

## Evaluation of HEM4312

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The course starts with a general refresher lecture from the staff in the beginning of the semester. Students are then expected to work independently on their proposals and developing research design and methodological approach. Then, mid-semester the main part of the course includes a two-day intensive seminar. Students present their final thesis proposals with specific emphasis on methods, provide feedback to peers following structured feedback guidelines, and obtain feedback from staff. A central aim of the LO descriptions is to prepare students for thesis writing. Having reviewed the proposals students had prepared, this was fulfilled.

The course was held in a hybrid format with *most* students being in person, and a small number attending digitally, including one of the course teachers. The course had an open and dialogue-based form. In a hybrid format this can provide some challenges, as opportunities for interaction become more constrained and it can be complicated to engage both online students and the students in class. The course involves work from the students both concerning preparation of their proposal, preparing a presentation, commenting on a peer's proposal in a structured manner, as well as discussing proposals that are presented. Active participation from students varied somewhat – while some were also active discussing other students' proposals (beyond the one where they were assigned to provide feedback), others did not participate as much in the discussion. The teachers did not receive any specific feedback concerning the course format.

Given that the course lasts two days consisting of student presentations and feedback giving, it is difficult to make adjustments underway, as this would principally treat the students differently – they would e.g. have different opportunities to present and provide feedback. Moreover, changes in this course should in any case be undertaken together with changes in how students embark in their thesis proposal writing in the previous semester. One means would be to introduce means to engage the whole class during the seminar - by employing SRS or similar.