

MASTER SURVEY: FALL TERM 2021

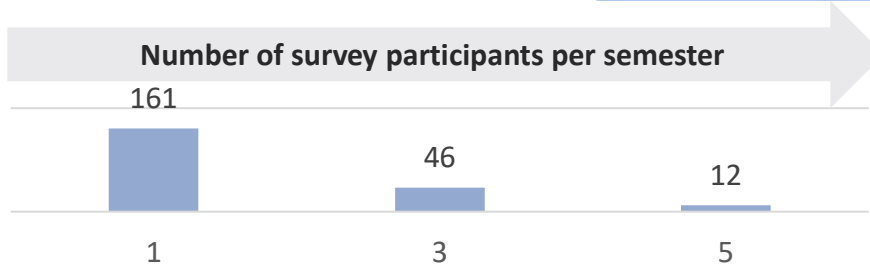
1. General information
2. Course choice (incl. course quality & workload rating)
3. Seminar thesis
4. Master thesis
5. Electives
6. Semester abroad
7. Impression of the FS BWL

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Fall Term Survey 2021: Participants Overview

220 Survey Participants

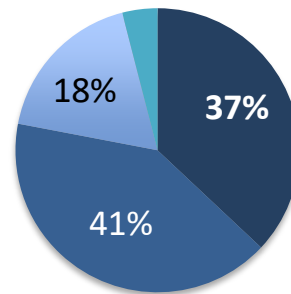
Thank you!
That is 68 more than 1 year ago, and above our target of 200



90% speak german
80% have a German nationality
22% study in the English track

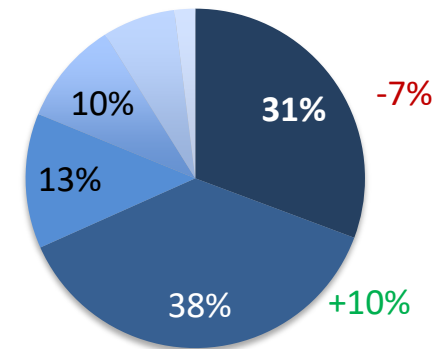
What did you do between Bachelor and master?

- Immediately MMM
- Internship/ gap year
- full time employment
- other



Bachelor university

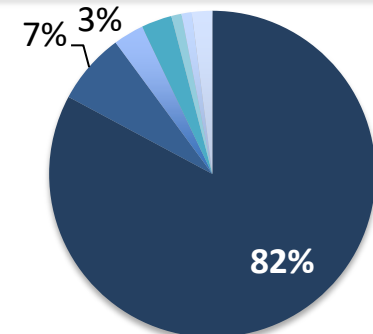
- Mannheim
- Other public
- Applied Science
- Dual
- Private
- Other



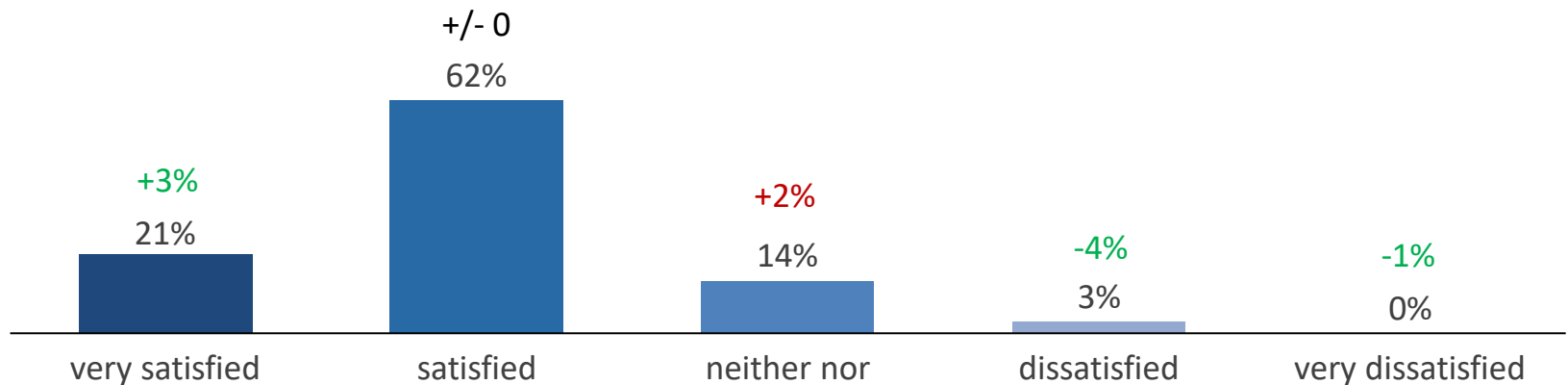
Bachelor major

Other: Maths, Statistics, Romanistic studies and sports management 1x each

- Business Adm.
- Economics
- Engineering
- Culture & Econ.
- Business Info.
- Business Edu.

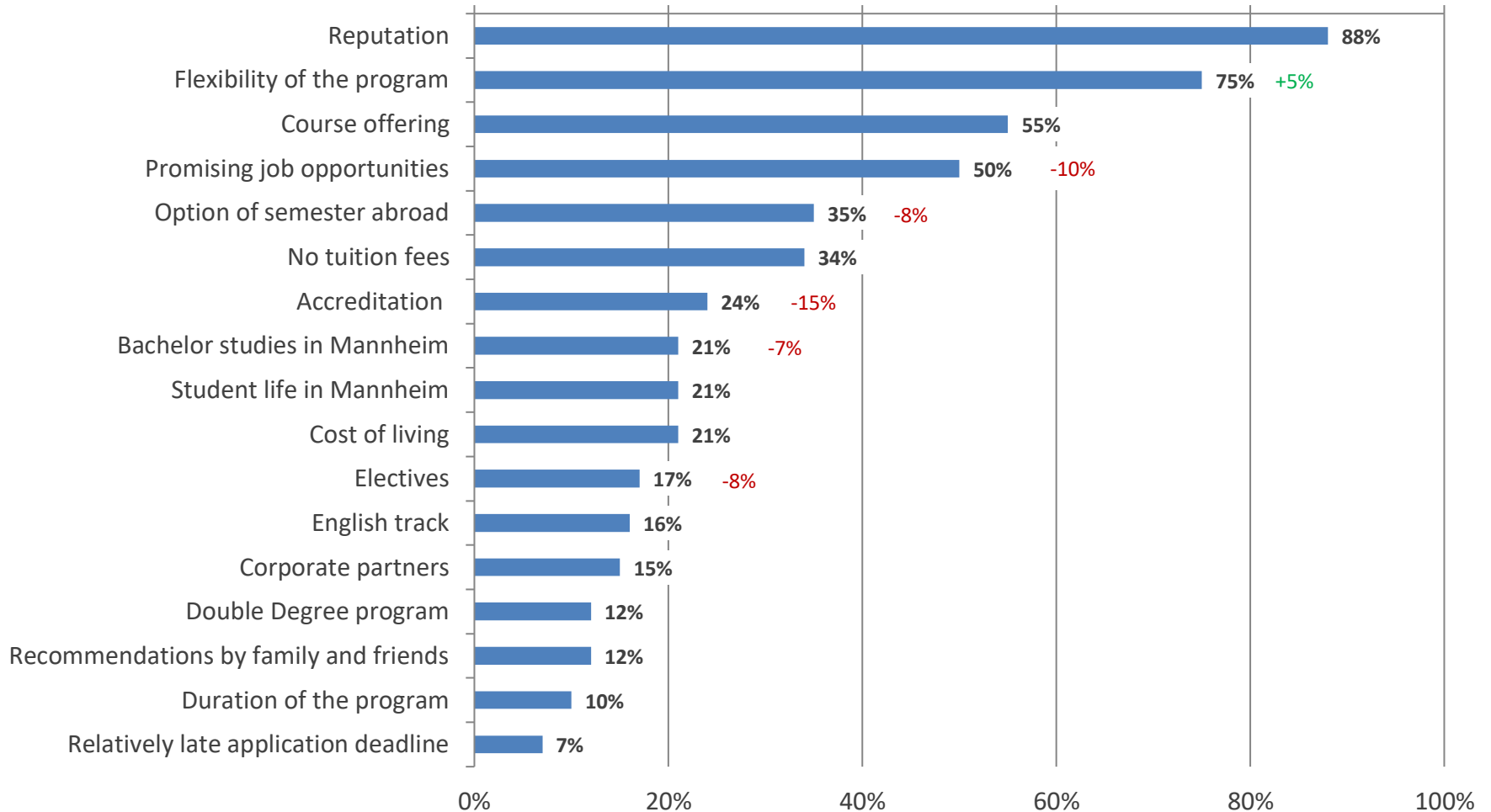


How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the MMM program?



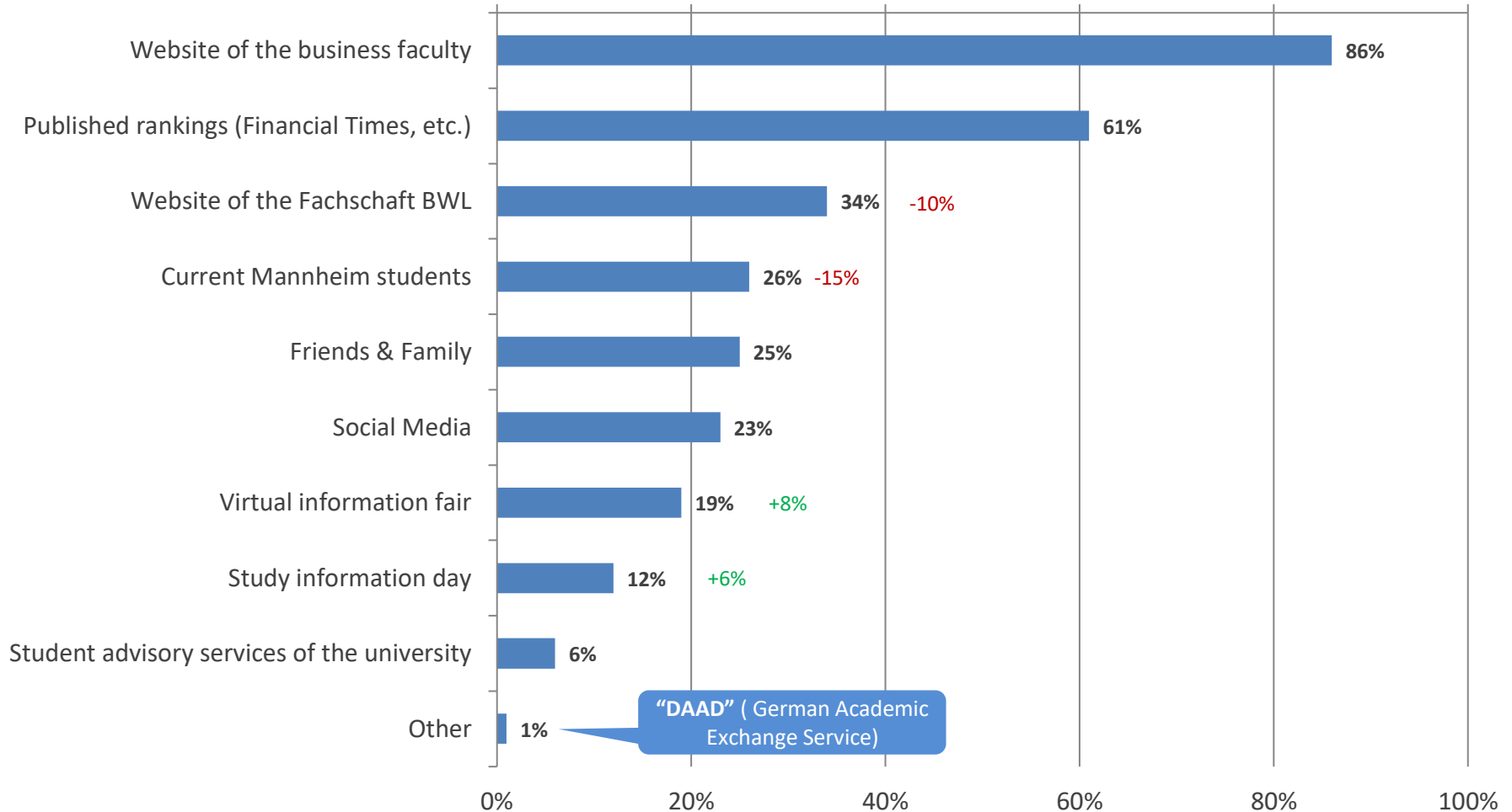
Participants: n=212

Why did you choose the University of Mannheim for your master studies? (multiple answers possible)



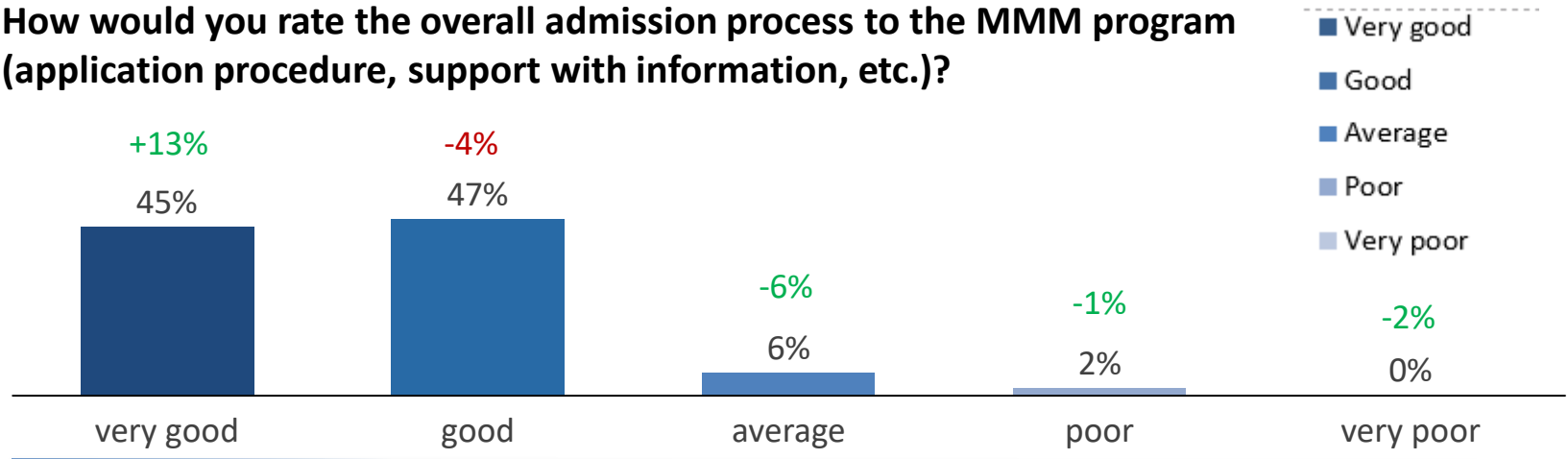
Participants: n=155

Which of the following sources did you use to inform yourself about the MMM before your application? (multiple answers possible)

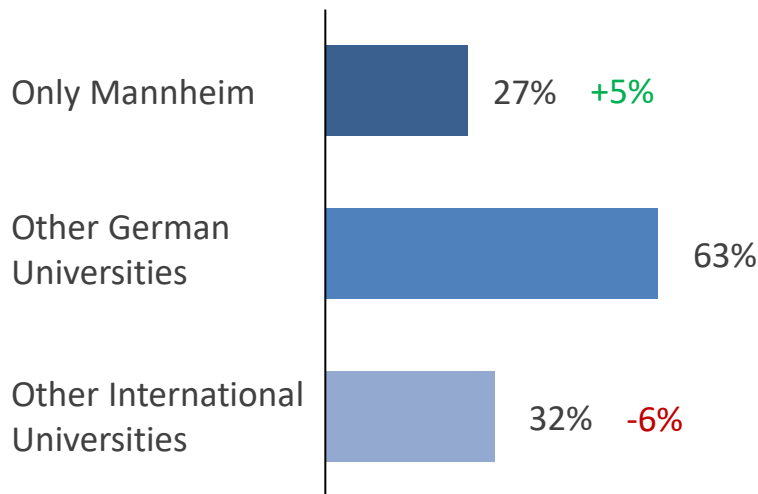


Participants: n=155

How would you rate the overall admission process to the MMM program (application procedure, support with information, etc.)?



Which other universities did you consider when applying for a master program?



Other German Universities (n=84):
 Cologne (44%), TUM (30%), LMU (29%),
 Goethe FFM (26%), WWU Münster (23%),
 others < 10%

Other International Universities (n=44):
 CBS (23%), Vienna (20%), Bocconi (18%),
 Nova (16%), Rotterdam (16%), Maastricht (16%),
 St. Gallen (14%), Stockholm (11%),
 others < 10%

Comments: Application Process

"The result of the application came relatively late compared to my other applications so that it was really difficult to decide on whether to accept already available offers, or to wait for Mannheim"

"I liked that the results came back earlier than expected"

*"The **application portal** could use an update because it **looks outdated**"*

3x

"It was very lengthy, and some fields were confusing."

"Giving bachelor students coming from a University of applied science the same requirements and points damages the MMM"

2x

Comments on the **point system for the admission** :

- hard to find on the website
- Weighting feels random (e.g. weighting semester abroad vs practical experience)
- Thresholds of previous years should be published

4x

"Good that the requirements don't have restrictions e.g., on statistics ECTS as this was one main criteria why I couldn't apply to many other universities."

"Lots of back and forth with bachelor's degree certificate not yet available"

"I loved it, thanks for accepting me here"

"Very speedy, great flexibility regarding outstanding documents after recent Bachelor's graduation"

"It's awesome!"

Comments: Application Process - GMAT

There were a lot of different opinions on the GMAT requirement:

"The GMAT should stay a fixed criteria. It shows that students put in a lot of effort which is not the case for students that just went abroad."

"Please make the GMAT mandatory again"

"The admission of people with low GMAT scores has hurt the university rankings since 2019"

"It is really frustrating to see that the GMAT is not an obligatory prerequisite any longer. Really disappointing and I feel that this will definitely damage the image of the MMM"

"It's a bit annoying that the GMAT was required for us, while upcoming semesters won't need it. This might also decrease the reputation of the program, since nearly all prestigious management programs require the GMAT."

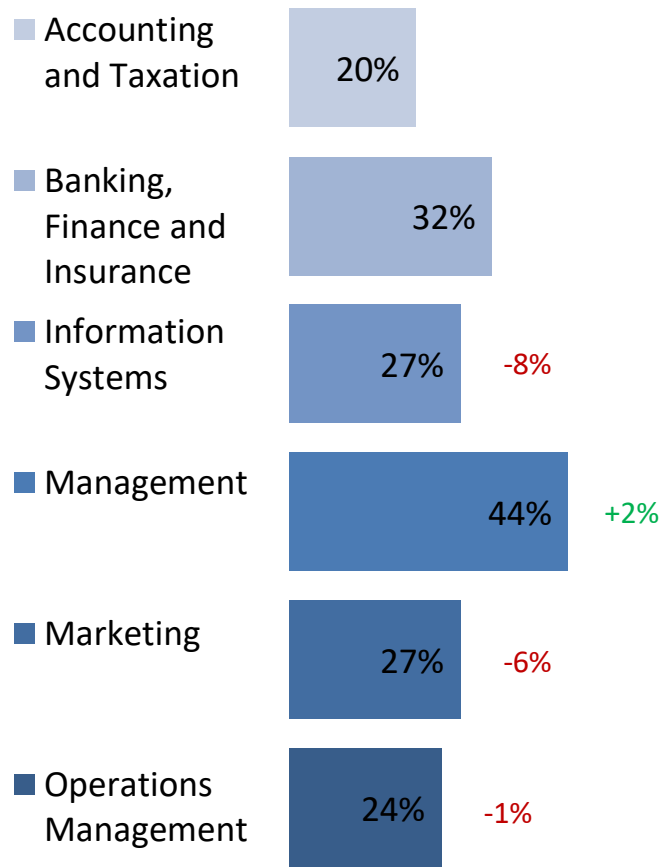
"I don't understand why Mannheim graduates also had to do the GMAT and were not preferred in the application process"

"The admission process puts too much weight on the GMAT. A hard limit (e.g. 600 pts.) seems reasonable to me, but the current system of getting 3 points per each 10 points in the GMAT is definitely too much. The university should consider interviews/assessments instead."

