Excel, present these in a easy to comprehend way, was really satisfying to experience students learning in this way.

**Hva vil du forbedre? / How do you plan to improve the course?**

Now that I know 5 weeks is JUST about enough to conduct a complete research project together with the students, I feel I can have a structure more thought out on beforehand with more or less fixed deadlines, that can be communicated to students at the beginning of the course.

I want to rework the presentation about the AI prompt (if I use it again) so that students better can relate to it.