IMK, University of Oslo
February 2020

Periodic evaluation report: MEVIT4700 Screen Histories and Theories (Autumn 2019)

The course ran for the first time in Autumn 2019 as the first core module for the new MA in Screen Cultures. The course investigated the historical background and current developments of screen-based media, and was taught by several faculty members involved in the Screen Cultures research and teaching initiative. The course was thematically divided into three main sections, which explored the beginnings of modernity's screen cultures from the 17th century until the birth of film, the institutionalization of cinema during the first half of the 20th century, and the gradual rise of "post-cinematic" screen cultures after the Second World War.

The course was divided into 14 four-hour sessions consisting of combined lectures and seminars. A set of required readings was assigned for each session. Alongside textual sources, a range of (audio)visual material and technical objects (camera obscuras, magic lanterns, etc.) was studied. Two lectures were also held at *Cinemateket* in Oslo with film screenings. Examination was by a portfolio (written during the term time) and final essay (take-home exam).

The course seems to have been successful among students. According to feedback (obtained by mid-term and end-term evaluation sheets [p = 14; 11]), the students were satisfied – many of them *very* satisfied – with the course, and credited, among other things, the way in which the course opened up a range of both theoretical and historical perspectives, and facilitated first-hand experiences of, for example, optical toys.

From the end-term evaluation sheets it transpires that some students found the second part of the course too heavy on cinema-related themes. Also the division of the course in a 'part one', taught by Pasi Väliaho, and a 'part two', taught by various staff members from the Department of Media and Communication (IMK), made for a somewhat inorganic experience, according to some other students. Furthermore, a number of students wrote that they would have wished that the broad range of nationalities that the student group itself represents had been reflected in the course readings to a stronger degree, especially the readings in the second part of the course.

We will address these issues in coming iterations of the course.

NOTE ON GRADES

Overlooking the distribution of grades for autumn 2019, we see that we have a relatively high amount of 'very good' (B) and 'excellent' (A) papers. This cluster of A and B grades seems to be moderately driven by the portfolio exam that resulted in

slightly better grades on average. However, this is only so to a moderate degree and while the results from the take-home exam are marginally lower, they seem to validate the strength of the students in the course.

FS580.001 Resultatfordeling

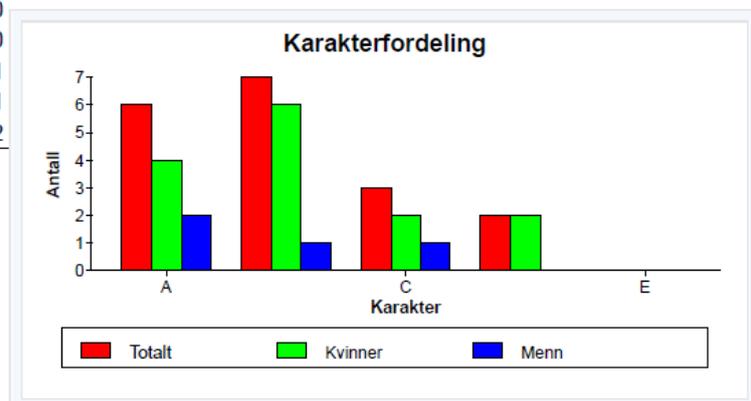Eksamen: MEVIT4700 1 Periode: 2019-HØST - 2019-HØST
Screen Histories and Theories - Mappeeksamen og hjemmeeksamen   20,0sp
Karakterregel: Beste: A, Bestått: E, Dårligste: F

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	Totalt	Kvinner	Menn
Antall kandidater (oppmeldt):	20	15	5
Antall møtt til eksamen:	18	14	4
Antall bestått (B):	18	14	4
Antall stryk (S):	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Antall avbrutt (A):	0	0	0
Gjennomsnittskarakter:	B	B	B
Antall med legeattest (L):	0	0	0
Antall trekk før eksamen (T):	0	0	0

Karakter	Antall	Kvinner	Menn
E	0	0	0
D	2	2	0
C	3	2	1
B	7	6	1
A	6	4	2

Karakterfordeling

FS580.001 Resultatfordeling

Eksamen: MEVIT4700 1 Periode: 2019-HØST - 2019-HØST
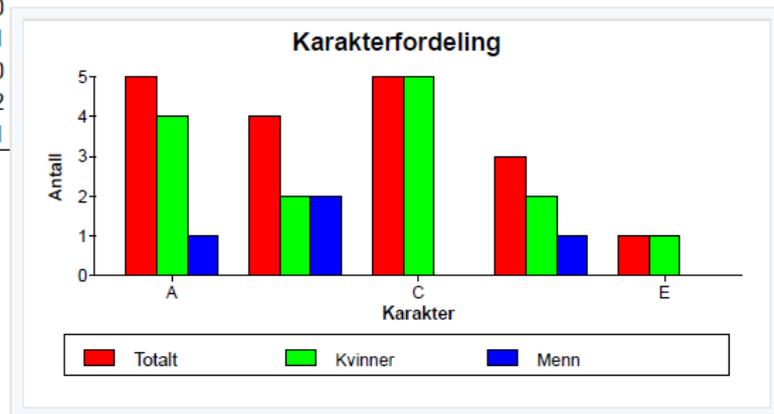Screen Histories and Theories - Hjemmeeksamen   20,0sp
Karakterregel: Beste: A, Bestått: E, Dårligste: F
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	Totalt		Kvinner		Menn	
Antall kandidater (oppmeldt):	20		15		5	
Antall møtt til eksamen:	18		14		4	
Antall bestått (B):	18		14		4	
Antall stryk (S):	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Antall avbrutt (A):	0		0		0	
Gjennomsnittskarakter:	B		C		B	
Antall med legeattest (L):	0		0		0	
Antall trekk før eksamen (T):	0		0		0	

Karakter	Antall	Kvinner	Menn
E	1	1	0
D	3	2	1
C	5	5	0
B	4	2	2
A	5	4	1

FS580.001 Resultatfordeling

Eksamen: MEVIT4700 1 Periode: 2019-HØST - 2019-HØST
Screen Histories and Theories - Mappeeksamen   20,0sp
Karakterregel: Beste: A, Bestått: E, Dårligste: F
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	Totalt	Kvinner	Menn
Antall kandidater (oppmeldt):	21	15	6
Antall møtt til eksamen:	19	14	5
Antall bestått (B):	19	14	5
Antall stryk (S):	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Antall avbrutt (A):	0	0	0
Gjennomsnittskarakter:	B	C	A
Antall med legeattest (L):	0	0	0
Antall trekk før eksamen (T):	0	0	0

Karakter	Antall	Kvinner	Menn
E	1	1	0
D	3	3	0
C	2	2	0
B	7	5	2
A	6	3	3

Karakterfordeling