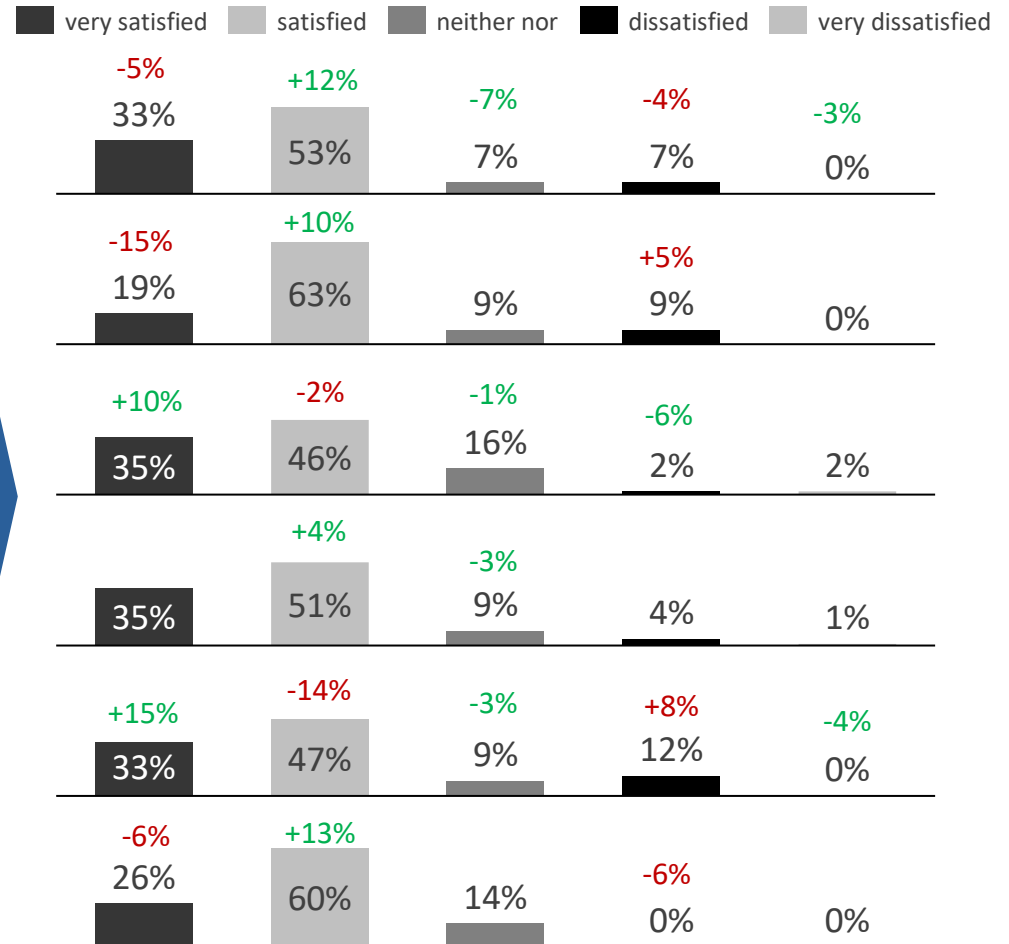
"I'm wondering if there might be a better way to test knowledge/aptitude rather than using the GMAT. It seems like a big for-profit business when considering the prices for the exam, prep materials, tutorials etc."

"The GMAT has been an unpleasant experience."

Area Specialization



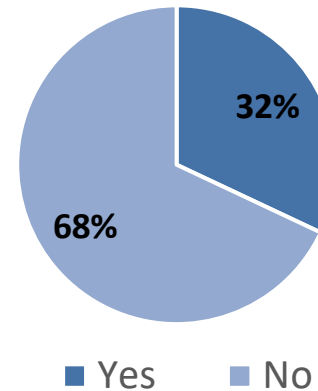
Area Satisfaction



Participants: n=212

Were you not accepted into a course due to capacity restrictions?

Participants: n=212



Remark: almost doubled from 17% last year

Into which course(s) did you not get accepted? (n ≥ 3)

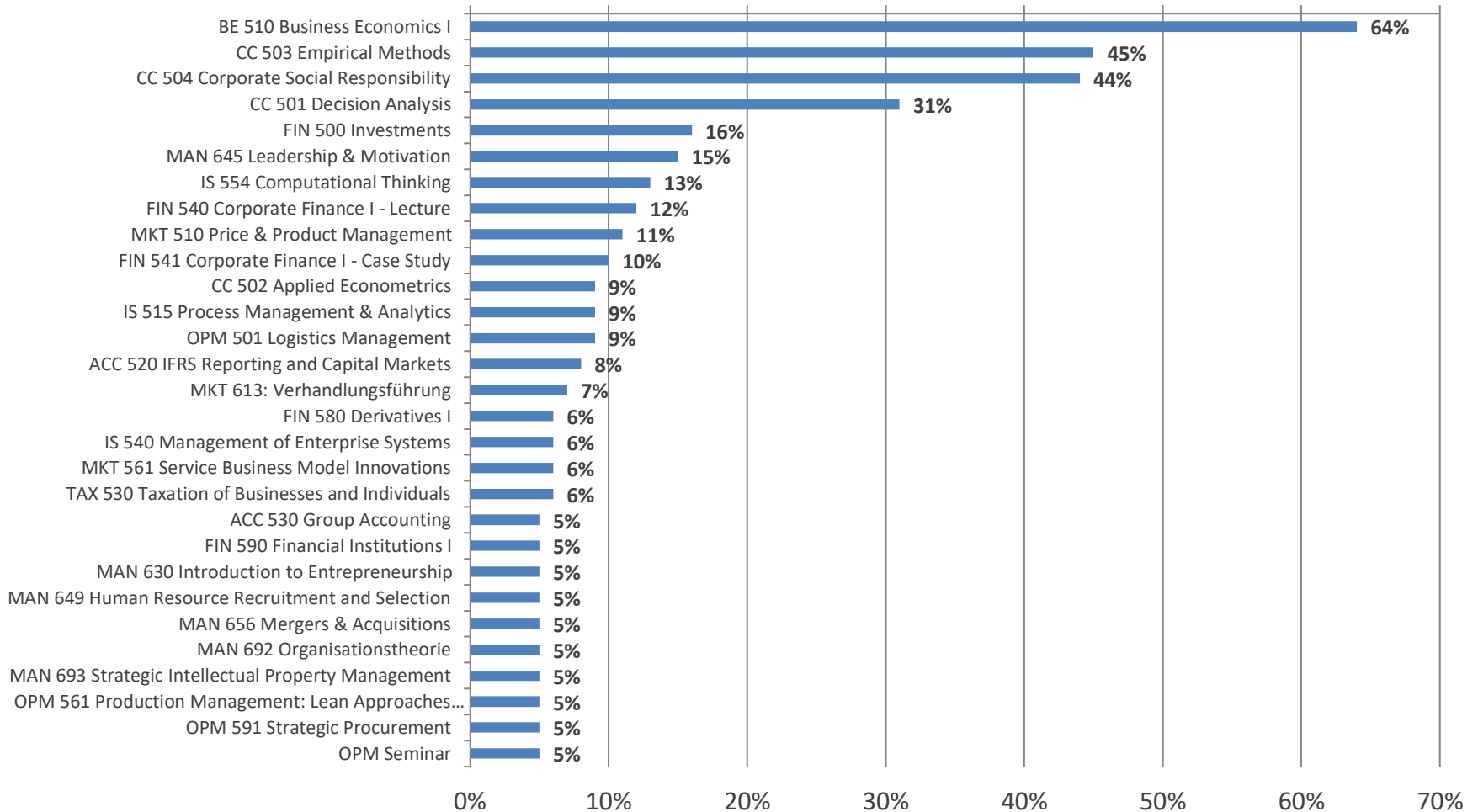
- MAN 684 Sustainable Business Models & Circular Economy (n=23)
- MAN 681 Climate Change and Decarbonization (n=21)
- MAN 683 Sustainability Communication (n=13)
- MAN 682 Materiality, Risk Assessment, and Reporting (n=12)
- MAN 656 Mergers & Acquisitions (n=11)
- MKT 580 Digital Marketing Strategy (n=6)
- MKT 623 Strategic Marketing Management Simulation (n=5)
- IS 607 Digital Innovation (n=4)
- IS 514 Process Mining (n=3)

Supply-Demand gap especially for Sustainability Courses

2. COURSES

Only courses
with $\geq 5\%$

Which courses did you take this semester?

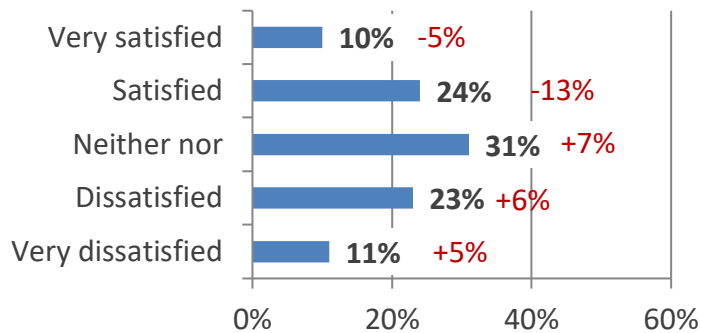


Participants: n = 212

Course Quality: Core Courses (I)

How would you rate the quality of this course?

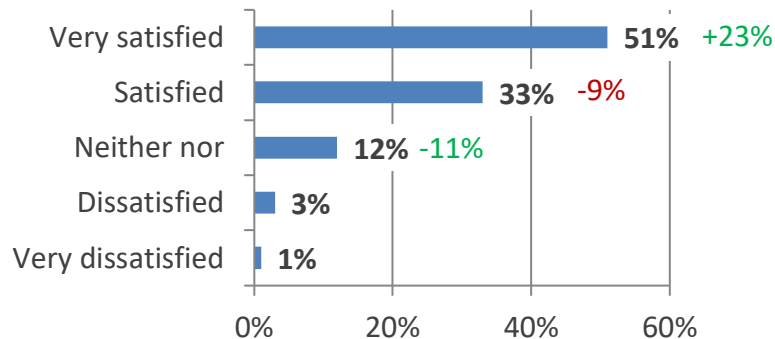
BE 510 Business Economics I (n=135)



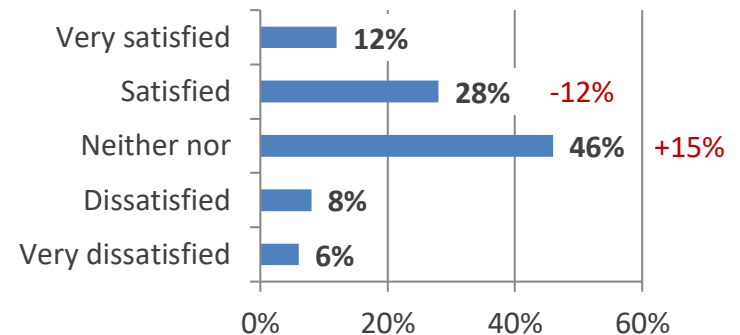
Remark:

Rating for BE quality has been constantly decreasing since 2019, when 73% were (very) satisfied

CC 504 Corporate Social Responsibility (n=94)



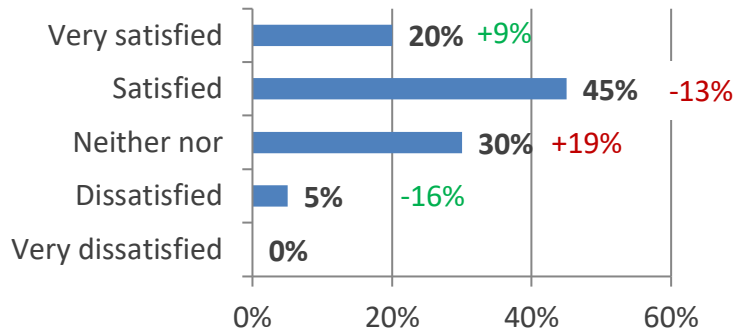
CC 501 Decision Analysis (n=65)



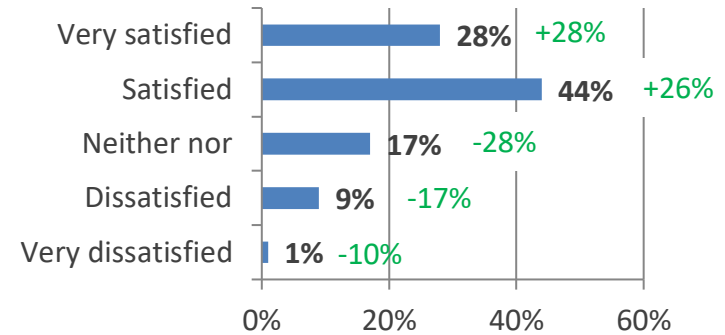
Course Quality: Core Courses (II)

How would you rate the quality of this course?

CC 502 Applied Econometrics
(n=20)



CC 503 Empirical Methods
(n=95)

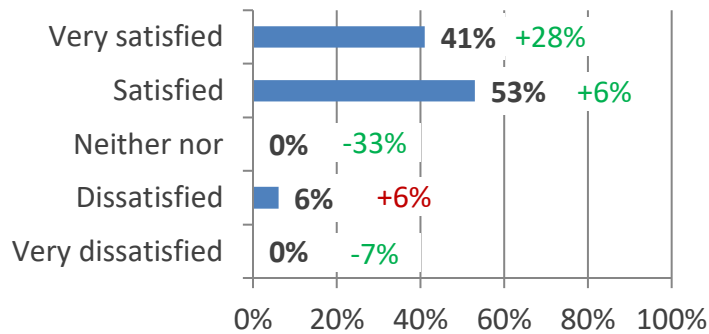


Course Quality: ACC/TAX Courses (I)

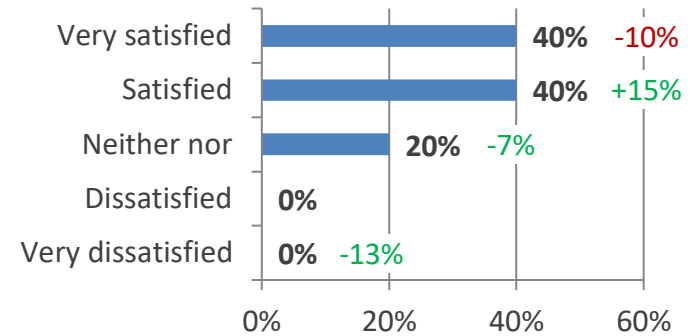
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

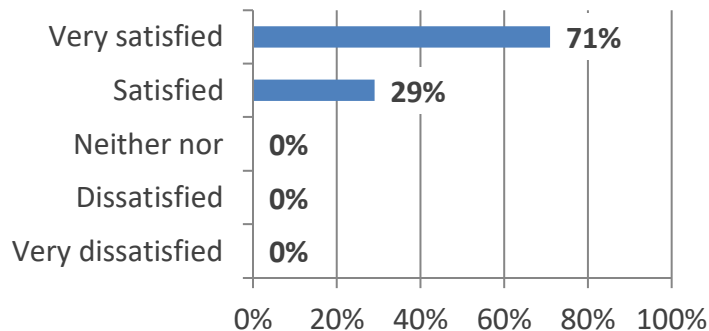
ACC 520 IFRS Reporting & Capital Markets
(n=17)



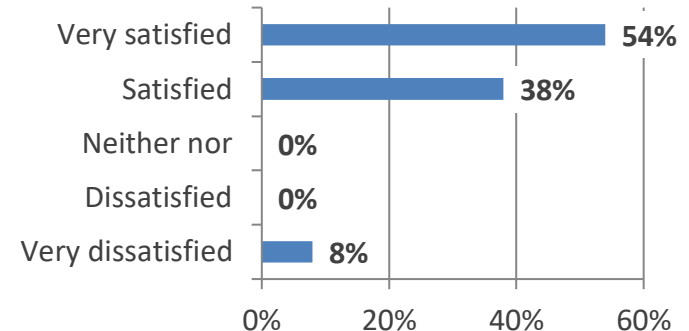
ACC 530 Group Accounting
(n=10)



TAX 520 Besteuerung der Unternehmen
(n=7)



TAX 530 Taxation of Businesses and Individual
(n=13)

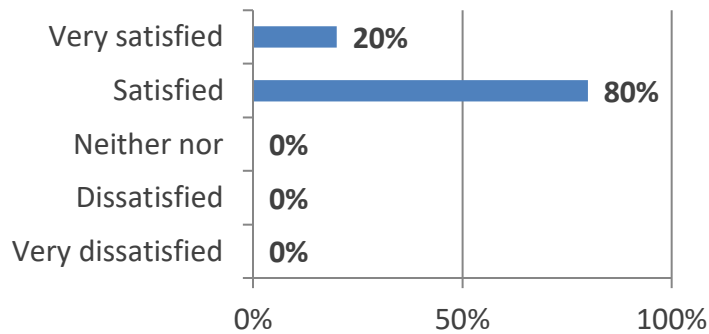


Course Quality: ACC/TAX Courses (II)

Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

TAX 660 Tax Planning: The Role of Taxes for Business Decisions (n=5)

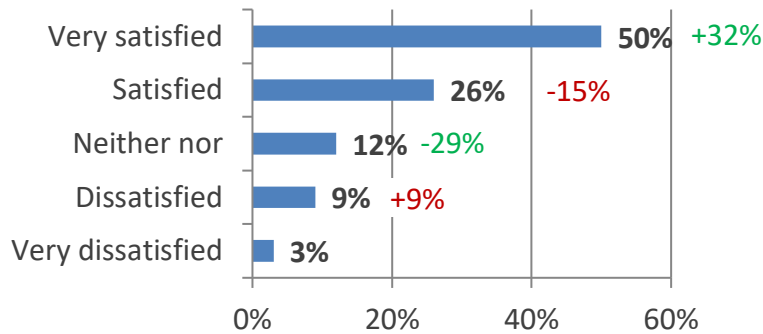


Course Quality: FIN Courses (I)

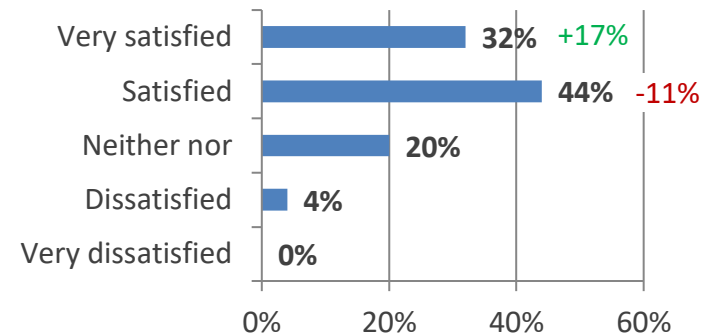
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

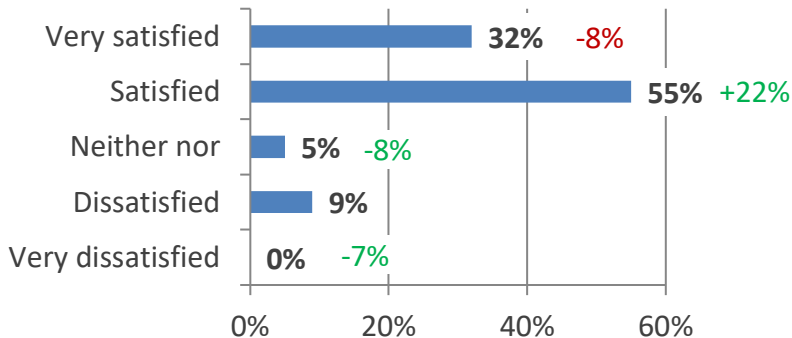
**FIN 500 Investments
(n=34)**



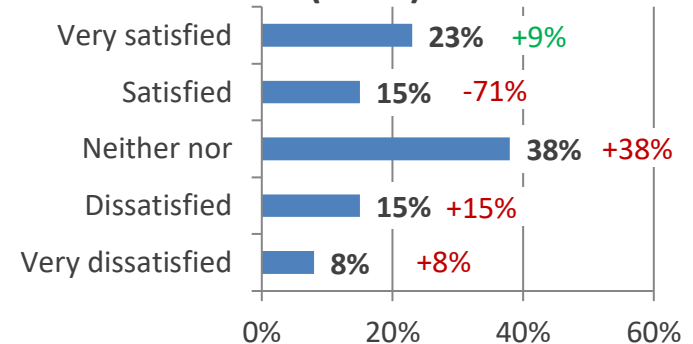
**FIN 540 Corporate Finance I – Lecture
(n=25)**



FIN 541 Corporate Finance I – Case Study (n=22)



**FIN 580 Derivatives I
(n=13)**

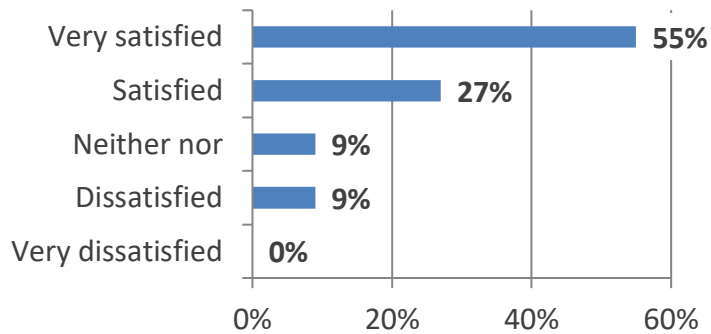


Course Quality: FIN Courses (II)

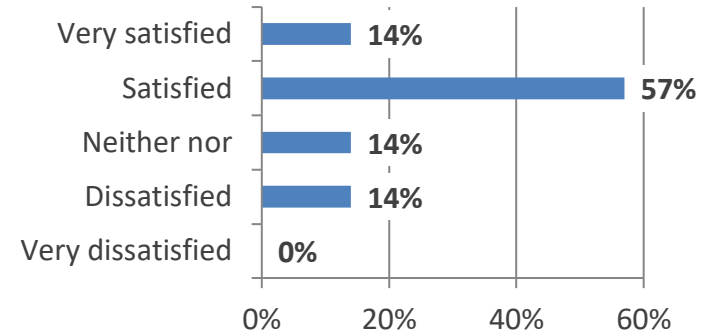
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

