

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

## Tourism - Aalborg

The total number of respondents is 16 out of a total of 43 students, which gives a response rate of 37%. Of these 10 are 8<sup>th</sup> semester students and 6 are 10<sup>th</sup> semester students, which is a little less than last semester and some precautions must be taken in terms on conclusions drawn from responses from less than half the students. Particularly among 10<sup>th</sup> sem. students it needs to be noted that a large part of the questions were only answered by one student and therefore questions below are only based on the 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents.

A majority (76%) of the respondents on 8. Sem. indicate to have spent between 30-40 or 40 hours or more on their studies, equivalent to full time or more, which is higher than last semester. All 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents assess their own work efforts to be satisfactory or above.

63% of the 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents state to be well-informed of coherence between study activities in the semester, and 37% state not to, and the qualitative comments suggests that this may have something to do with changing information, but it is not obvious from this relatively small sample and only very few comments. All 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents find that the academic outcome of attending the programme has been 'big' (37%) or 'average' (63%). A few comments revolve around challenges of the online format.

In relation to specific competences obtained or improved, the ability to define, analyse and discuss how different stakeholders are important to destination development/management (88%) was identified as the most important among 8<sup>th</sup> sem. students, but critical thinking (63%) and understanding the complexity of tourism (63%) were also rated high.

All 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents took part in project work and 88% of them worked with others. All of them agreed that teamwork went well, which is a positive change from last semester. 50% of the respondents indicated to have worked with an external collaborator during project work.

50% of the 8<sup>th</sup> sem. respondents indicate that they have felt well informed about practical issues and 50% indicate that they did not. One comment concerns lack of information on 9<sup>th</sup> sem., and other comments reveal that mainly a last-minute change (due to changes out of our hands) caused a lot of confusion and frustration among students, which is of course unfortunate, but also something we can only improve to a certain extent.

## Programme Evaluation

This evaluation was answered by 6 students (all 10<sup>th</sup> sem.), and all respondents experience the coherence and progression between modules/courses to be 'very clear' or 'clear'. Experiences of academic competences; the ability to identify and formulate problems; the ability to organize a long work process and achieve set goals on time are all rated positively (100% 'completely agree' or 'agree').

In the individual comments, students mention things like thinking outside the box, critical thinking, problem-solving skills, methods and specific tourism-related topics such as destination challenges, innovation and marketing. The university's career counselling is rated as medium or good by 80% of the respondents.