

Course Analysis for GEOM20 Autumn, 2025

GEOM20: Methods in geoscience was given for the first time during Autumn Term 1, 2025. The course evaluation was answered by 15 out of 21 students that completed the course. Overall, the course received an average rating: 3.1 on a scale from 1–5 (where 5 means “Very satisfied”). A statistical summary of the course evaluation is attached below.

Summary of Course Evaluation

Overall, the concept of the course received positive feedback. Students appreciated that it provided a good overview of common methods and approaches to handling data and measurements. The students recognize the importance of having basic knowledge in statistics and programming but suggest that these foundational concepts should be introduced already at the bachelor level.

Regarding the execution of the course, the excursions to Ullstorp and the Copenhagen ice core storage were highly appreciated. The lectures were generally seen as informative and pedagogical, albeit sometimes with a bit of repetition. The order of lectures in geochemistry and geochronology felt somewhat inconsistent, as the topics seemed to jump back and forth.

The exercises were often considered too time-consuming, with too many assignments (one for each exercise) which made it difficult for students to find time to read the course literature. Many students felt that the exercises, especially those on statistics, became more about programming and getting the code to work rather than focusing on the statistical concepts taught in lectures. A separate introduction to programming is suggested so that the statistics exercises could focus more on their intended learning goals.

The exam was generally considered fair in terms of difficulty, but students felt that there was not enough time to complete it. Additionally, the practice questions did not reflect the style or content of the actual exam. The project work, on the other hand, was very well received. Students found the assignments interesting, although they mentioned that the instructions were provided rather late.

In general, it was suggested to include LaTeX (via Overleaf) in the course and to switch from MATLAB to Python.

Reflections for Next Year

For next year, several changes are planned to improve the structure and learning experience of the course. Programming will be introduced at an earlier stage, separate from the statistics. One of the motivations for incorporating programming was to use it as a tool to better understand statistics. This did not work as planned this year due to the limited introduction to programming provided. However, we still believe in this concept and by adapting the course structure and the exercises we think that the programming will become an aid rather than an obstacle for learning. The exercises that include programming will be revised so that new programming concepts are only

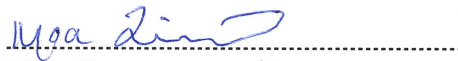
introduced in the first part of the exercise. The remaining part of the exercise will be focused only on the content of the lecture, e.g. statistics.

The order of the lectures will be revised to ensure a more logical and coherent progression of topics. The exam format will also be updated to better assess students' understanding and application of the material. In addition, we are considering the inclusion of LaTeX and Python to enhance students' computational and documentation skills. Finally, the project work will be introduced earlier in the course to allow students more time to engage with practical applications of the concepts covered.

Lund Nov 18 2025,



Andreas Nilsson (Course administrator)



Moa Zimmermann (Course representative)



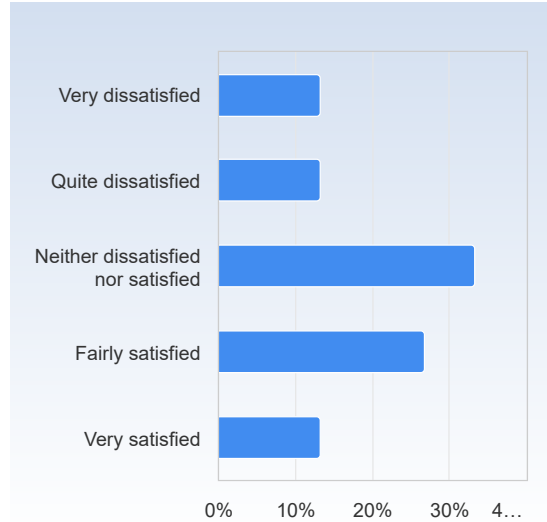
Gloria Kowal Johnson (Course representative)

GEOM20 - Geologi: Metoder inom Geovetenskap

Respondents: 25
 Answer Count: 15
 Answer Frequency: 60.00%

How satisfied are you with the course overall?

How satisfied are you with the course overall?	Number of responses
Very dissatisfied	2 (13.3%)
Quite dissatisfied	2 (13.3%)
Neither dissatisfied nor satisfied	5 (33.3%)
Fairly satisfied	4 (26.7%)
Very satisfied	2 (13.3%)
Total	15 (100.0%)

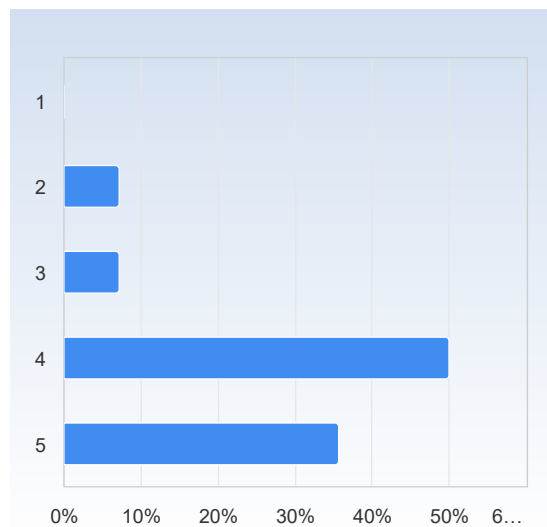


	Mean	Standard Deviation
How satisfied are you with the course overall?	3.1	1.2

To what degree did each course component below contribute to your learning during the course? Make your assessment on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1=to a very low degree and 5=to a very high degree.