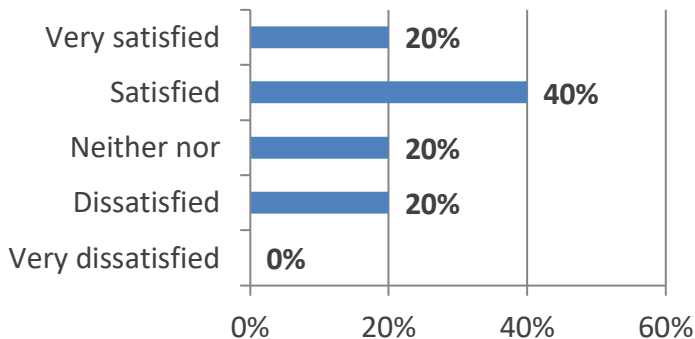
FIN 590 Financial Institutions I
(n=11)



FIN 604 Stata in Finance
(n=7)



FIN Seminar
(n=5)

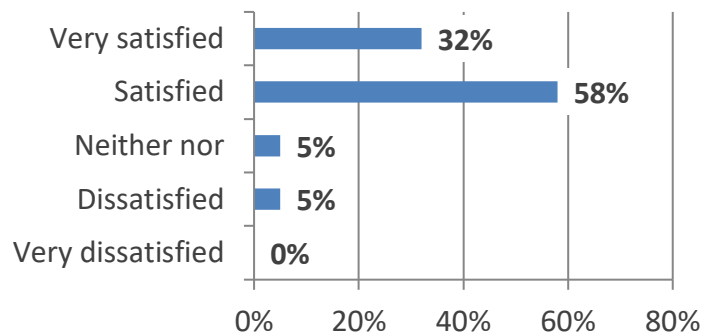


Course Quality: IS Courses

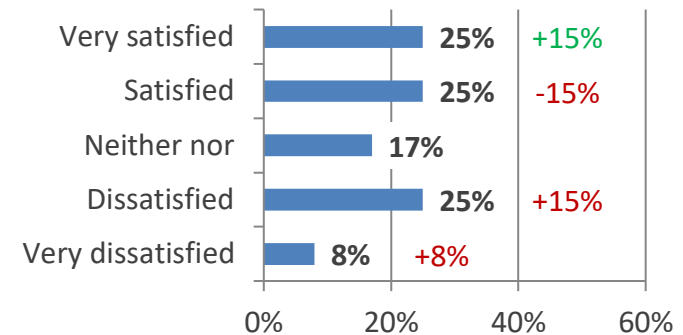
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

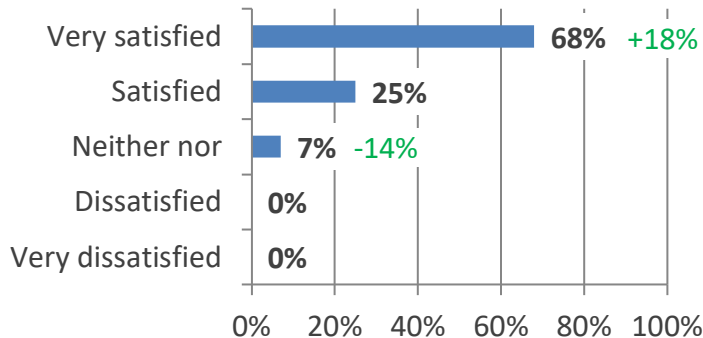
IS 515 Process Management & Analytics (n=19)



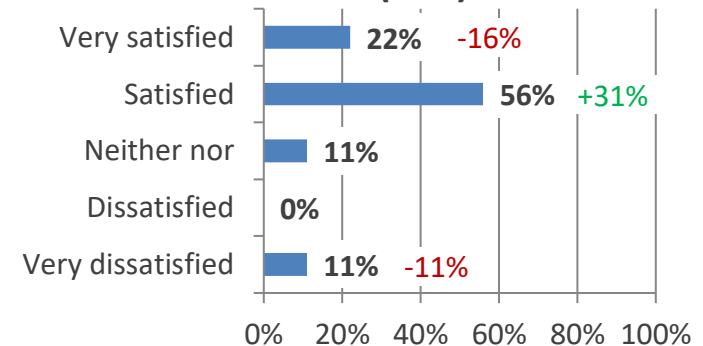
IS 540 Management of Enterprise Systems (n=12)



IS 554 Computational Thinking (n=28)



IS 614 Corporate Knowledge Management (n=9)

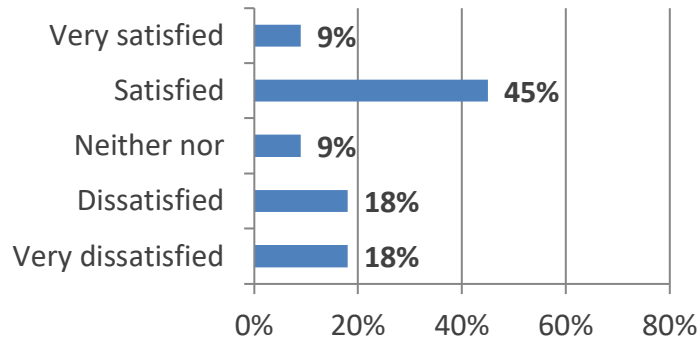


Course Quality: MAN Courses (I)

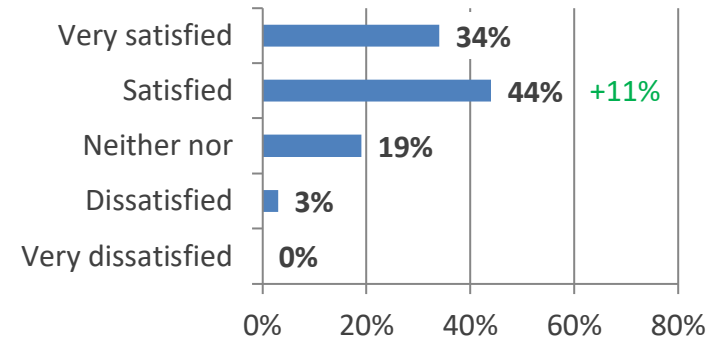
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

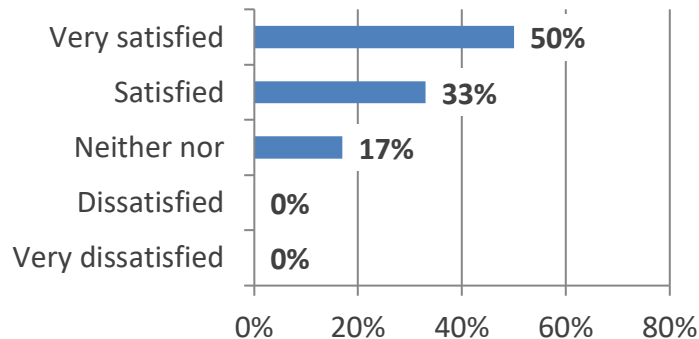
MAN 630 Introduction to Entrepreneurship (n=11)



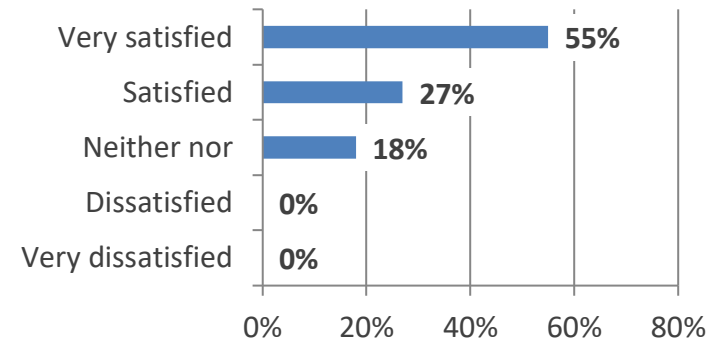
MAN 645 Leadership and Motivation (n=32)



MAN 646 HR Analytics (n=6)



MAN 649 Human Resource Recruitment and Selection (n=11)

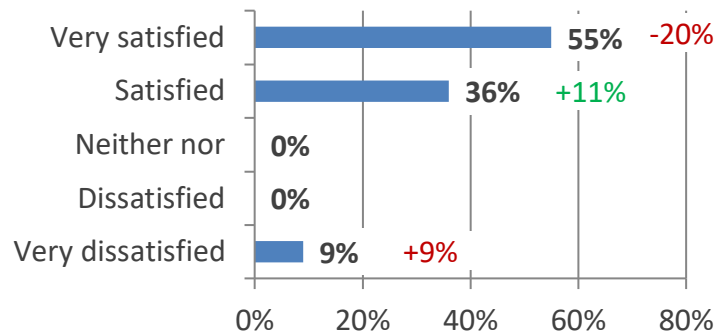


Course Quality: MAN Courses (II)

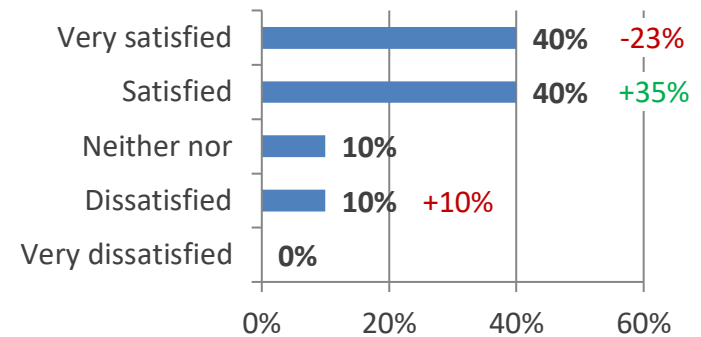
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

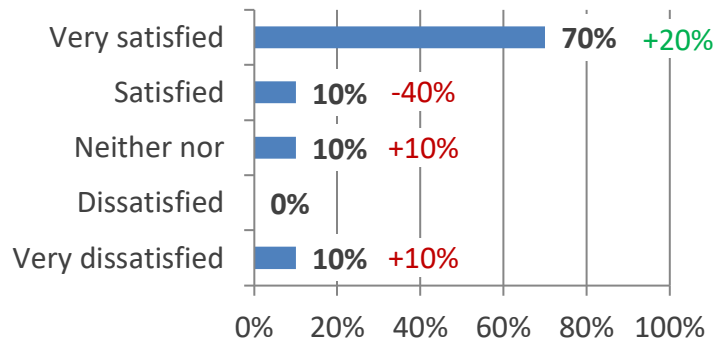
MAN 656 Mergers & Acquisitions
(n=11)



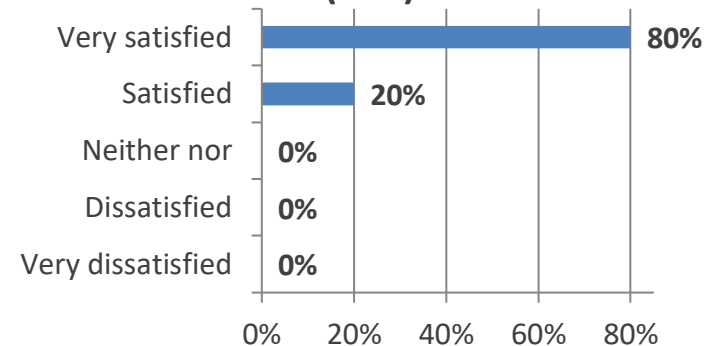
MAN 692 Organisationstheorie
(n=10)



MAN 693 Strategic Intellectual Property Management
(n=10)



MAN Seminar
(n=5)

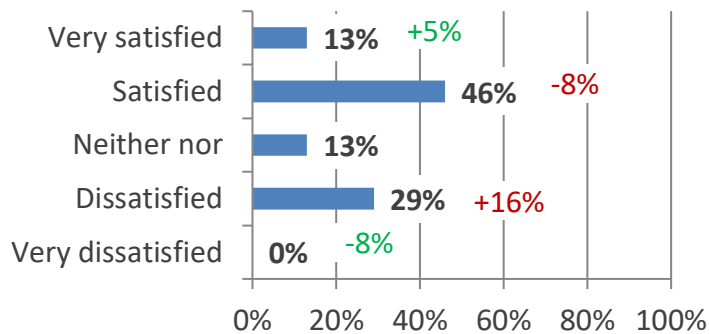


Course Quality: MKT Courses (I)

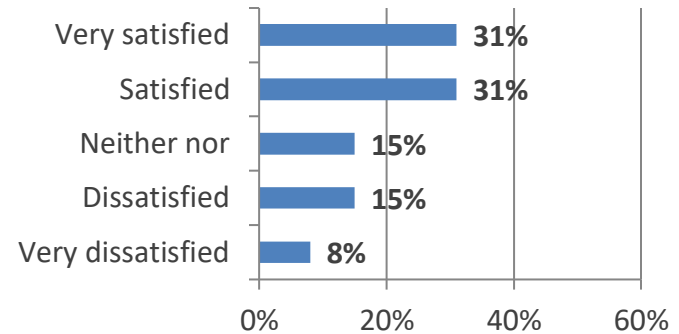
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

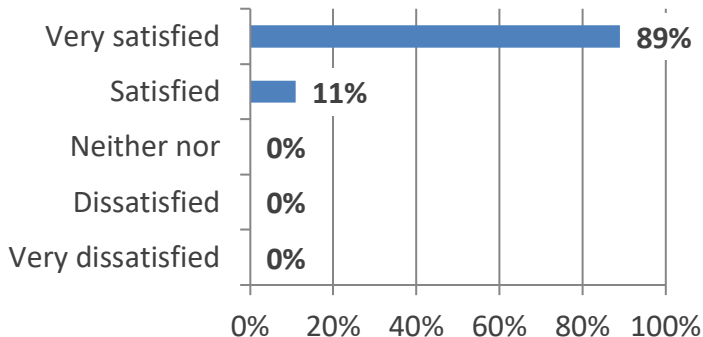
MKT 510 Price and Product Management (n=24)



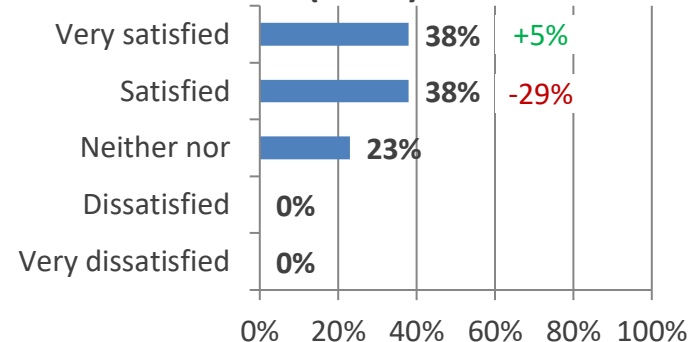
MKT 561 Service Business Model Innovations (n=13)



MKT 580 Digital Marketing Strategy (n=9)



MKT 612 Business-to-Business-Marketing (n=13)

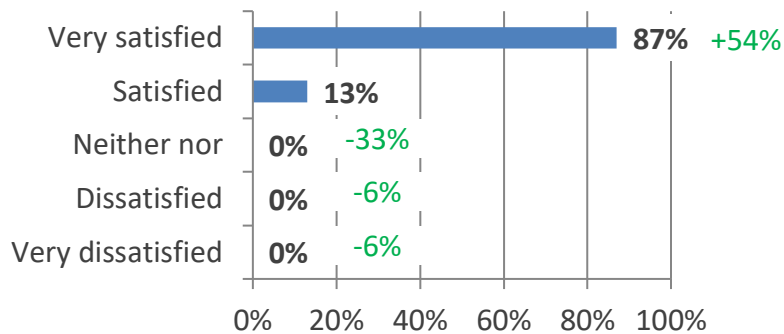


Course Quality: MKT Courses (II)

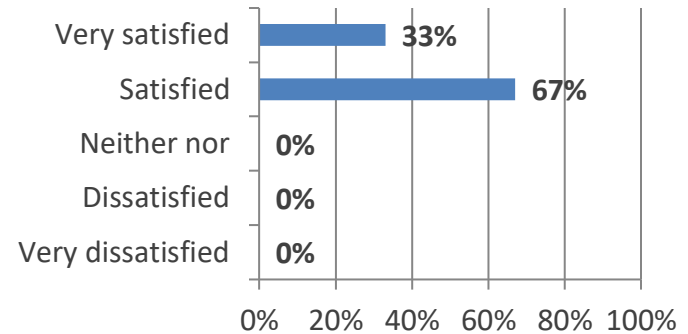
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

**MKT 613 Verhandlungsführung
(n=15)**



**MKT 623 Strategic Marketing Management
Simulation (n=6)**

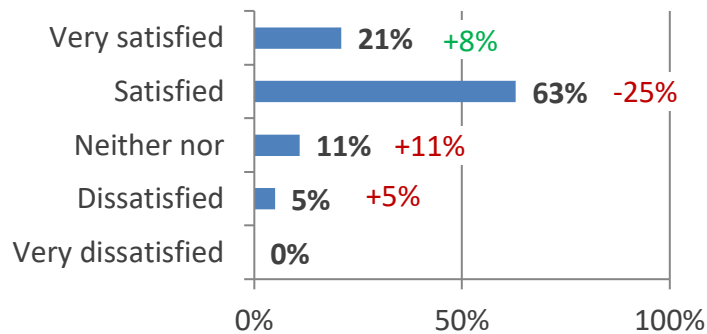


Course Quality: OPM Courses (I)

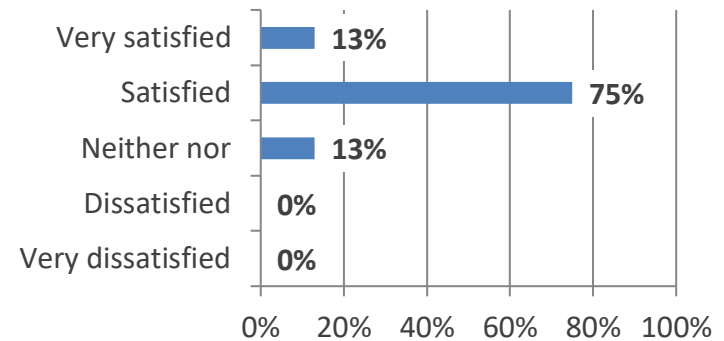
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

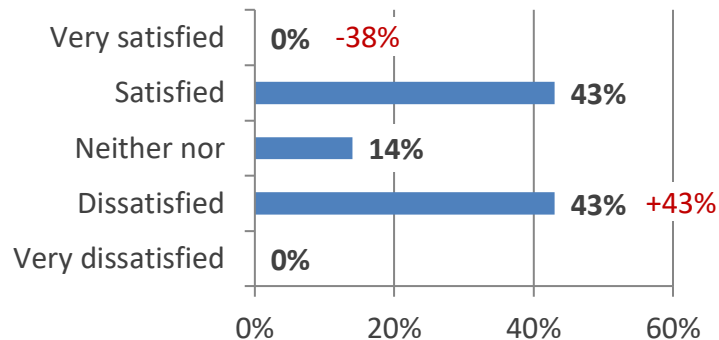
OPM 501 Logistics Management
(n=19)



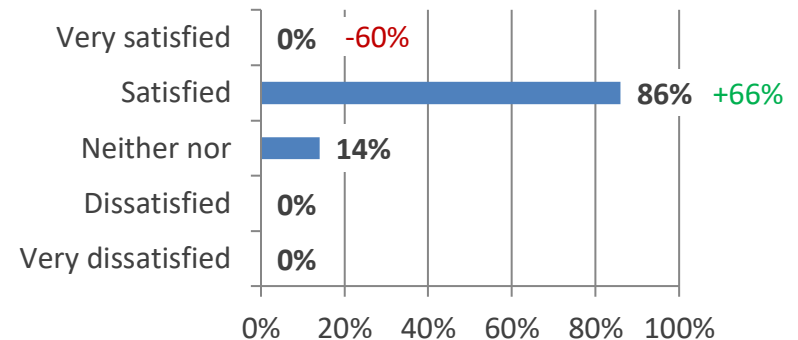
OPM 502 Inventory Management
(n=8)



OPM 504 Transportation II – Aviation
(n=7)



OPM 544 Advanced Supply Chain Planning
(n=7)

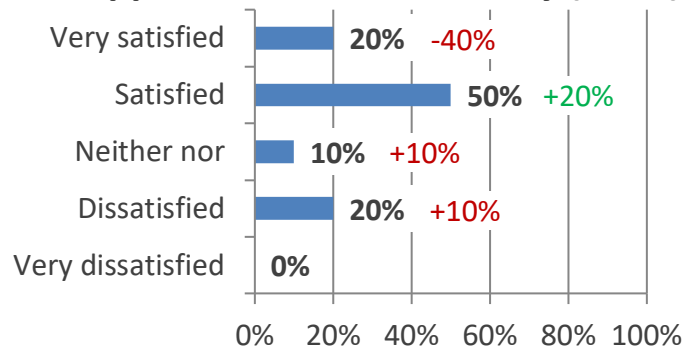


Course Quality: OPM Courses (II)

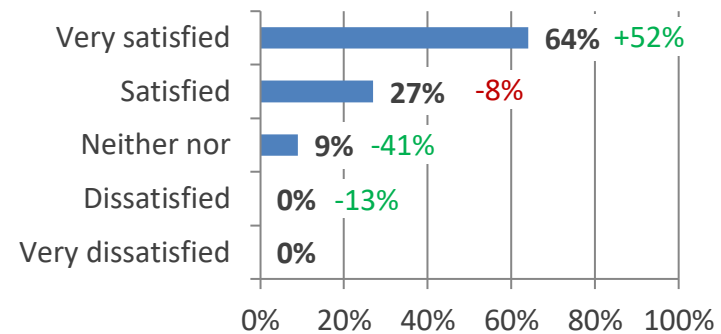
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the quality of this course?

