

Course evaluation results 2011

Elements of Bioinformatics, 4ECTS

Circle one number for each question

1. Overall how do you rate the course?

poor 1 2 3 4 5 excellent

5: 29% (5)

4: 59% (10)

3: 12% (2)

2: 0% (0)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.2

Comment:

- Some topics were repeated.

2. Did the course meet your expectations?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 completely

5: 12% (2)

4: 76% (13)

3: 12% (2)

2: 0% (0)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.0

Comment:

- I expected more systems biology, but only because I was unaware of all the basic knowledge I was lacking before going to this course.
- I expected to learn more about databases.
- I was hoping to get more understanding of the math behind each methods.

3. How do you rate the degree of difficulty of the course?

too hard 1 2 3 4 5 too easy

5: 0% (0)

4: 18% (3)

3: 47% (8)

2: 23% (4)

1: 12% (2)

Average: 2.7

Comment:

- Perl programming labs were hard to follow.
- It was hard to understand some of the algorithms and to interpret the results in the labs.
- It is difficult to learn so much in two weeks.
- The labs and the course could be longer.
- The lecture slides were too complex.

4. Did the course teach you skills that are relevant for your future research?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 very relevant

5: 47% (8)

4: 18% (3)

3: 23% (4)

2: 12% (2)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.0

Comment:

- It would require a longer course to get practical skills.
- Yes, especially BioPerl

5. Were the lectures helpful?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 very helpful

5: 47% (8)

4: 35% (6)

3: 18% (3)

2: 0% (0)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.3

Comment:

- I was made aware of many tools I can use and that I didn't know about
- The lectures provided a good overview of the topics.
- The lectures (slides) should be simplified and more explanatory.

6. How do you rate the performance of the lecturer (clear, well structured, engaging)?

poor 1 2 3 4 5 excellent

5: 47% (8)

4: 29% (5)

3: 24% (4)

2: 0% (0)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.2

Comment:

- Sometimes the language used by the lecturer was maybe too far from the biologist's language.

7. Were the labs helpful?

not at all 1 2 3 4 5 very helpful

5: 64% (11)

4: 18% (3)

3: 18% (3)

2: 0% (0)

1: 0% (0)

Average: 4.5

Comment:

- The labs could have been longer.
- The labs were very important.
- The labs were helpful although some tasks were a little unclear.

9. Suggestions to improve the course:

- The course is a little wide in its topics.
- Add brief descriptions of the slides.
- Maybe more explanation during the labs.
- I would like to have more computer labs applying software to practical problems.
- It would be good to have a lab in protein modeling.
- I would like to have time after the lectures to read more about the topics.
- Remove the self-study time and instead have more supervision.
- Extend the lab hours.
- Extend the labs and the course to cover each subject in more detail.
- During the labs, bring up common problems in plenum.
- Give a general introduction before each lab.

10. General comments:

- I learnt a lot from this course. Due to my shallow knowledge of bioinformatics I could not grasp all subjects.
- Very good course as it gives information about what is behind the bioinformatics tools we use. I believe it is crucial to know what type of algorithm is being used by a program in order to choose the most appropriate parameters for your research.
- Good structured course. Nice to have all material available on the web.
- It is a good and very useful course where I was confronted with the advanced challenges of research.