Lectures

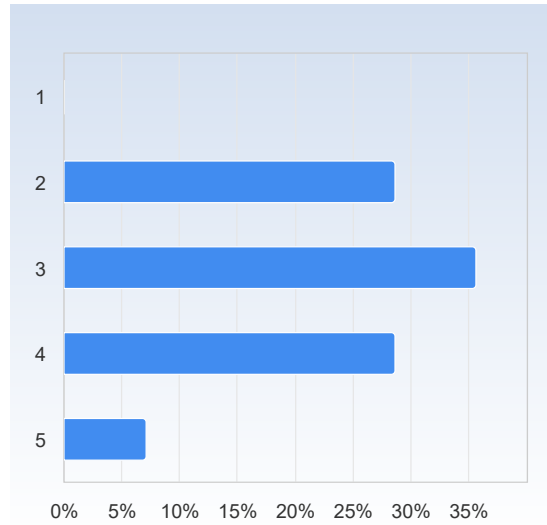
Lectures	Number of responses
1	0 (0.0%)
2	1 (7.1%)
3	1 (7.1%)
4	7 (50.0%)
5	5 (35.7%)
Total	14 (100.0%)



	Mean	Standard Deviation
Lectures	4.1	0.9

Exercises

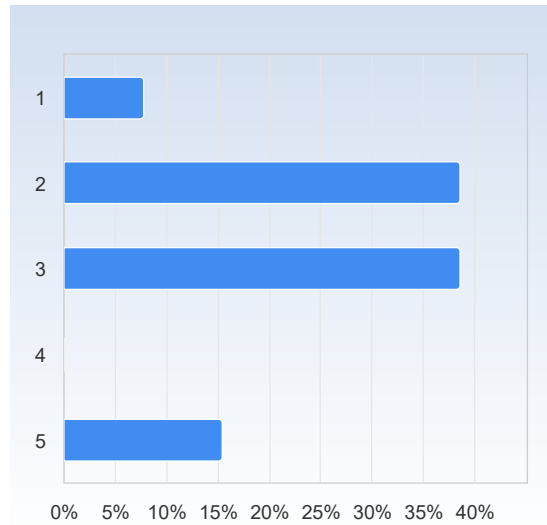
Exercises	Number of responses
1	0 (0.0%)
2	4 (28.6%)
3	5 (35.7%)
4	4 (28.6%)
5	1 (7.1%)
Total	14 (100.0%)



	Mean	Standard Deviation
Exercises	3.1	0.9

Required reading

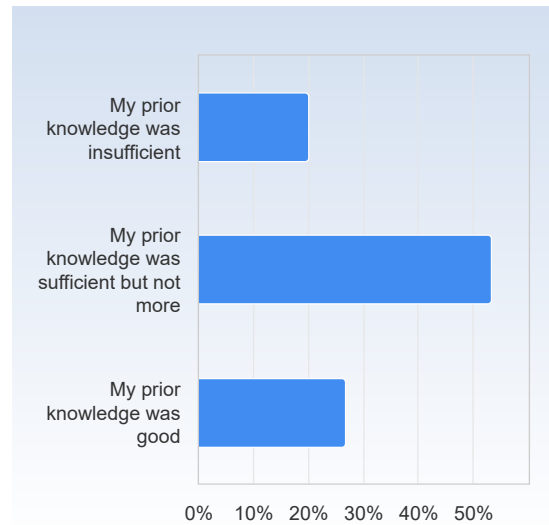
Required reading	Number of responses
1	1 (7.7%)
2	5 (38.5%)
3	5 (38.5%)
4	0 (0.0%)
5	2 (15.4%)
Total	13 (100.0%)



	Mean	Standard Deviation
Required reading	2.8	1.2

How was your prior knowledge at the start of the course?

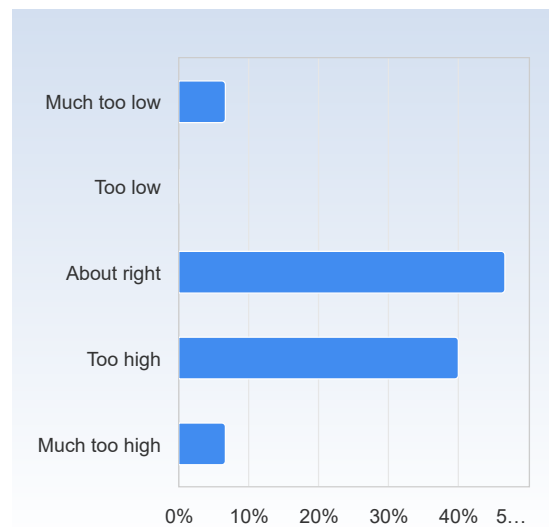
How was your prior knowledge at the start of the course?	Number of responses
My prior knowledge was insufficient	3 (20.0%)
My prior knowledge was sufficient but not more	8 (53.3%)
My prior knowledge was good	4 (26.7%)
Total	15 (100.0%)



	Mean	Standard Deviation
How was your prior knowledge at the start of the course?	2.1	0.7

How did you feel about the requirements on your work efforts during the course?

How did you feel about the requirements on your work efforts during the course?	Number of responses
Much too low	1 (6.7%)
Too low	0 (0.0%)
About right	7 (46.7%)
Too high	6 (40.0%)
Much too high	1 (6.7%)
Total	15 (100.0%)



	Mean	Standard Deviation
How did you feel about the requirements on your work efforts during the course?	3.4	0.9