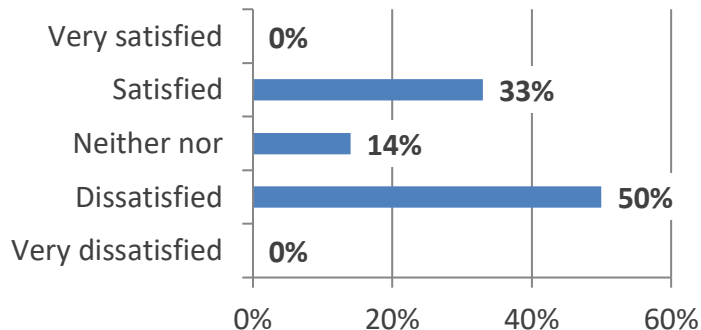
OPM 561 Production Management: Lean Approaches and Variability (n=10)



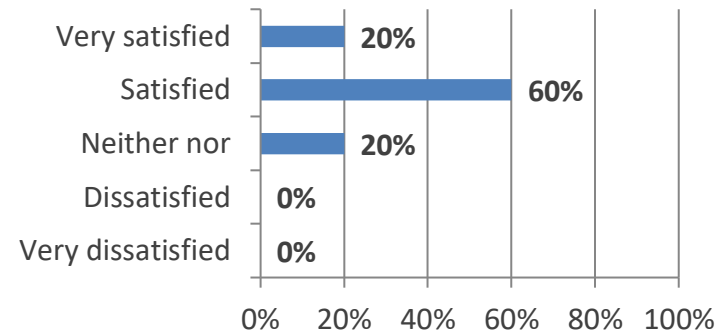
OPM 591 Strategic Procurement (n=11)



OPM 661 Business Analytics: Robust Planning in Stochastic Systems (n=6)



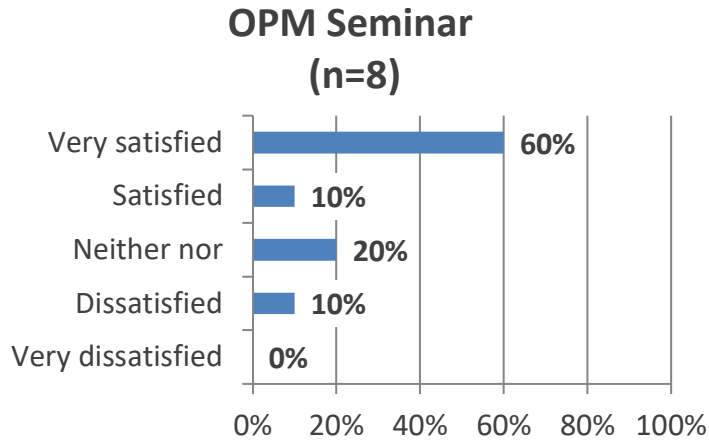
OPM 691 Supply Risk Management (n=5)



Course Quality: OPM Courses (III)

Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

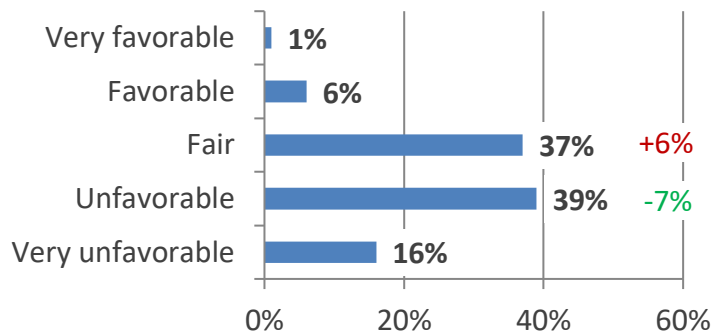
How would you rate the quality of this course?



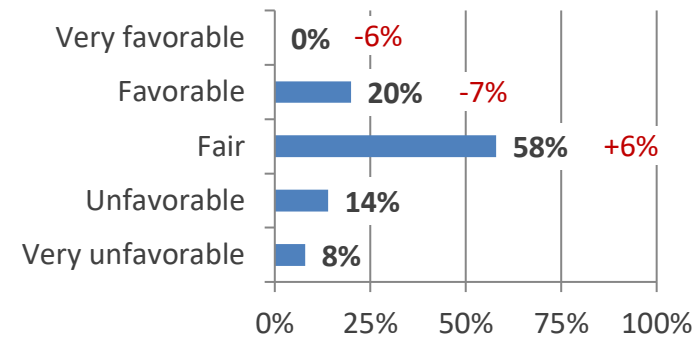
Workload: Core Courses (I)

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

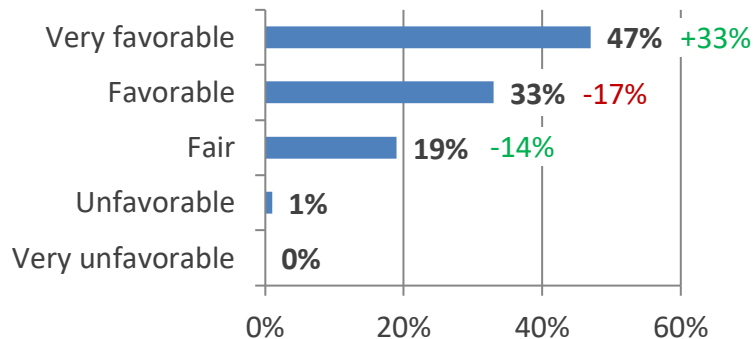
BE 510 Business Economics I
(n=135)



CC 501 Decision Analysis
(n=65)



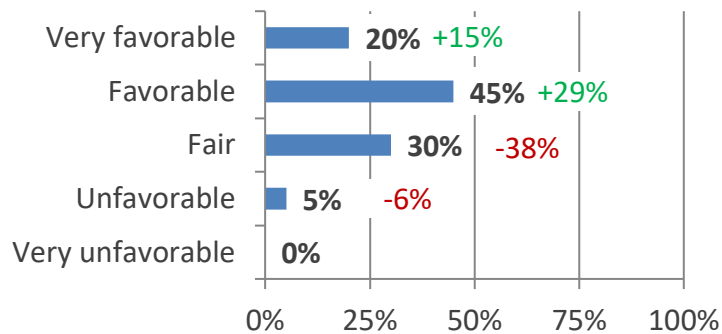
CC 504 Corporate Social Responsibility
(n=94)



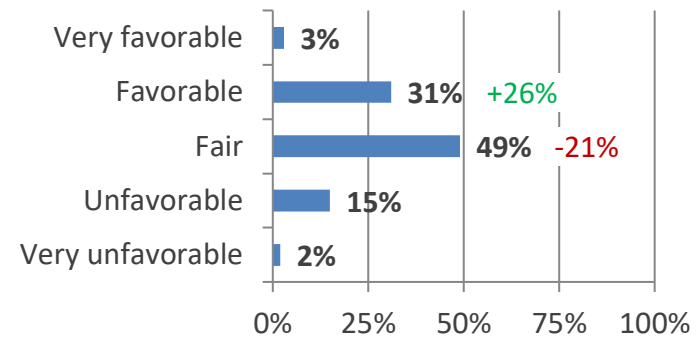
Workload: Core Courses (II)

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

CC 502 Applied Econometrics
(n=20)



CC 503 Empirical Methods
(n=95)

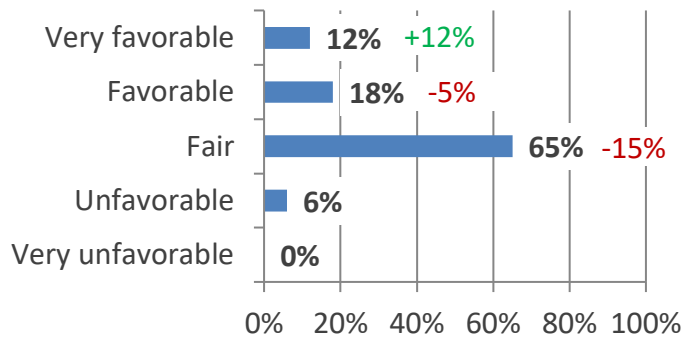


Workload: ACC/TAX Courses (I)

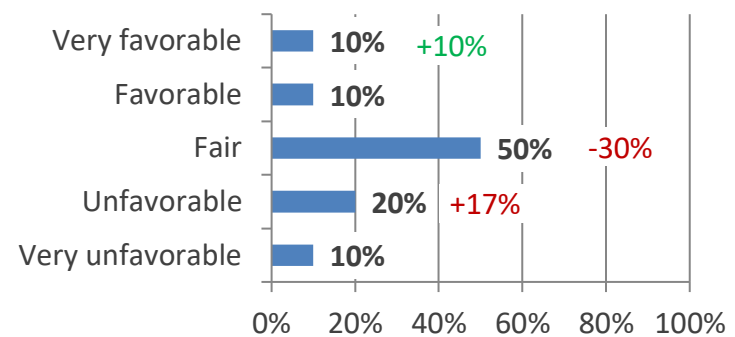
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

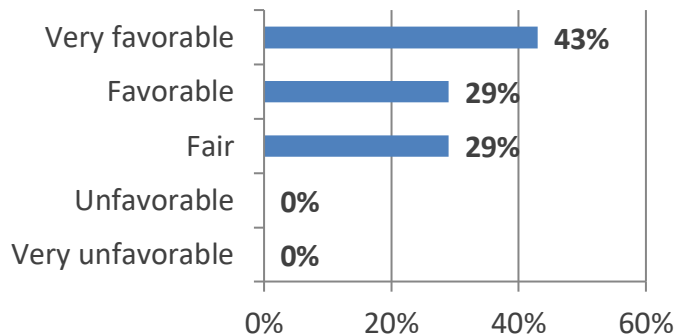
ACC 520 IFRS Reporting & Capital Markets
(n=17)



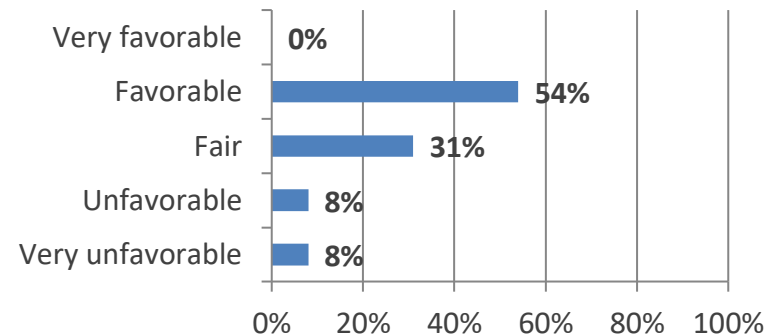
ACC 530 Group Accounting
(n=10)



TAX 520 Besteuerung der Unternehmen
(n=7)



TAX 530 Taxation of Businesses and Individuals
(n=7)

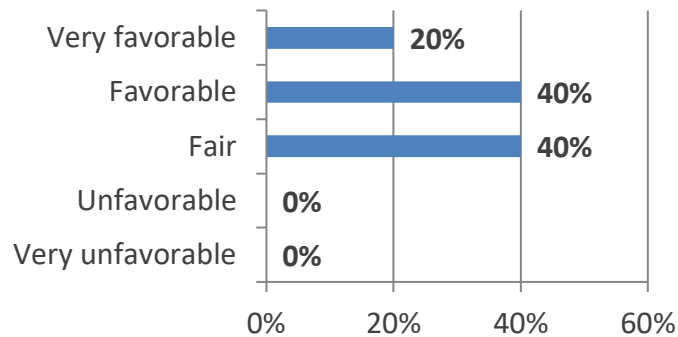


Workload: ACC/TAX Courses (II)

Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

TAX 660 Tax Planning: The Role of Taxes for Business Decisions (n=5)

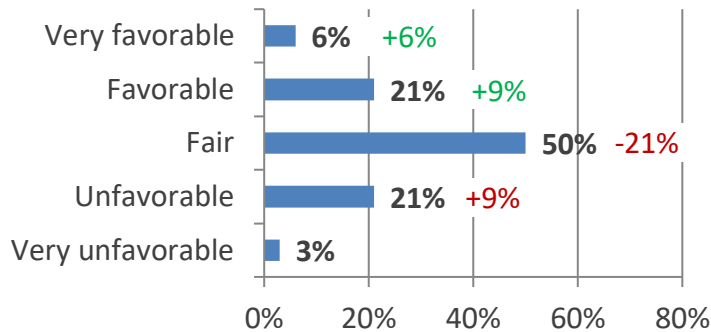


Workload: FIN Courses (I)

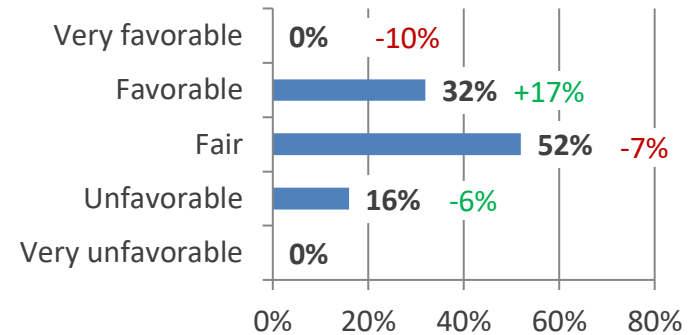
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

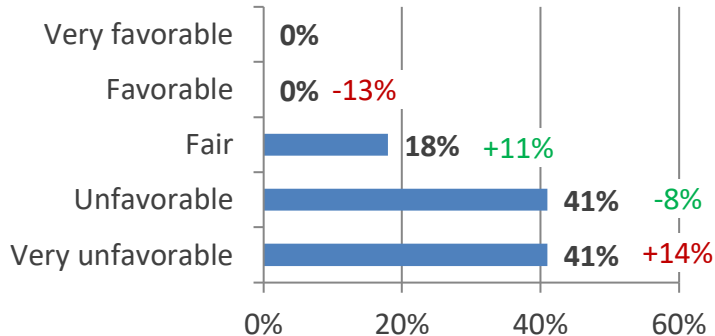
FIN 500 Investments
(n=34)



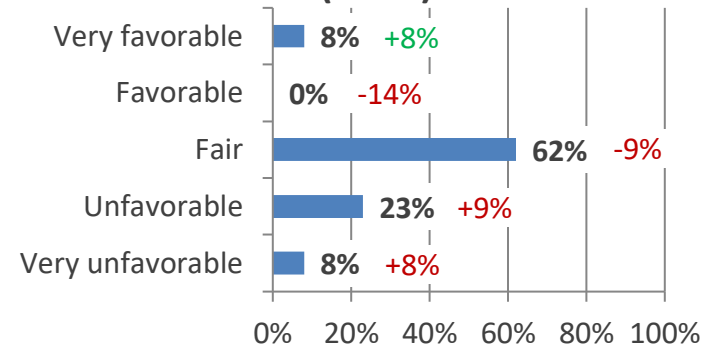
FIN 540 Corporate Finance I – Lecture
(n=25)



FIN 541 Corporate Finance I – Case Study
(n=22)



FIN 580 Derivatives I
(n=13)

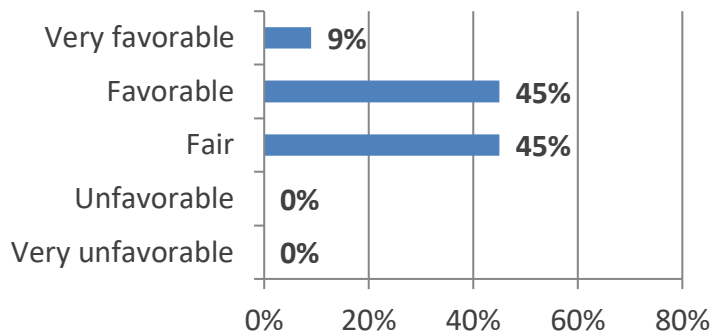


Workload: FIN Courses (II)

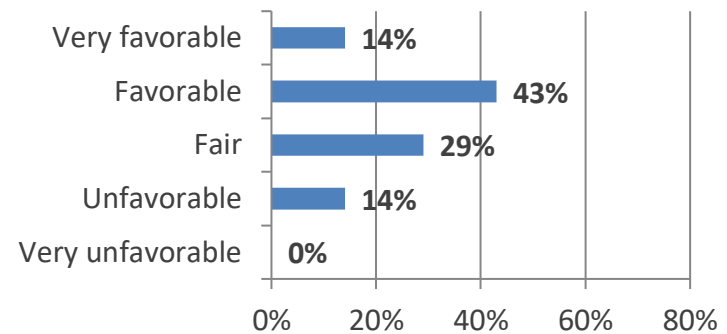
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

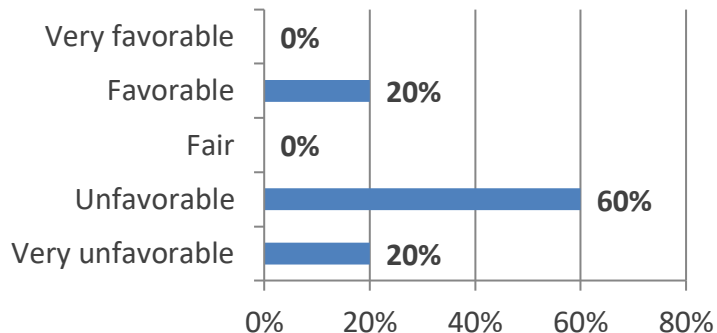
FIN 590 Financial Institutions I
(n=11)



FIN 604 Stata in Finance
(n=7)



FIN Seminar
(n=5)

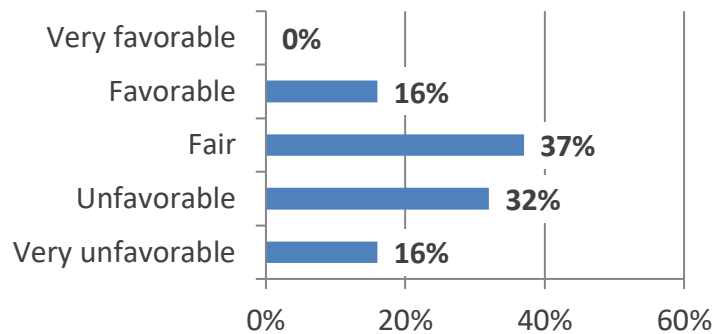


Workload: IS Courses

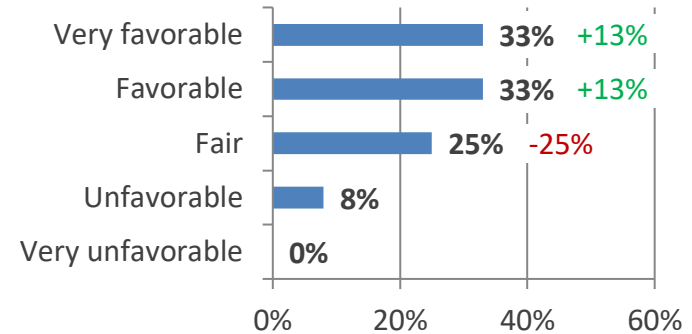
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

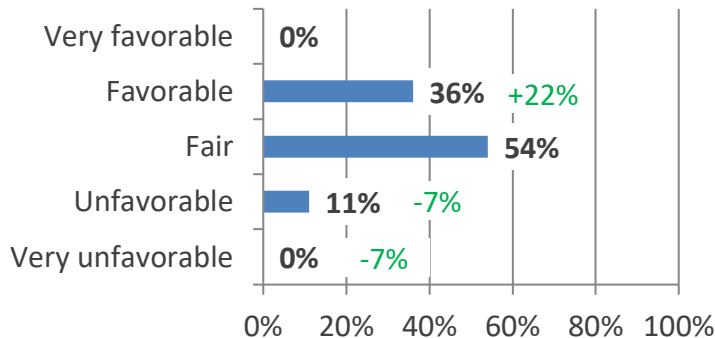
IS 515 Process Management & Analytics
(n=19)



