Course analysis BINP16 Bioinformatics: Programming in Python, 7.5 credits, autumn 2019

Course leader: Björn Canbäck
Other teachers: Anna Runemark, Jakob Willforss, Aaron Scott. Assistants: Joel Wallenius, Suze Roostee, Deborah Oliveira, Raquel Garza, Nikos Tsardakas Renhuldt

Number of students: 29 registered students

Grades: 5 Fail (U), 7 Pass (G), 17 Pass w distinction (VG).

Evaluation

I. Summary of the course evaluation
   Number of answers: 28
   Short summary of the result: Overall the students were very pleased with the course (grade 4.6). The students especially appreciated the teachers, assistants, feedback, course compendia and structure of the course. A few students found the course to be too demanding while a few considered it to be too easy. The main improvement area is that only the first home assignment out of three received feedback and was marked before the exam. An initial idea to correct this problem, is to have only two home assignments and dedicate more teachers or assistants to the marking. The feedback on the home assignments was generally considered by the students to be of great value.

II. Comments from the teachers team
   The teachers and assistants of the course considered it was successful, fun and opined that no major revisions need to be considered except for how to deal with the home assignments.

III. Evaluation of changes made since the previous course
   Last year’s exam was considered too difficult. This year, the exam was easier. Also, last year, there was no deadline for submitting answers on home assignments which resulted in that many students submitted their answers after the course had ended. We therefore introduced deadlines, which worked well for the students but not for the teachers since they didn’t have the time to mark the assignments before the exam.

IV. Suggested changes for the next course
   The next time the course is given we plan to make the adjustments of the home assignment discussed above.

2019-12-12, compiled by Björn Canbäck