



CHALMERS

Course board meeting: Minutes

<i>Course name:</i>	Databases	<i>Programme owning the course:</i>	Software Engineering
<i>Course code:</i>	TEK357	<i>Programme code:</i>	TKITE
<i>Academic year:</i>	2023	<i>Department instructing the course:</i>	Computer Science and Engineering
<i>Study period (start):</i>	LP3	<i>The program's Director of Studies/Education officer:</i>	Elke Mangelsen
<i>Study period (end):</i>	LP3	<i>Date:</i>	2023-05-05

Meeting participants: Enter the meeting participants in this field. Please indicate the role of each participant (eg. examiner, student representative etc.).
Arpita Naik, student representative
Jan Pawel Kula, student representative
Johannes Johansson, student representative
Natalia Alvarado Pachon, student representative
Sara Nilsson, student representative
Ana Bove, Examiner
Elke Mangelsen, Education officer
Staffan Björk, Education officer
Love Lindqvist, Keeper of the minutes, Teachers Assistant

Keeper of the minutes: Love Lindqvist

Summary

29,21% response rate, 52 students answered the survey. The mean overall impression was 3.50, with a median of 4. 73 students of the IT bachelor's programme were registered for this round of the course.

In general, the students are pleased with the course. No metric stands out in a negative manner. The most contested metric was the assignment, which was discussed during the meeting. No notable changes from previous years had been made.

Learning, examination, and course administration

Students consider themselves to have the right prerequisites. Relevant learning outcomes according to the survey.

Learning: Students emphasized that the exercise was more important than what a lot of students had understood initially. Many did not start attending the sessions until later in the course.

Assessment: Some students who answered the survey suggested increasing the number of credits for the assignments to more than 3.5, as the assignment was quite demanding. However, the examiner explains that this would require a lot more focus to be put on ensuring that the students have contributed an equal amount of work towards the assignments, and that they both understand the contents of the assignment.

Some students raised the fact that all lab sessions were placed towards the end of the week. As a possible change, the examiner suggested that they could try to move the (relatively unattractive) Thursday 8am session to some other day, e.g., Tuesday.

Exam: Several students found the exam challenging and time consuming, though overall fair due to generous grading. Concerns that writing a lot of SQL code on paper was time consuming was raised, though the examiner commented that the correct answers did not require a lot of code. Rather, the approach of the students that needed to write a lot of code was incorrect.

Regarding the assignment, the examiner commented that the number of passed students was normal for this course. Also, the number of passing students was comparable to previous rounds of the course. Students who are re-registered to the course usually have a lower success rate when it comes to grades 4, 5 and VG (for GU).

Student representatives wondered whether the exam could be re-designed to let questions be self-contained. The examiner replied that it would be too time-consuming during the exam to describe new domains for each question.

Course administration: Worked very well.

Work climate

Good work climate and well-functioning communication with teachers and teaching assistants. Adequate workload. The course setup requires the students to work continuously with the course material directly from the start, rather than simply studying for the exam.

To keep for next course round

The students found many aspects of the course good. Some commented that the guest lecturer was very good, though the examiner replied that unfortunately the same guest lecturer would not be available next year.

Suggested changes

- The examiner will investigate whether it is possible and justified to extend the exam time to 5 hours.
- Check whether the Thursday morning lab session could be moved to an earlier time slot during the week, preferably Tuesday.