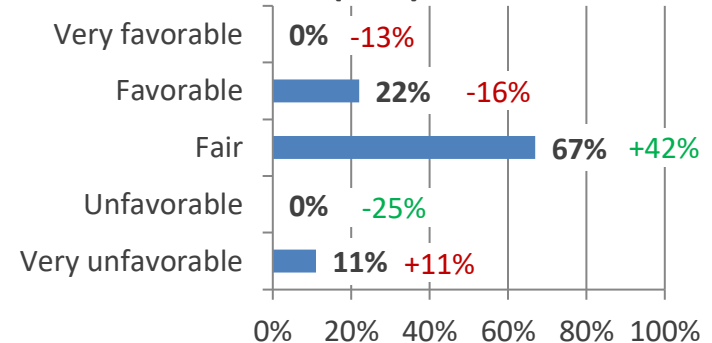
IS 540 Management of Enterprise Systems
(n=12)



IS 554 Computational Thinking
(n=28)



IS 614 Corporate Knowledge Management
(n=9)

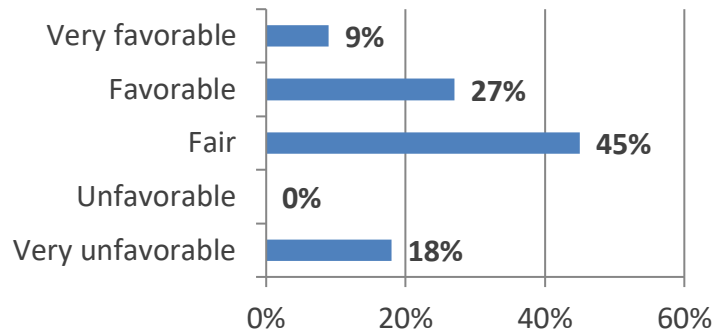


Workload: MAN Courses (I)

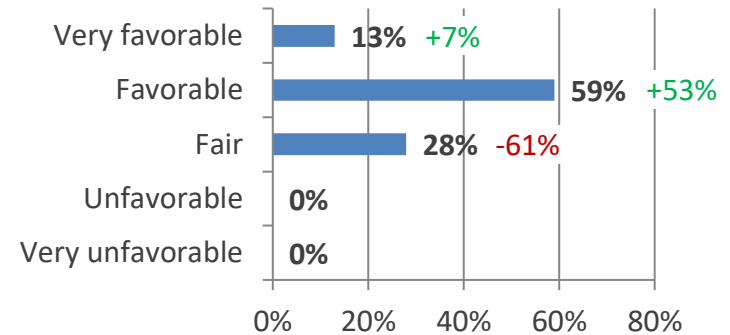
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

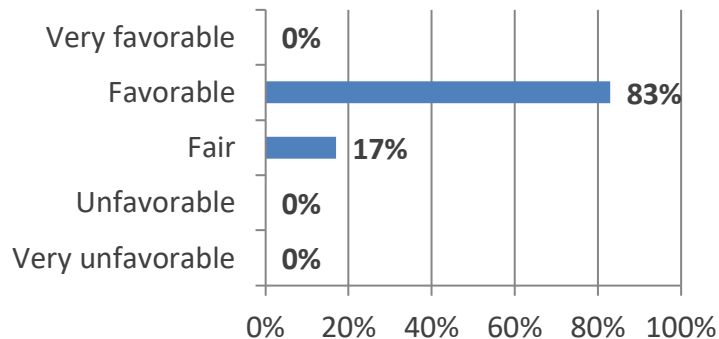
MAN 630 Introduction to Entrepreneurship (n=10)



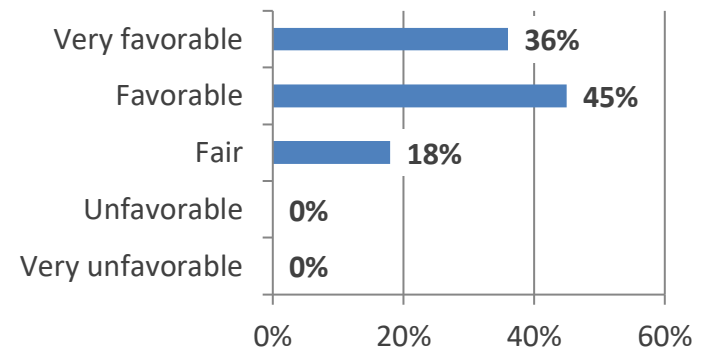
MAN 645 Leadership and Motivation (n=32)



MAN 646 HR Analytics (n=6)



MAN 649 Human Resource Recruitment and Selection (n=11)

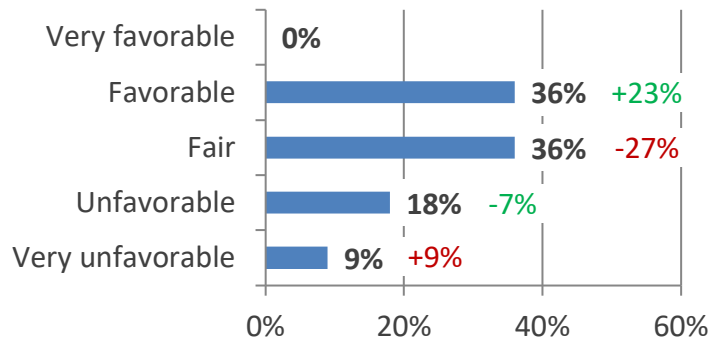


Workload: MAN Courses (II)

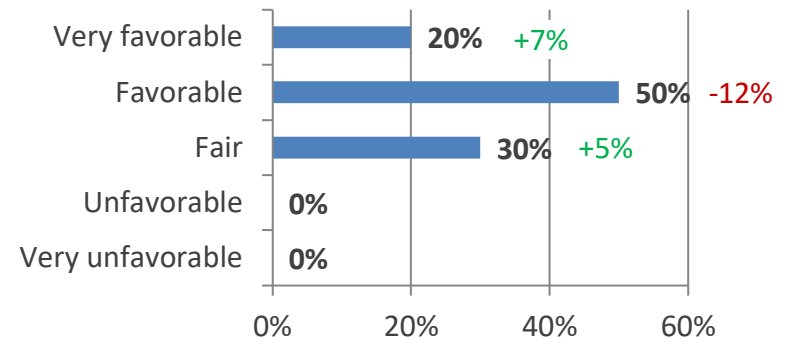
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

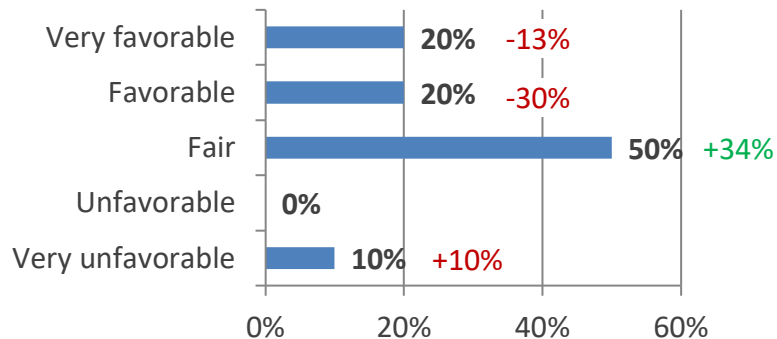
**MAN 656 Mergers & Acquisitions
(n=11)**



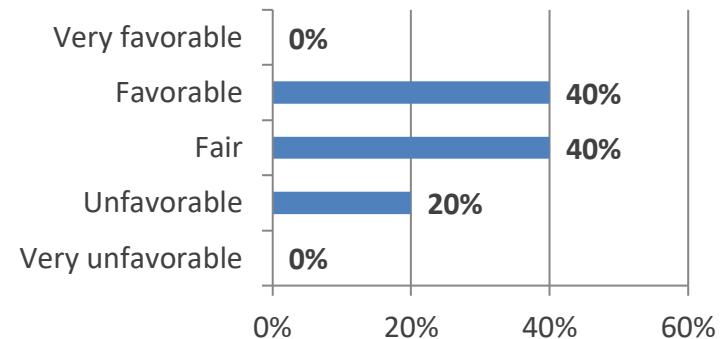
**MAN 692 Organisationstheorie
(n=10)**



**MAN 693 Strategic Intellectual Property
Management (n=11)**



**MAN Seminar
(n=10)**

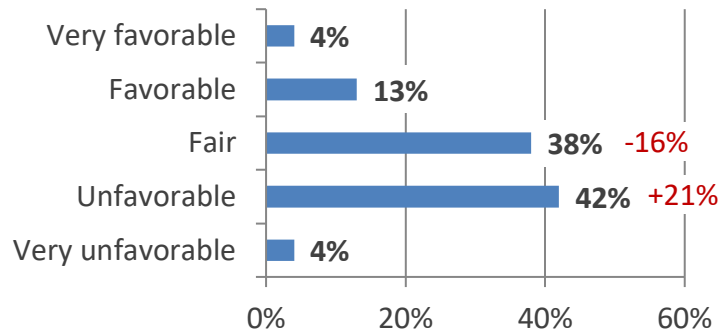


Workload: MKT Courses (I)

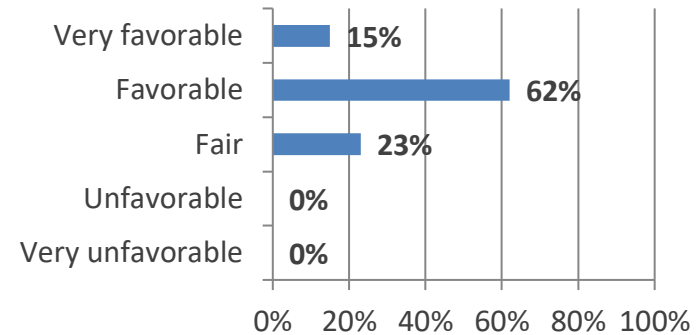
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

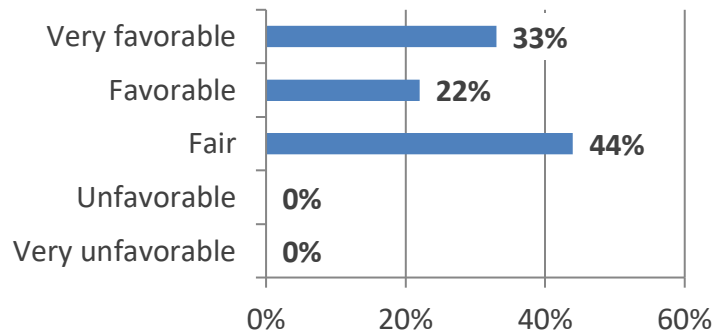
MKT 510 Price and Product Management (n=24)



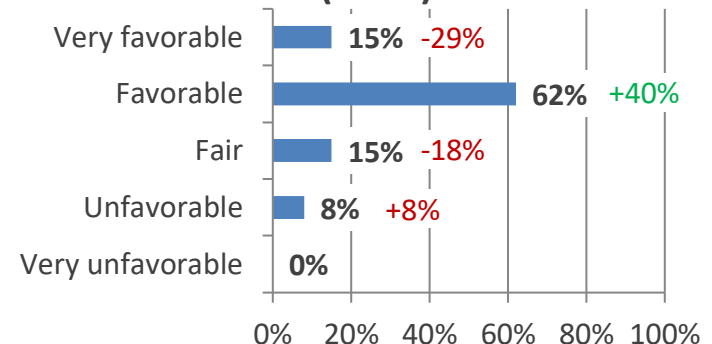
MKT 561 Service Business Model Innovations (n=13)



MKT 580 Digital Marketing Strategy (n=9)



MKT 612 Business-to-Business-Marketing (n=13)

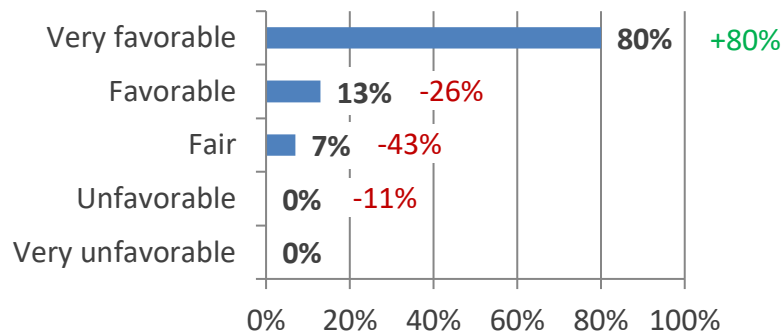


Workload: MKT Courses (II)

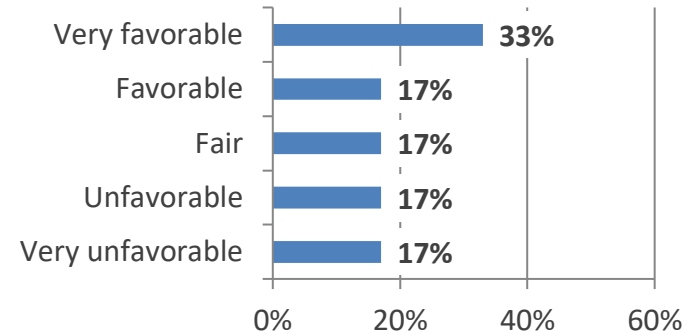
Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

**MKT 613 Verhandlungsführung
(n=15)**



**MKT 623 Strategic Marketing Management
Simulation (n=6)**

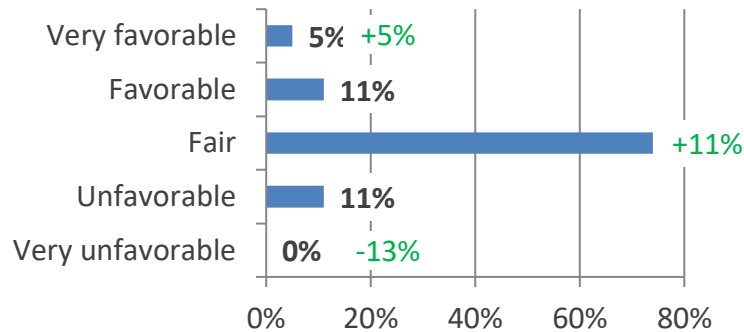


Workload: OPM Courses (I)

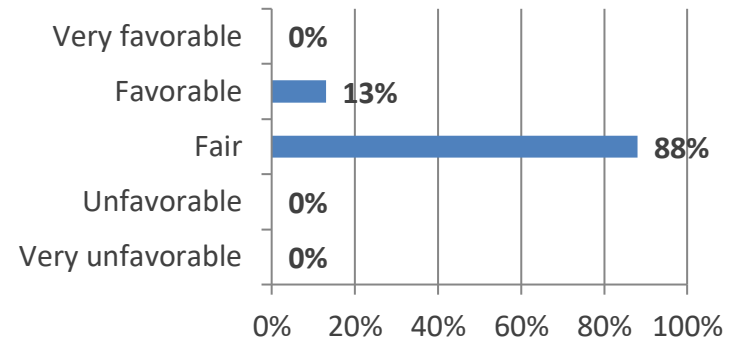
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

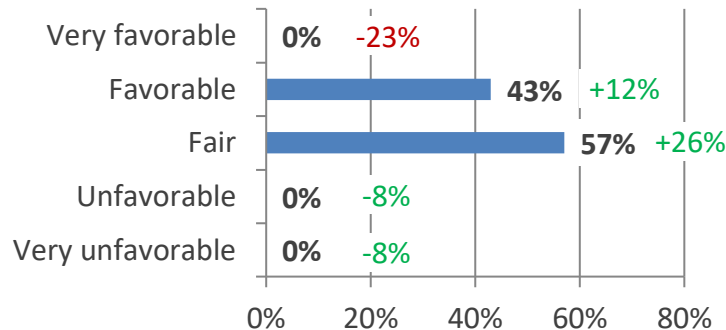
OPM 501 Logistics Management
(n=19)



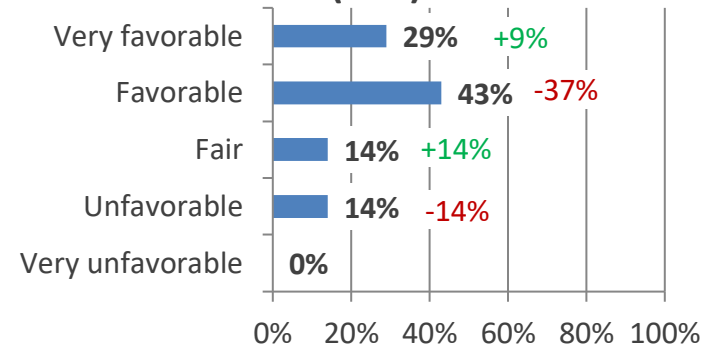
OPM 502 Inventory Management
(n=8)



OPM 504 Transportation II – Aviation
(n=7)



OPM 544 Advanced Supply Chain Planning
(n=7)

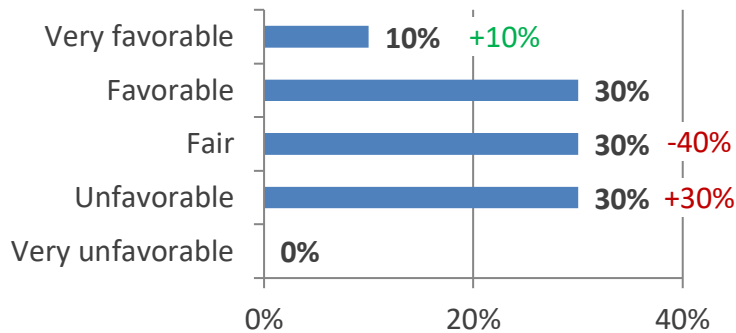


Workload: OPM Courses (II)

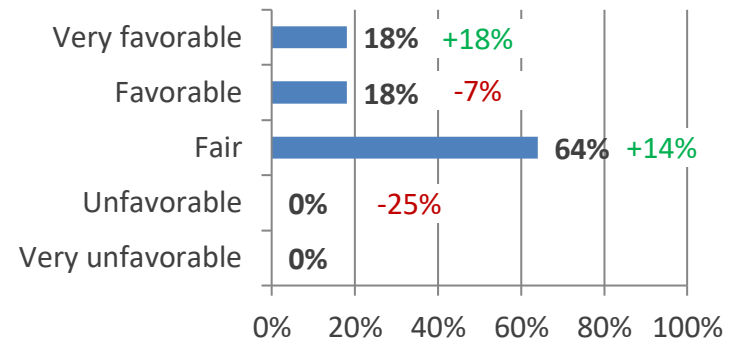
Only courses with
n ≥ 5 participants

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?

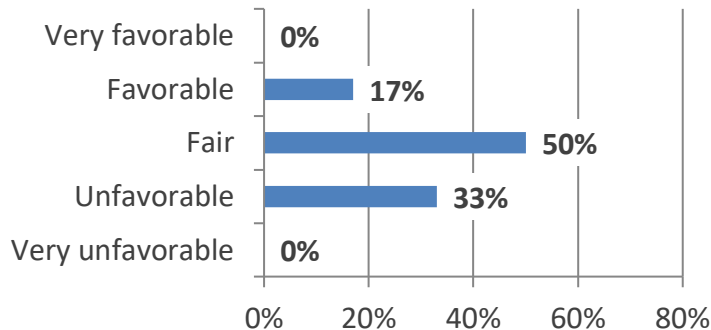
OPM 561 Production Management: Lean Approaches and Variability (n=10)



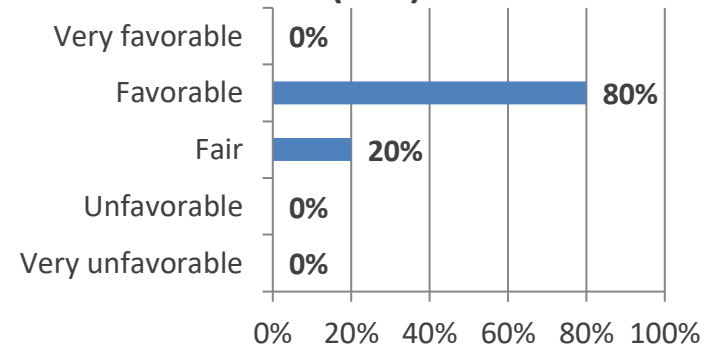
OPM 591 Strategic Procurement (n=11)



OPM 661 Business Analytics: Robust Planning in Stochastic Systems (n=6)



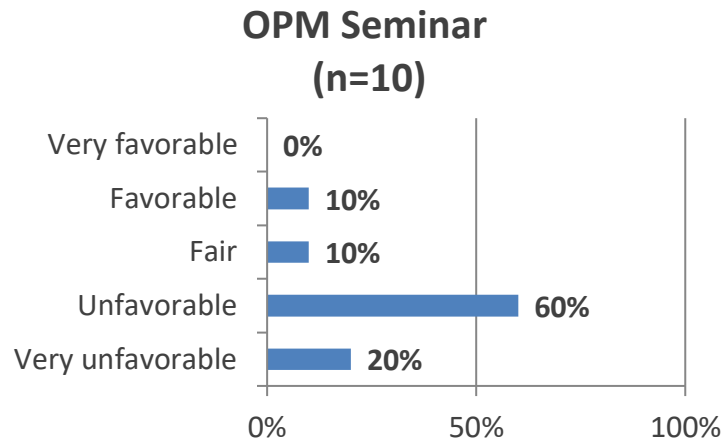
OPM 691 Supply Risk Management (n=5)



Only courses with
 $n \geq 5$ participants

Workload: OPM Courses (III)

How would you rate the effort-credits ratio of this course?



