

Combined Evaluation of Class in Information Retrieval

Study: Humanistic Informatics 1. semester
Time period: Taught Sep. 2003 – Evaluated Nov. 2003
Participants: 75
Respondents: 40

1. session: The SWIM game.	2. session: Instruction in information retrieval, retrieval strate- gies, and databases.	3. session: Exercises in information retrieval.	The class in general.
Mark more than one cross	Mark more than one cross	Mark more than one cross	Mark more than one cross
Instructive 26	Instructive 28	Instructive 29	Instructive 31
Entertaining 30	Entertaining 2	Entertaining 1	Entertaining 13
Motivating 13	Motivating 11	Motivating 8	Motivating 13
Highly interesting 12	Highly interesting 12	Highly interesting 8	Highly interesting 11
Boring 2	Boring 8	Boring 7	Boring 6
Not relevant 1	Not relevant 1	Not relevant 2	Not relevant
Relevant 20	Relevant 24	Relevant 19	Relevant 25
<p>Comments I did not learn much from the exercises. I still feel insecure. Relevant to learn how to approach group work. Of course the class is relevant, I just think much of it was already familiar. The instructions made too slow progress. They could have been quicker and more concrete.</p>			

How do you experience the usefulness of the content? Mark one cross	Have you used it in your project work? Mark one cross
Very useful 10	Yes 30
Semi-useful 27	No 9
Not very useful 2	In other connections 1
<p>Comments It was a little difficult and confusing, which is how I feel about the library in general. I have learned to search in the database but not really used it yet.</p>	

Your prerequisites for learning anything from the class Mark one cross	Were your expectations met? Mark one cross
Good 25	To a high degree 20
Average 15	To a certain degree 20
Bad	Not at all
<p>Comments I did not know much about what the objective of the class was.</p>	<p>Comments I did not think that I would benefit a lot from the class, but I did. I could use a list of the different ways to truncate when searching in the different databases. We did not learn enough about the university library itself. I had hoped that we would have learned more about how to find our way around in the library.</p>

Do you have other comments on the instructions, the instructor, the structure of the class, your own or other students' experiences etc. as well as suggestions as to how to improve the class?

The exercise in information retrieval was difficult; it was hard to find the exact words needed to find anything relevant.

Pleasant.

I would have liked a tour of the library and an introduction to the way the books are placed because I was pretty much lost the first time I had to find a book.

It would have been nice with a tour of the library so that I could get a sense of where to find what.

Thank you very much!