Semester evaluations, Study Board for Cross-Cultural Studies, Spring 2021

Tourism - Copenhagen

41 students out of 104 (response rate of 41%) filled out the questionnaire. 27 from 8th semester and 14 from 10th semester.

43% of the respondents on 8th sem. indicate to have spent between 30-40 or 40 hours or more on their studies, equivalent to full time or more. On 10th sem. it is 40%, which is more or less the same as last semester. A total of 79% on 8th sem. and 60% on 10th sem. of the respondents evaluate their own work efforts to be satisfactory or above.

A majority of the 8th sem. respondents state to be well-informed of coherence between study activities in the semester (57%) and find that the academic outcome of attending the programme has been ‘big’ or ‘very big’ (38% combined) or ‘average’ (38%). 23% equivalent to three students describes the benefits as small or very small. There were a few comments on the online format being a challenge.

Regarding 10th sem. students, 80% of the respondents indicated to have had positive outcomes of the semester and one respondent states only to have had a small outcome. It has to be mentioned that only very few students responded to this, so it’s difficult to draw general conclusions on this basis.

In relation to specific competences obtained or improved, the ability to define, analyse and discuss how different stakeholders are important to destination development/management (62%) and critical thinking (69%) were identified as the most important among 8th sem. students. Among the 10th sem. students it was the ability to engage in intercultural collaboration and communication (80%) and understanding the complexity of the tourism industry (80%).

All respondents took part in project work, and everyone did it together with others, which is positive considering that Covid-19 could have impacted possibilities of working together in a negative way. The vast majority stated that the team work went well on both semesters. Comments indicated that many positive experiences were gained from group work.

38% of the respondents on 8th sem. and 40% on 10th sem. indicated to have worked with an external collaborator during project work, which is very positive considering the circumstances of COVID-19.

54% of the respondents on 8th sem. and 100% on the 10th sem. indicate that they have felt well informed about practical issues. Comments reveal that there were some experience among the respondents of inconsistencies as well as misunderstandings in the information provided on the 8th sem., which will have to be addressed in the future.
Programme Evaluation

This evaluation was answered by 14 students, and 93% of the respondents experience the coherence and progression between modules/courses to be ‘very clear’ or ‘clear’. Experiences of academic competences are overall rated positively (85% ‘completely agree’ or ‘agree’). Regarding experiences of the ability to identify and formulate problems the same percentage was 77%; and regarding the ability to organize a long work process and achieve set goals on time it was 77%.

In the individual comments, students mention holistic and critical thinking, teamwork skills, project management and specific tourism-related skills and methodologies as some of the main competences. The university’s career counselling is rated as medium or good by 84% of the respondents, which is better than earlier years, but this is also something that is still developing as more experience is gained.