*“Very bad experience. Never experienced that so many students at the same time struggle at one particular course. The difficulty of the **lecture is not in line with what is expected in the exercises or the final exam.**”*

>15 similar statements!

*“The professor made **really good videos** to explain the topic, however the exercise sessions were much harder, sometimes it was **difficult to apply the concepts of the lecture to the exercises** given... that was **really frustrating**”*

*“Regarding the online format: The **videos provided** were **very well done**”*

*“Having an **exercise, videos and a Q&A Session**, that was more or less mandatory because additional stuff was discussed, **should account for more than 6 ECTS**”*

- Making this course **mandatory** in a Management program seems questionable/**unnecessary**, the course **should be an elective** instead
- **Applicability** and transfer to other courses in the program is **very limited**.
- Takes away precious ECTS that would be better invested otherwise.

5x

“Exam should cover more subject areas”

“Please offer more exams (e.g., in June during FSS)”

“The resit exam was a lot more difficult than the main exam”

2x

“Unfair exam as part B makes up for 50% of the grade. More independent subtasks would be fair ...”

Comments: Decision Analysis (I)

"The Professor is sometimes harsh when answering questions, which can discourage students to do so. The exam was also by far more difficult and time consuming than all prior exams."

"The exam was very hard. The grading and exam review were not transparent."

"I really liked the contents of the course"

"Very fair teacher but she got annoyed if students didn't participate as she wanted"

"Why is it a core course?"

"A group project should contribute x% of the final grade"

*"Prof. Sonntag has a **very structured approach of teaching** I really like. Although the exam was much harder then in the last semester."*

"Exams are tougher than lectures and exercises"

"course was very well structured and with many examples; however, content wise there was overlap with other courses"

“R or STATA should definitely be treated more”

“Very interesting.”

“Rather useful for people who are going to focus on finance”

“Lecturer was very demotivated, however, the exam was very fair and you could easily prepare for it”

“Course I was most pleasantly surprised with. The content was interesting and it felt like something that can be useful not only in academia but also in other aspects.”

There were a lot of comments so here are the key takeaways

- New Exam Format (Live exam via Ilias) was accompanied by **severe technical issues** (Prüfungs-Ilias didn't work for 1,5 hours).
- Students felt like the **exam issues were not properly addressed/resolved** afterwards
- Exam was not comparable to prior exams, not fair that exams in earlier semesters were very close to old exams and new examination format was perceived way harder
- **Examination time was very short** since all parts of the course were covered in the exam
- But also, **lots of positive feedback for the teaching style** of Prof. Vomberg
- Course was perceived very **helpful as preparation for the master thesis**

“Live online exam format via Ilias was suboptimal - did more harm than good compared to standard download/ upload approach”

“group project x% of the final grade”

“Prof. Vomberg is doing a great job but needs some practice with exams on Ilias.”

“Friendly but unstructured professor. More exercises required”

“Prof. Vomberg did a great job!”

“IT failed in the exam.”

“Very much disliked the exam format and didn't feel prepared enough through the lecture and exercises. Also, communication during the exam (1st) was really not well done”

“Technical circumstances killed the Focus and performance. To step back is not easy if the second dates are already planned... this problem was ignored during grading.”

Comments: Empirical Methods (II)

“very good and clear structure”

*“Very nice teacher.
Always trying to make it interesting”*

“The professor was nice”

“Both sits of the exam were a technical disaster; Professor was nice, but the entire exam procedure was messy”

“Really good teacher”

“Problems during live exam were terrible as well as the MC Questions”

“The exam was a disaster due to the ilias server crashing and there was very little understanding from the professor and his team which was disappointing”

“The exam time was too short”

“terrible exam format”

“Exam was not comparable to prior exams, not fair that exams in earlier semesters were very close to old exams and new examination format was way harder”

“Chaotic exam”

“was it really necessary to start with online live exams in the last 100% online semester? The exam was a catastrophe especially when it came to the online live format which didn't work. Besides the exam deviated completely from previous exams”

“Very well prepared and Student-oriented Professor (Prof. Vomberg)”

“Really liked the professor”

“Exam setting (Online-live exam) was very unfavorable (Prüfungs-Ilias didn't work for 1,5 hours)”

“Definitely helpful for the thesis, but the exam was extremely unfair. have been represented with tasks that we have never faced/even seen before neither in Tutorials nor old exams.”

“Super hard final exam, asking a full paper of each part of the course :))”

“Best Core Course”

“Great repetition from bachelor courses, really helpful as preparation for the master thesis”

“Prof. Dr. Vomberg did a great job teaching the content and was always very nice to the students”

“Exam was a catastrophe. Absolutely embarrassing for the Prof. We had a retake because of technical problems on the first date. Then, on the second date, again technical difficulties. And we did not hear anything from him to this day”

“Important topic, good that it is being taught.”

*“Is **too easy**. Students that had a 1.0 or 1.3 did not get accepted to the Seminar which is an absolute shame.”*

*“Good introduction to CSR. Preferred the **recorded online sessions**”*

“Very friendly professor”

*„more **guest lectures**“*

*“The course was interesting, however there was **no clear structure of the course**”*

*“interesting and **fun class**, super nice chair”*

*“**Guest lectures** were great, but the quality of those should be more consistent (i.e., Engelhorn just gave a rather general company presentation, Allianz canceled at short notice).”*

“Build on lecturer’s beliefs, no academic and empirical merit. She was teaching us her politics”

*“nice; this **should remain a core course**”*

*“Not cool to use **old lecture videos** with references to guest lectures that never happened in our semester.”*

*“Unfortunately, **only prerecorded videos** were provided.”*

*“Overall, **very satisfied** course. Professor is very friendly and good. Good knowledge about social responsibility”*

*“Great course! **Relevant content** and fair exam”*

*“This course is a form of indoctrination and leaves **no room for discussions** or opposing views. If you disagree with the proposed world view of the professor your grades in the exam will suffer. Learn everything by heart and try not to think critically.”*

All comments regarding non-core courses can be found in the backup!

IT-related courses

Business Intelligence

AI, Machine Learning

(Practical) **Data Science**

Data Analytics, Data Visualization

Finance and Accounting courses

Private equity

M&A Tax / Financial Services Tax

Controlling Courses (Budget Planning,
Performance Measurement, etc.)

Financial modeling / practical finance (e.g.,
application in excel or python)

Real Estate Finance

Management and Marketing courses

Specific MKT e.g. food, non-food, IT

Project management

SME/ family-company management

More **sustainability courses** and/or more spaces

Strategic Management

Industry Specific Lectures (FMCG, Real Estate,
Insurance, Commodities...)

Other courses

Introduction to Python, R, SAP etc.

Cryptocurrencies

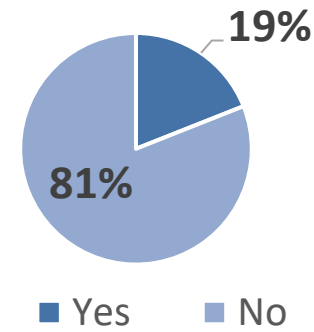
(advanced) Powerpoint & Excel courses

Business Psychology

3. SEMINAR THESIS

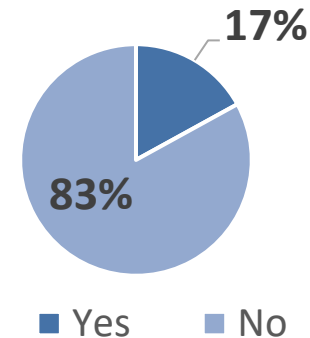
Have you applied for a seminar thesis this semester?

Participants: n = 212



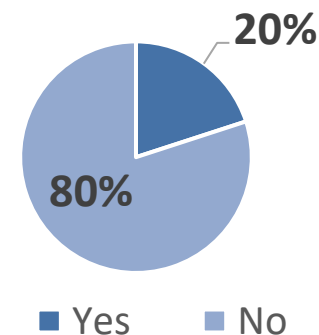
Have you started/completed a seminar thesis this semester?

Participants: n = 212



Have you applied for a seminar thesis and been rejected?

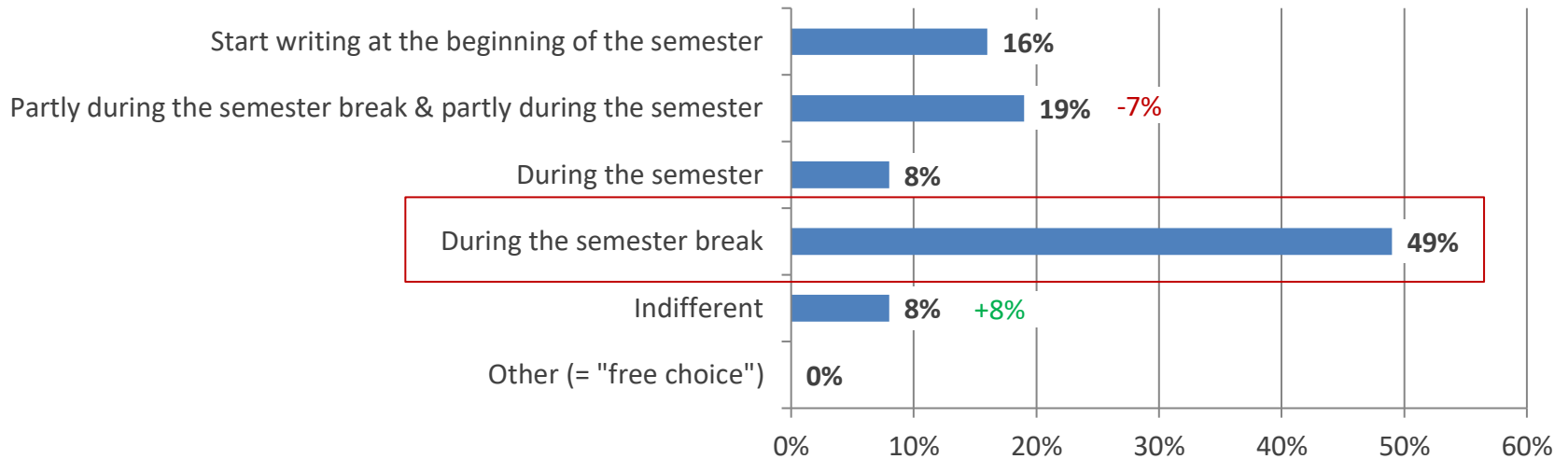
Participants: n = 41



Remark:
50 % (k = 4) of rejections from the Chair of Strategic and International Management (Prof. Brauer)

When would you prefer to write/have written your seminar thesis?

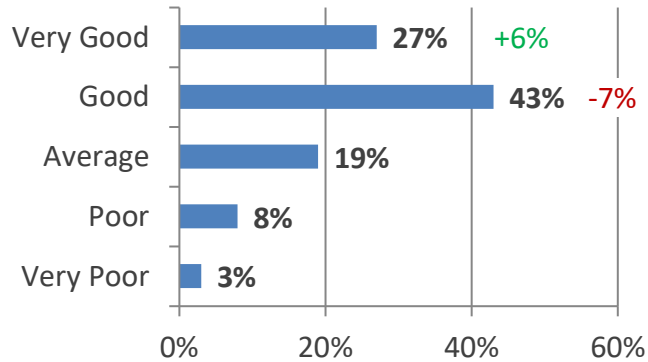
Participants: n = 37



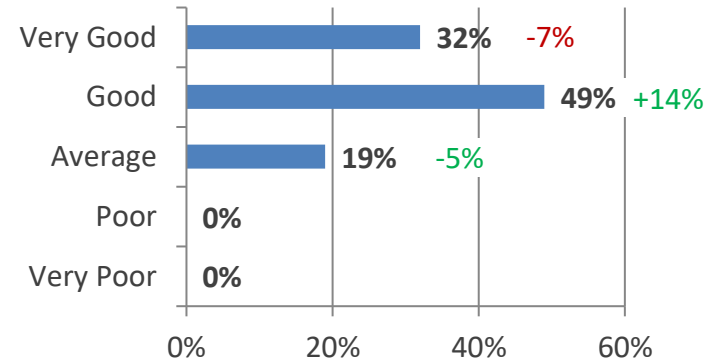
Seminar Thesis: Quality Rating (I)

How would you rate...

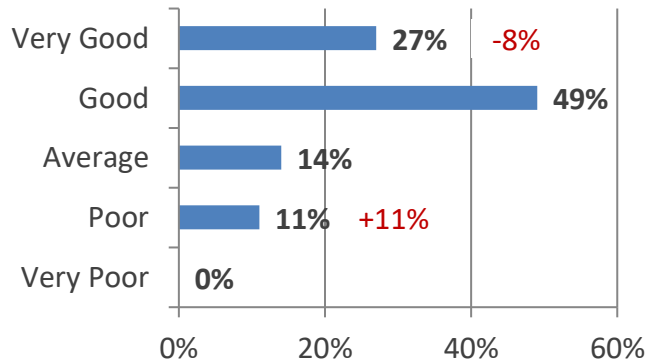
...the overall provision of information before deciding on a chair?



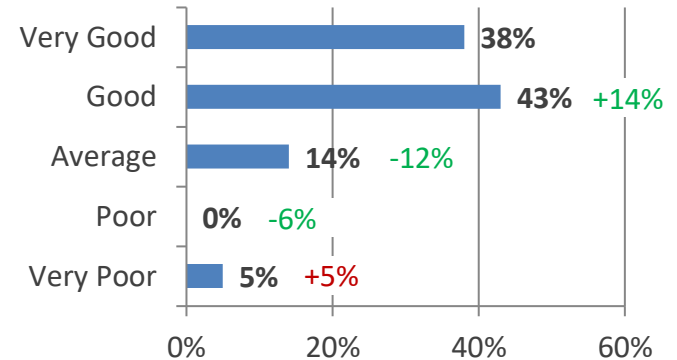
...the variety of topics?



...the provision of information by the chair before deciding on a topic?



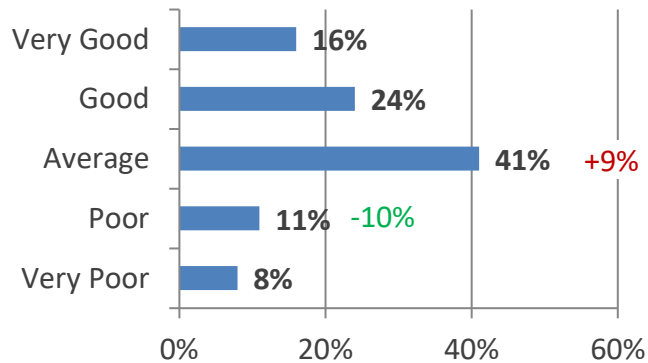
...the process by which the topics were assigned?



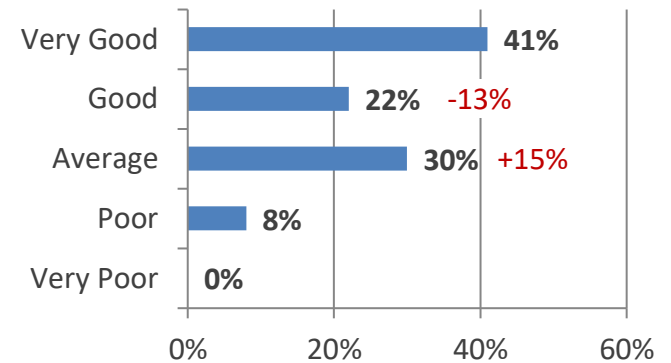
Seminar Thesis: Quality Rating (II)

How would you rate...

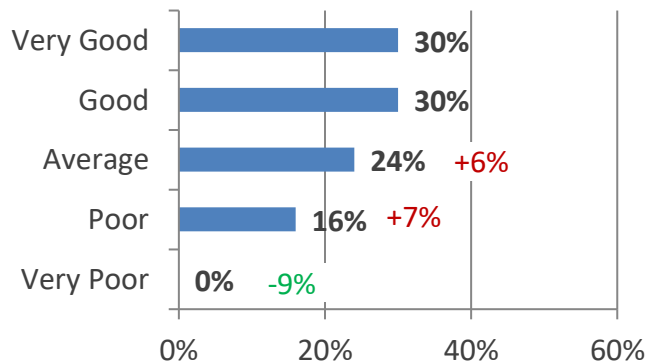
...the opportunity to influence your topic?



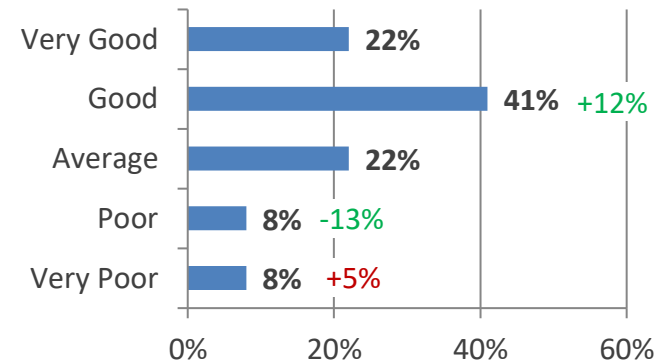
...the formal support by the chair?



...the content-related support by the chair?

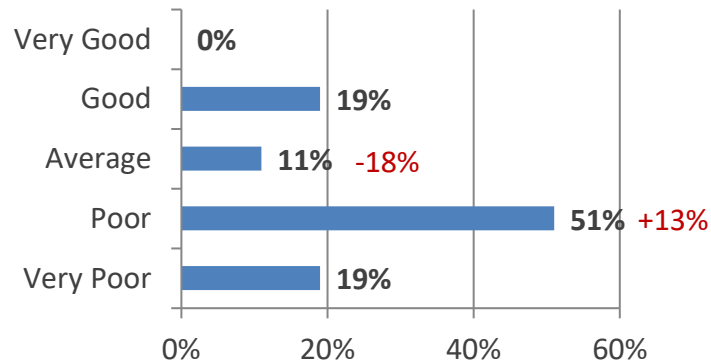


...the time frame of the seminar thesis?

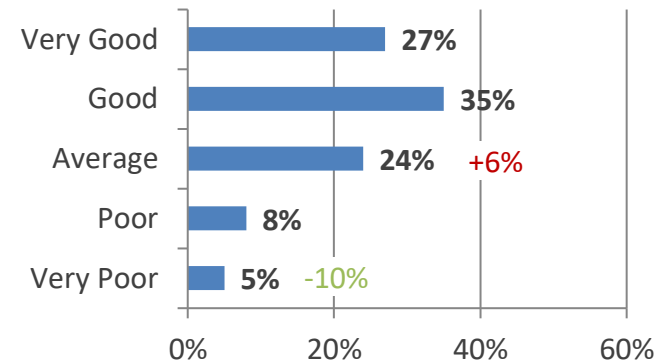


How would you rate...

...the workload required to complete the seminar?



...the provision of feedback after the seminar thesis?



Participants: n = 37

“Very bad credit-effort ratio for the seminar thesis which only allows to take the seminar thesis during the semester breaks as otherwise one could not manage the workload driven by the empirical nature of the work (especially in finance). However, thus the seminar thesis ruins the classic internship slots one has during the master”

*“Would be better to be able to choose **when** to write it.”*

“It's a huge workload if you want to submit a good paper, not even close to 6 ECTS.”

“It's takes by far too much effort for only 6 credits”

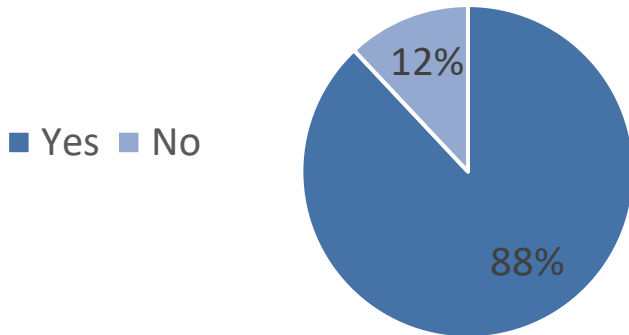
“It takes way too much effort for 6 ECTS.”

*“It's great that the seminar in the OPM area is assigned **before the summer** break, but it would be even better if other areas would do that as well to have the chance to apply for them as well. I liked having the opportunity to write it during the summer break, but summertime is internship time...”*

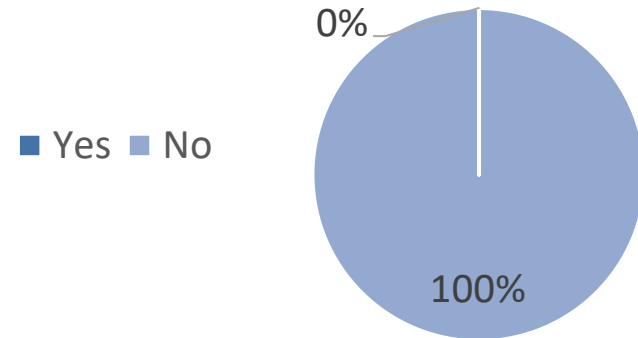
4. MASTER THESIS

Master Survey 2021: Master Thesis

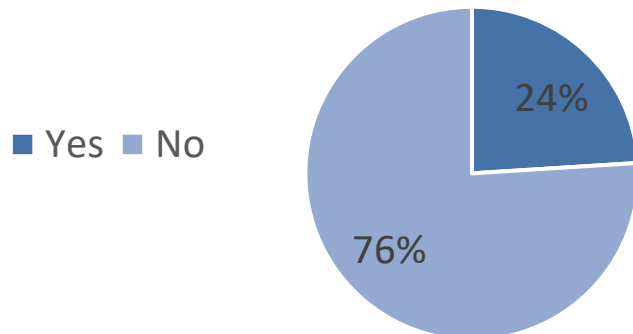
Is/was it the chair of your first choice?



