

Course Summary BIOR25 "Molecular Ecology and Evolution" Spring 2018

Head Teachers: Staffan Bensch, Helena Westerdahl

Other teachers: Charlie Cornwallis, Anna Drews, Tomas Johansson, Jane Jönsson, Bengt Hansson, Johan Hollander, Mikael Hedrén, Lars Råberg, Jacob Roved, Hanna Sigeman, Juan Pablo Almeida, Niklas Wahlberg,

Students: 22

Grade: 0 persons UK, 10 persons G, 12 persons VG

Evaluation

I. Course evaluation summary

Number of replies: 11

Over all the students were pleased with the course (grade 4.5) and we got a lot of positive feedback. Like previous years the students were very satisfied with the excursion and the lab-projects that are based on their own data collected at this excursion day. The mixture of lectures and dry-labs got the grade 4.0 and the research projects in the end of the course got an even higher grade (4.5). Some students thought that the seminar groups should change and not be static throughout the course and this is something we will change the next time the course run. Another point that got some critique was that there were too long waiting times during the first lab-days the first week of the course and we will do our best to make the waiting time shorter.

II. Teachers comments

The teachers were very pleased with the course.

III. Evaluation of changes made since the last course

Last year we revised the course slightly to make it closer to the research field in Genomic Ecology and to include the latest molecular genetic methods 'high throughput sequencing' and 'GWAS'. One important change that we did was that we included the program Geneious when we analyzed the DNA sequences, this program is costly but we managed to get 15 licenses for 10kSEK that are available January to March. We continued to have license-free programs in parallel so that the students could do DNA-analyses at home on their own computers if they liked.

IV. Changes for the coming course

We will aim to get an even better offer for the program Geneious. We will organize new seminar groups half-way through the course as suggested by the students. The new course sections on 'high throughput sequencing' and 'GWAS' will be synchronized better in order to avoid overlap (see comments in the course evaluation).

2019-01-15, compiled by Staffan Bensch & Helena Westerdahl