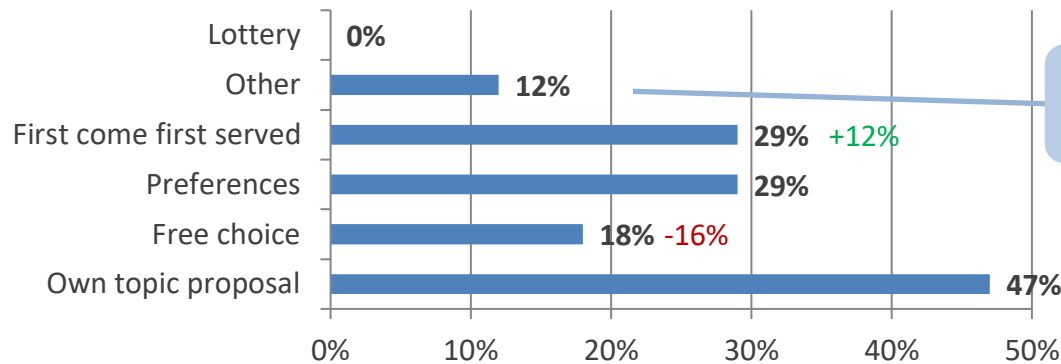
Did you write your Master's thesis in cooperation with a company?



Does it differ from the chair of your seminar thesis?

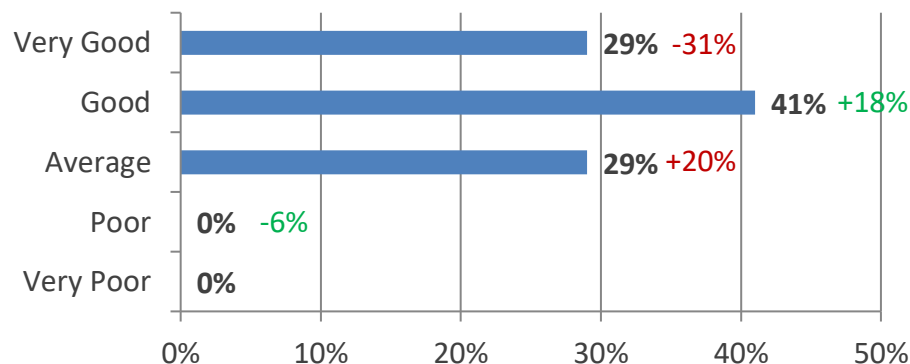


What system of assigning the topics did the chair use?



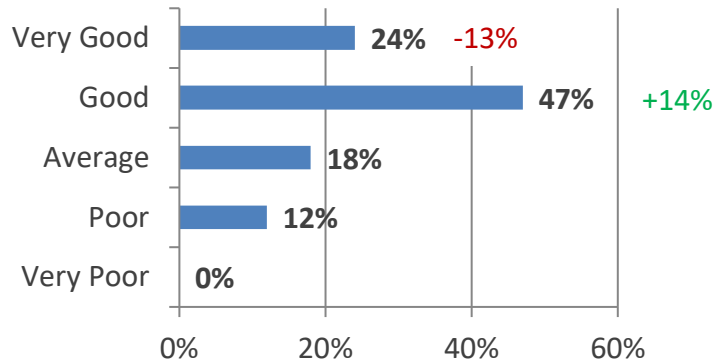
Based on preferred research area / discussion with prof

How would you rate the process by which the topics were assigned?

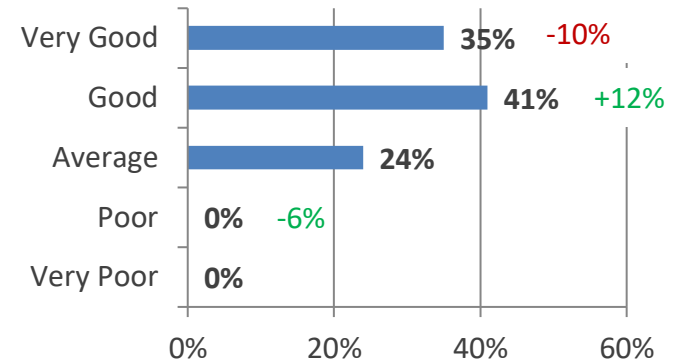


How would you rate...

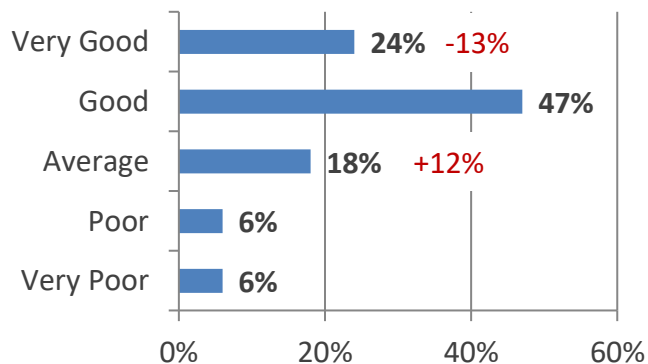
...the overall provision of information before deciding on a chair?



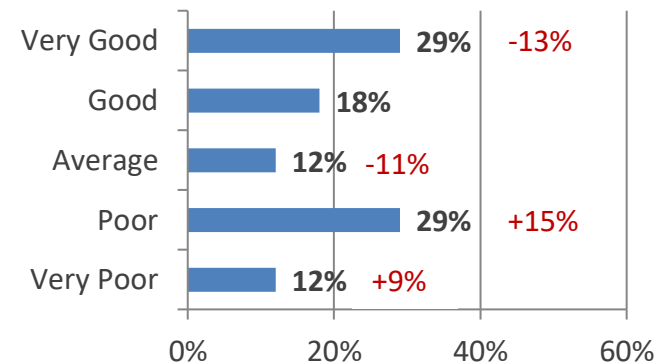
...the variety of topics?



...the provision of information by the chair before deciding on a topic?

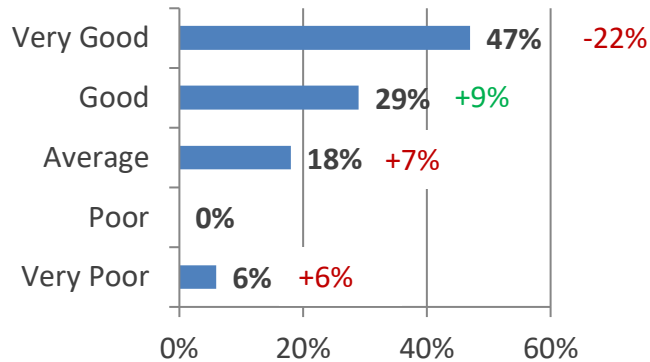


...the time frame of the Master's thesis?

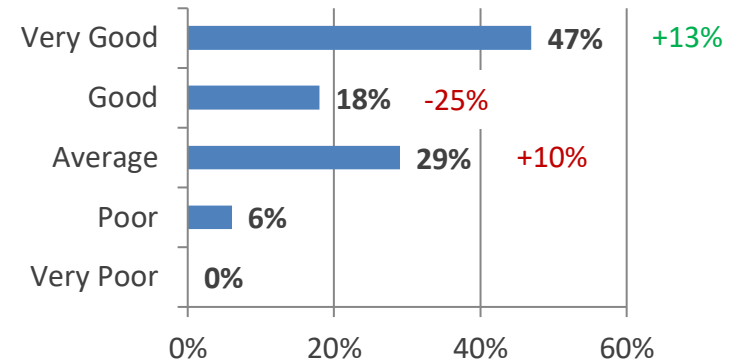


How would you rate...

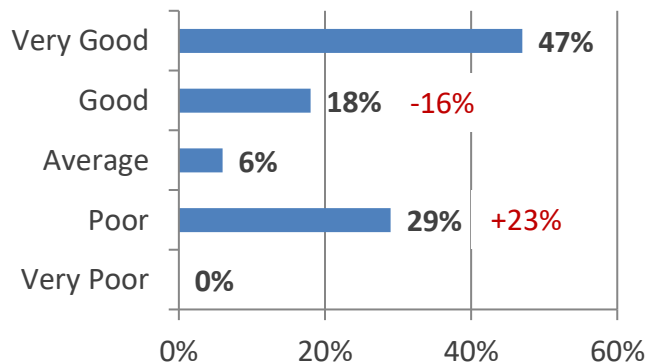
...the opportunity to influence your topic?



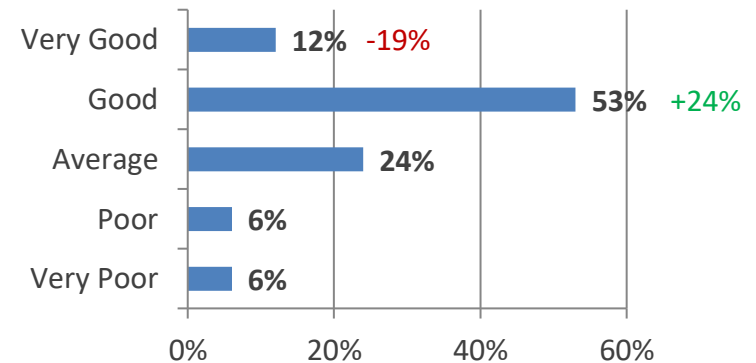
...the formal support by the chair?



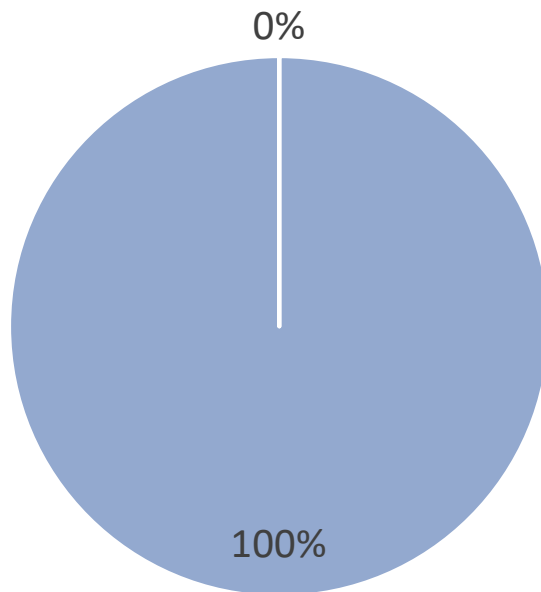
...the content-related support by the chair?



...the provision of feedback after the Master's thesis?

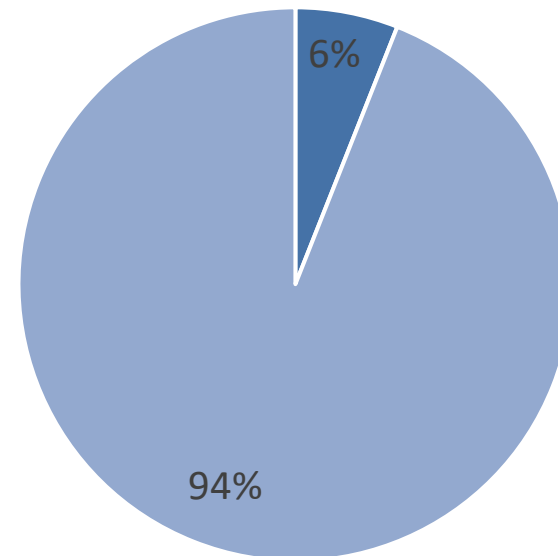


Did you defend your Master's thesis?



■ Yes ■ No

Would you have preferred to defend your thesis?

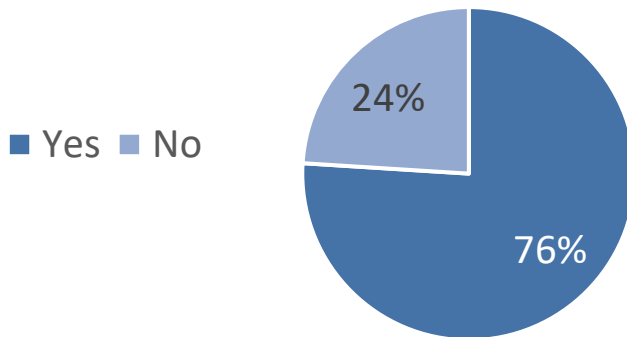


■ Yes ■ No

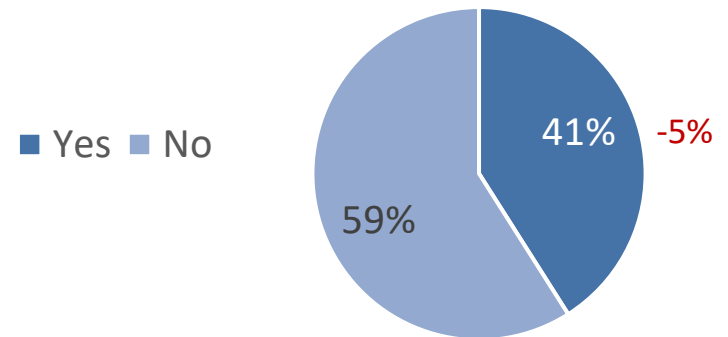
Participants: n=17

Did you feel well prepared for your Master's thesis by ...

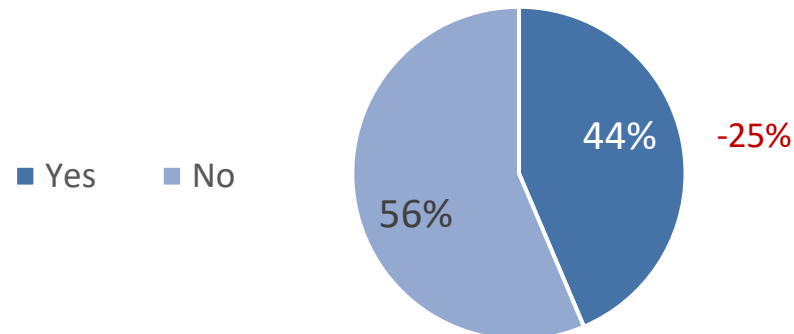
(a) prior research (bachelor thesis, seminar paper)



(b) courses offered during your studies



Do you suppose that the topic of your master thesis helps your professional career?



*“Again, if it's your first time writing a master thesis, it's a **huge amount of workload** to write a paper that's worth something, and not just to pass the bar.”*

*“It took **five and a half months to grade** my thesis after submission date. This should be controlled by someone as students have nobody to address their concerns other than the supervisor who is late”*

*“Not super relevant for jobs. **Could be replaced** with a mandatory internship for more career-oriented students”*

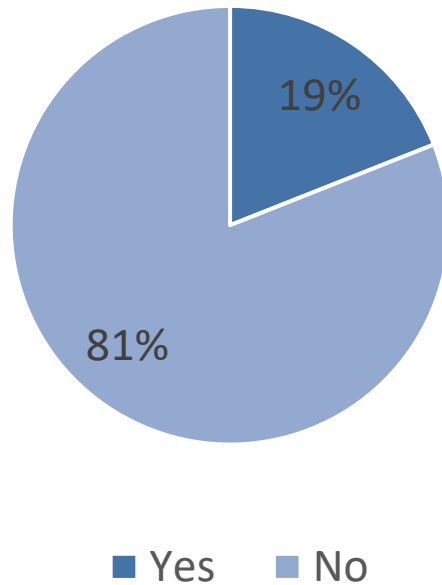
2x

*“Please get in touch with Prüfungsamt and push them towards making it possible to **extend the deadline in case of illness**. Their explanation (“equal opportunities”) is not comprehensible to me. You should not have to write your thesis with fever, etc., especially if it is possible to provide an officially certified, positive PCR test and a sick note. The other explanation (“24ECTS equals only 6h per day, you can compensate that yourself”) feels very disrespectful. This really compromised my study experiences at Mannheim”*

*“It would be way better if we could choose (like in some other unis) either to write a master thesis or to take the same amount of ECTS points as courses. Not everyone is going to proceed to PhD, and approx. 4 classes can be infinitely more useful than one **useless master thesis** that no one will ever read anyway.”*

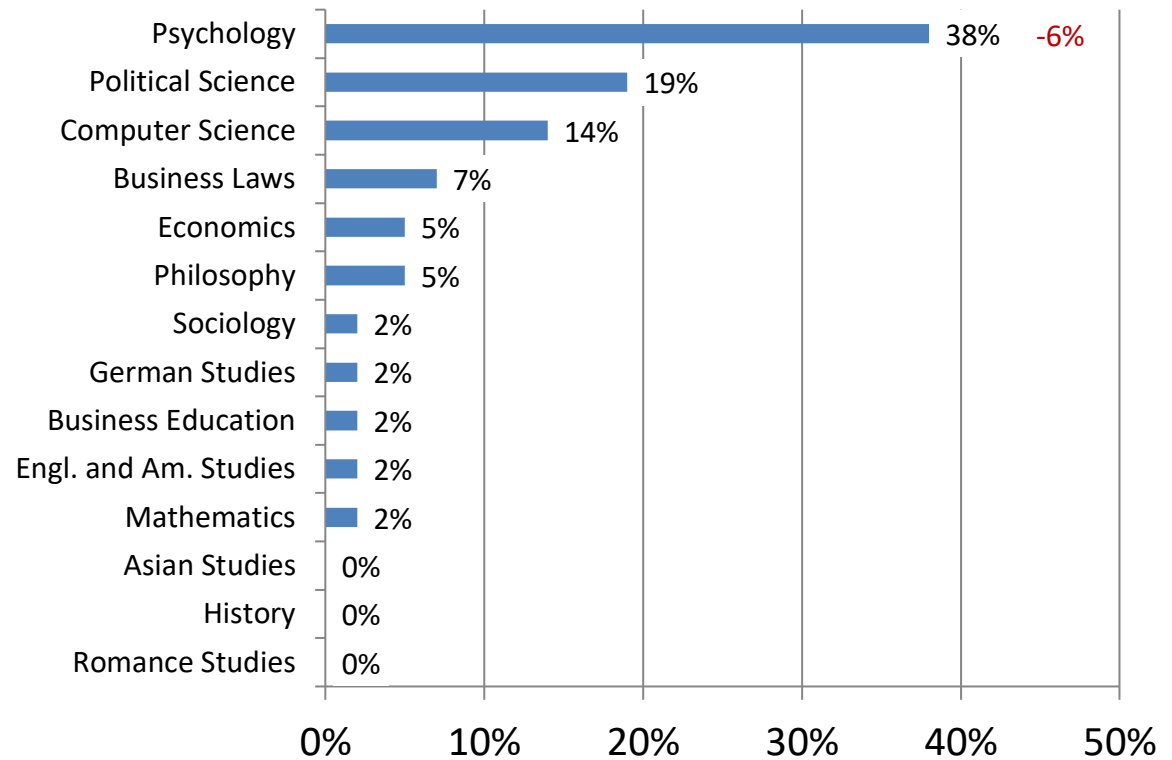
5. ELECTIVES

Are you taking an elective?



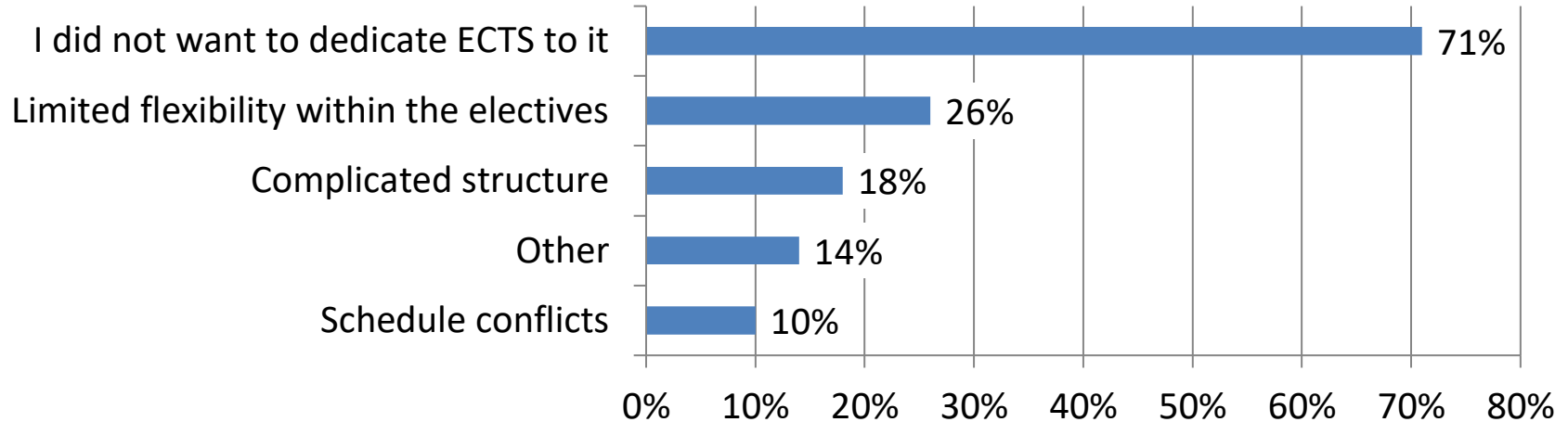
Participants: n = 212

If yes, which one?



Participants: n = 45

If no, why not? (multiple answers possible)



Participants: n = 173

Other:

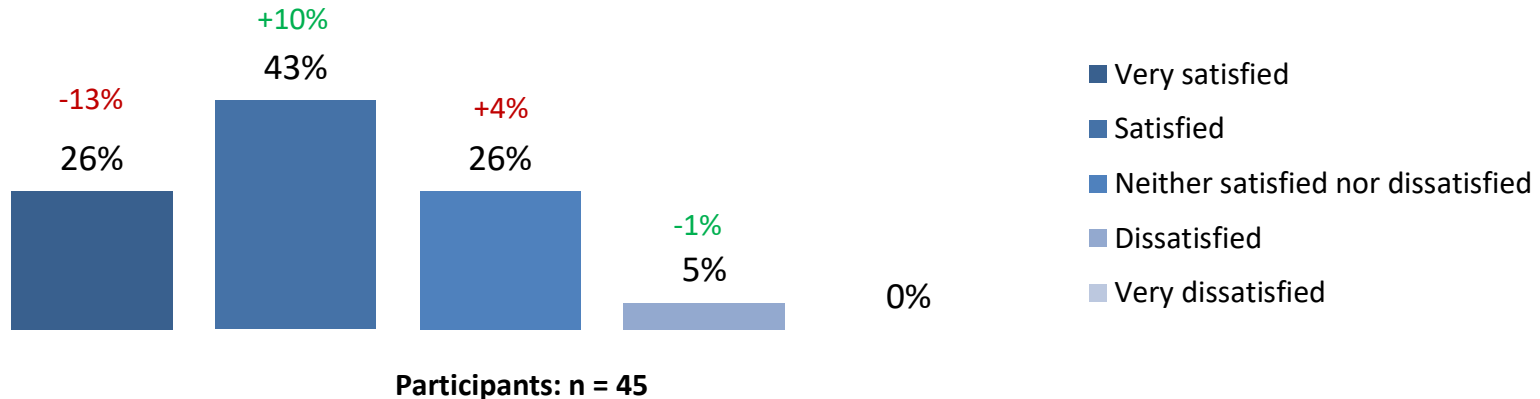
*“Math elective: To meet the minimum requirement, you must listen to two courses (i.e., 18-20 ECTS). Blocking 1/6 of the MSc program with an elective is **too committal**”*

*“Electives are mostly **in German.**”*

*“I was interested in practical IT, but the offered courses are **too time consuming and difficult** compared to other MMM courses with similar ECTS”*

*“There are **already so many interesting courses within the MMM**”*

Overall, how satisfied are you with your elective?



Comments:

"It's quite a lot of effort (weekly submissions) and the organization of the course is a bit difficult"

"One elective module is the same effort as three business modules but its super exciting and you learn so much"

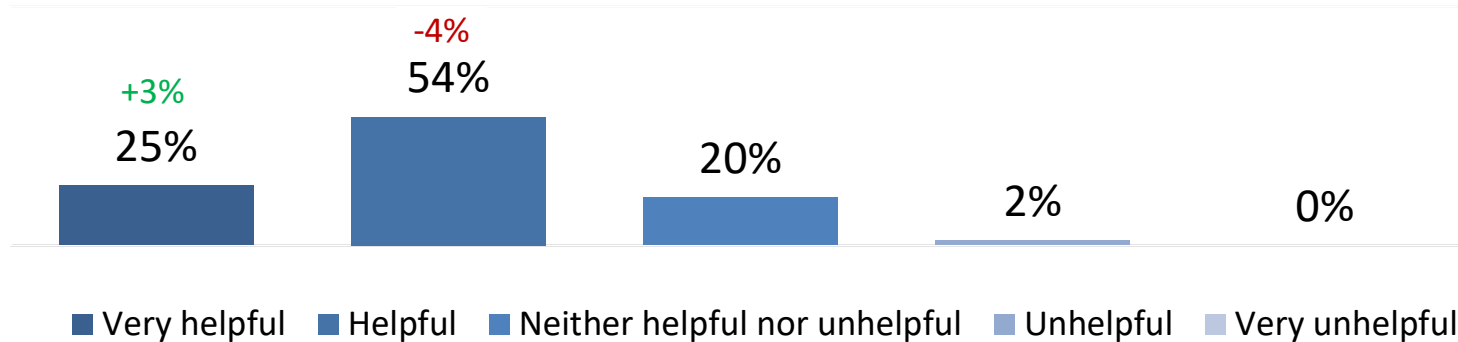
"Very interesting and especially favorable in the online setting. I imagine the exams to be very study intensive when written on-site, because it would be a lot to learn by heart"

Unfortunately, only 8 students answered questions in this section, which makes it impossible to obtain relevant results. We will try our best to get more participants next semester!

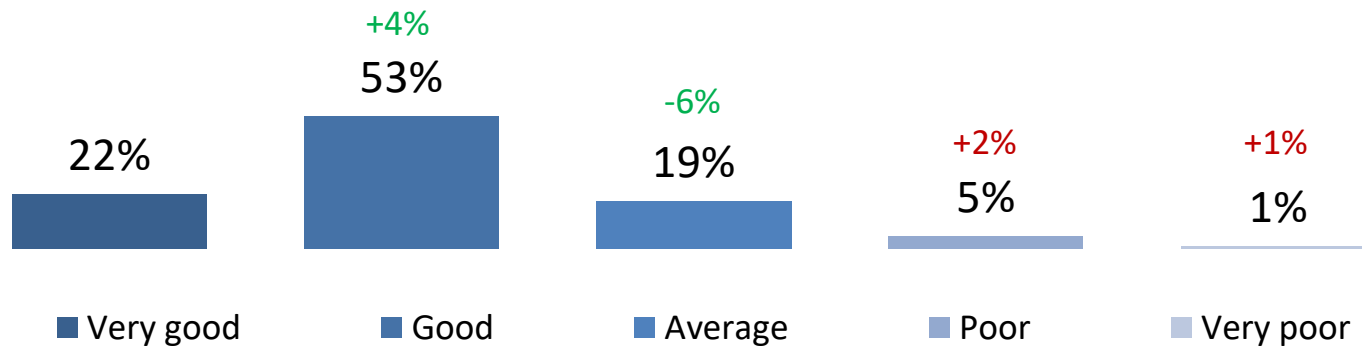
6. SEMESTER ABROAD

7. IMPRESSION OF THE FS BWL

How would you rate the Fachschaft BWL's contribution to your study-experience?



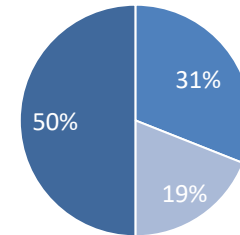
How would you rate the provision of information about the Fachschaft BWL's activities?



Participants: n = 220

Alternative Exam Formats

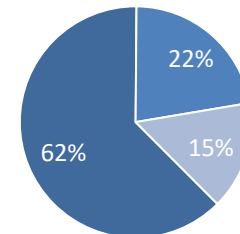
The student council (Fachschaft BWL) should advocate for more diverse forms of assessment during the semester to lower the weight of final exams (e.g., Case Studies, Presentations, Midterms, etc.).?



■ Yes ■ Indifferent ■ No

Open Book Exams

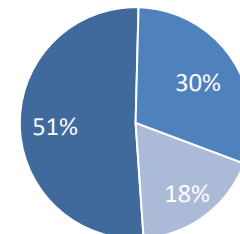
The student council (Fachschaft BWL) should advocate for the preservation of open-book exams (remote or in presence) after Covid.



■ Yes ■ Indifferent ■ No

5 min Break during Lecture

The student council (Fachschaft BWL) should advocate for a 5-minute break during lectures to ask questions and keep up concentration.



■ Yes ■ Indifferent ■ No

How could the Fachschaft improve its current services or what could it offer additionally?

General Feedback

*“The **website needs an update**, a lot of links are dead, and information is outdated”*

“These surveys are already great.”

*“**Giving more insights** how the Fachschaft is influencing the lectures, their content or the structure”*

*“**Better/ more organized provision of information.** If you don’t attend every single Fachschaf’s meeting you have to dig through several WhatsApp groups to keep track about important information. In general WhatsApp isn’t a good medium to communicate to a big group of people since it’s capacity restricted and information got lost quickly due to spamming.”*

“There is very little that Fachschaft BWL offers to Master's students, **especially international** ones. They are mostly focused on bachelor's social life. Schneckenhofs are good though.”

*“**Campus tour** was bad and uninteresting”*

*“**BRING BACK THE SCHNECKENHOF**”*

2x

How could the Fachschaft improve its current services or what could it offer additionally?

Alternative Exam Formats and Open Book

*“More **group projects and midterms**, a section on the website dedicated to the choice of the courses. A 200+ pages pdf is of no utility.”*

*“Do **not advocate too much on mid terms and cases**. If that takes over too much, yes the pressure at end term lessens but ultimately raises workload during semester too much! I think we all still like to have some student life”*

“Stop online exams!! People cheat!!!”

“Definitely contribute to setting online exams after Covid. The learning effect of open-book exams is much higher!”

*“Please **advocate for open book!** It changed soo much for me, I learn much better now, remember more and feel overall like I am taking more from the course. Without open book its sometimes just pressure-learning it into the brain and then vomit out on the exam and never retain anything”*

*“Keep the **open book exams!** Always record lectures and exercises --> extremely helpful for the exam preparation”*

How could the Fachschaft improve its current services or what could it offer additionally?

Miscellaneous

*“Advocate for **lecture recordings post-Covid** as a complementary element to live lectures and not just a substitute. Being able to look up old lectures whenever you like is extremely powerful and alleviates scheduling stress.”*

3x

“More transparent processes for courses with restricted admission”

“Ability to take the courses online while it’s on-campus”

*“To make an **OFFICIAL** week off (study for exam gap), in the end of the semester, between the last lecture session and exams!”*

*“Provide an online folder with a collection of **former exams**”*

2x

“More Experience Reports about courses. It is often difficult to make decisions based on the Modulkatalog. Would be helpful to get some first-hand experience”

*“The information (job/internship opportunities, etc..) published sometimes are in German, quite **excluding international students**”*

“It would be nice to have the CSR exam again in the middle of the semester. Also, if block seminars are offered, why are they scheduled right before the exam period?”

BACKUP

ACC 520 IFRS Reporting and Capital Markets

“exercise classes sometimes had small mistakes that confused the students”

“Prof. Bischof and his team try very hard to explain the topics. The course is well structured, and the case study deepens the knowledge of a particular IFRS Standard.”

“Easy to follow, since Prof. Bischof explains everything in an insightful way and without any unnecessary complications.”

ACC 628 Selected Issues in IFRS Accounting

“Best Course I took in this semester!”

ACC 530 Group Accounting

“Both, Prof. Simons and Yasmin did a great job here. The course is a lot of work but it contains knowledge that is applicable in the real world. The Sessions with Merck were a bit boring to me. I would suggest grading the presentation in the case studies so people put more effort in”

“Case Study was ungraded and uncredited, it would be better to include this 25% in the grade.”

“Prof. Simons too often chooses numerical examples that are not clear to students.”

“Exam time was not fair, grading was harsh.”

CC 662 Private Equity: Due Diligence and Value Creation

“Great Course, loved the group project and Dr. Schmundt’s strong focus on PE in practice. The exam was very fair.”

“Best course of the MMM Program”

*“very nice practical approach with industry experts giving lectures.
10/10”*

ACC 670 Audit Theory

“Prof. Simons looks at the slides in the lecture and then talks about them as he thinks of them. After 90 minutes I was not able to say: These five things I learned today and understood well”

ACC Seminar

“You earn way too few credits but have to put in a lot of effort”

TAX 520 Besteuerung der Unternehmen

“helpful course with a useful case study”

“Good offer of both presence and recordings.”

“Very interesting content and a fair final exam. One can see that Prof. Dr. Spengel really cares about the students”

TAX 620 Applied Empirical Research: Methods and Practical Implementation

“Extremely useful, but time-consuming course”

“I wouldn’t call it an R beginner’s course.”

TAX 530 Taxation of Businesses and Individuals

“Lots of work due to an individual assignment of 5 pages and a 20min presentation per person as well as a final exam about around 400 pages script. However, since the content is not hard the number of pages is suitable.”

TAX 660 Tax Planning: The Role of Taxes for Business Decisions

“Easy course, especially suitable for students without a tax background.”

FIN 500 Investments

"Very nice"

"well structured"

"it's truly the foundation of the finance course"

"Prof. Theissen is very fair, states his expectations and does not surprise the students in the exam if they are well prepared. Can is also very helpful and supportive"

"Pretty strict (not very favorable) grading."

"The contents where great but the teaching style could be a bit more varied"

FIN 540 Corporate Finance I - Lecture

"The slides could need an update"

"Very insightful course. Teaches you all important basics regarding valuation"

"Unfortunately, the course offers no tutorial, however it's a very interesting lecture"

"It was hard to prepare for the exam, since the learning goals were not clear to me."

FIN 541 Corporate Finance I - Case Study

"High effort necessary, grading often not very transparent, however, in the end anyone who took the effort got a good grade nevertheless"

"Good teacher. Strict, but fair. Lots of work."

"I've never learned as much within one single course."

"The class discussions are fun"

"I learned a lot but it was also stressful. The discussion groups were too big"

FIN 580 Derivatives I

“Organizational mess. Last lecture only one week before the exam, Prior exams were only uploaded a few days before the exam. The exam had pretty little in common with the exercises or lectures”

“The exam should be more closely relates to what is taught in lectures.”

“There was a 70 points = 70 minutes exam for a 60-minute preparation time. Worst exam experience of my life. No chance to finish the exam in time”.

“The course is about the general introduction and pricing models of basic derivatives”

“The online exam format (Word only) was not suited at all. Inserting formulas within the given time was not manageable and unfair. I don't understand why the chair was so inflexible, with regard to the allowance of different kinds of solutions (i.e., handwritten exam with upload of a scan etc.)”

“Unfortunately, the exam format was not adapted well to the online setting. Calculating clunky formulas in a word document is definitely not the way to go. Grading compensates this well, however.”

“Good offer of presence and recorded.”

FIN 590 Financial Institutions I

“During the course it was mostly theory but one third of the exam was a calculation task that had little to do with what we did in the course.”

“Good content, and good professor!”

“Very interesting course”

FIN 604 Stata in Finance

“Great introduction”

“was a good introduction”

FIN 606 FinTech

“An absolute highlight of my master studies. Big recommendation. Great Lecturer. Super interesting content”

FIN 630 Corporate Governance

“Quite unstructured”

FIN Seminar

“way too heavy workload and very little guidance”

IS 515 Process Management & Analytics

“Really interesting and interactive course! It was quite a bit of work to do both the case study and preparing the contents for the exam.”

“Interesting course, even if it sometimes got a bit too theoretical (without necessity).”

“The workload was extremely high and there was not much support during the case study.”

“A lot of work (especially case study) but interesting topic and motivated lecturers”

“This course took way too much effort! The group project was 5+ weeks of constant work but only accounted for 20% of the grade. The Exam was very tough,. When comparing it to the exercises and previous exams, the real exam was MUCH more qualitative than I expected”

“Very high workload”

“By far the best course in this semester”

“Group work was very demanding”

IS 540 Management of Enterprise Systems

“Case study was too similar to the exam, there should be a higher differentiation inbetween”

“Relatively unstructured, confusing case study, do not seem to care much about teaching”

IS 554 Computational Thinking

"Great course, very sad that Prof. Becker left the university"

"Should be kept even though Prof Becker is gone"

"fun professor, very engaged"

"Very good course."

"Case study is irrelevant for total grade"

"great learning experience, high interaction despite Covid"

"Untransparent grading and uncooperative teaching assistant."

"Big difference between first and second exam in terms of difficulty (also in the mean grade)"

"The bonus points changed the grades of some students but not of everyone although we put the same work in it"

"The course was very informative and well planned. It's a must-take for basic programming knowledge. The Exam questions were a little tougher and the time given was not enough."

"Very good course and an excellent introduction to the IS area for "outsiders" who don't want to major in it. IS 554 should definitely be reintroduced and offered asap.."

"Great Prof who unfortunately left. Great course and also Melanie did a great job!"

IS 607 Digital Innovation

“Great experience! Prof. Heinzl provides tons of interesting insights into innovation in practice. Can highly recommend.”

“Wonderful professor! All the best for Prof. Heinzl! Best courses at Uni Mannheim :)”

“I didn't get admitted to the course at first but was able to move up later”

IS 614 Corporate Knowledge Management

“Blockseminar during the introduction week was very impractical”

“would not suggest taking this class”

IS 615 Design Thinking and Lean Development in Enterprise Software Development

“The attitude of the teachers towards students was amazing”

IS Seminar

“The time slot was too short, therefore I had a lot of time pressure throughout the semester”

“It's worth at least double the amount of credit points. If you want to submit a good work (and it's your first time to write a scientific paper in this sense), it takes a lot of time and effort. I guess if you want to just pass, then it's different.”

MAN 630 Introduction to Entrepreneurship

“Worst course I’ve ever taken!”

“High workload”

“The case studies require significant efforts; however, the grading was good; the live sessions were very interactive which was nice, however the theoretical content sometimes was not really well explained; the slides were super messy”

“The grading sometimes feels not really objective. Presentations were more required to be TEDx Talks rather than university presentations. This could've been communicated earlier.”

“Getting a 1.7 in this course is easy, a 1.3 requires some work, getting a 1.0 will probably cost you your soul. Grading tends to be a bit random. The math questions in the exam are unnecessarily complicated.”

“Very unstructured lectures, extreme workload due to 4 presentations plus an exam.”

MAN 635 Social Entrepreneurship: Targeting Social Capital through Ecopreneurship

“I did not like the teaching style of the professor because there was no upload of the lectures, sometimes it seemed like he just reads out his notes, overall, I did not learn a lot”

MAN 645 Leadership and Motivation

“overall good”

“Nice professor & interesting lecture

“well done but very theoretical”

“Unfortunately, the focus was only on theory with no practical application”

“Super nice professor + TA”

“Great guest lectures and interesting course content.”

MAN 646 HR Analytics

“cool format with the Analytics day - adds a little more practice to the theoretical lecture”

MAN 649 Human Resource Recruitment and Selection

“Mr. Danesy is an absolute legend! Lecturer with lots of practical experience. Give us more people like him :)”

“Great insights into the topic of Recruitment and Selection with many insights from practice.”

“Seems like a lot of workload at the beginning, but you do not have to learn the whole script, exam was very easy”

MAN 656 Mergers & Acquisitions

“I learned a lot in the course and the professor is really good, but case was too much work (especially if half the group is not working) for the ECTS”

“The group work was pretty work-intensive, and we had less than 2 weeks to coordinate 6 people and a 45min+ presentation. Having the exam closer to the blocked lectures/presentation would have been favorable”

MAN 681 Climate Change and Decarbonization

“Very cool that teacher comes out of practice, highly recommended!”

MAN 682 Materiality, Risk Assessment, and Reporting

“little substance, weird grading (presentation that is prepared in the last session and presented in five minutes worth 30%)”

“The chair appeared largely unaware how the practitioner conducted the course. Therefore, the final assignment did not reflect the content of the course”

MAN 683 Sustainability Communication

“nice and interactive seminar format, could be based on a little more theory”

MAN 684 Sustainable Business Models & Circular Economy

“Very cool that teacher comes out of practice, highly recommended!”

“Very low workload, just case studies and group presentations within the course, very good grading

MAN 692 Organisationstheorie

“Very interesting course but why is it not offered in English?”

MAN 693 Strategic Intellectual Property Management

“I really enjoyed taking this course! The lecture content and especially the case studies were very exciting.”

“Super nice and engaged Teachers”

“Surprisingly my favorite course in fall

MAN Seminar

“great supervisors and ability to choose own topic”

MKT 510 Price and Product Management

“Well structured course but the professor intentionally makes the exam too long so that students are not able to finish it in time. Complete understanding of course materials is not sufficient for a good grade.”

“The time pressure was way too high”

“exam very hard”

“Less content and much simpler than bachelor level course, should level up to become worthy for master level.”

“Don’t underestimate the exam. You need to calculate fast!”

“Study resources are not sufficient or available”

“Slides have to be bought in a printed format. Digital slides are not provided.”

“Grading was really bad. It seems it’s simply impossible to get good grades at the marketing chair”

MKT 561 Service Business Model Innovations

“The exam did not fit the course/lecture expectations. The questions asked were not clear enough and the grading was much stricter than in any other courses. Further, only the actual slides provided by the Prof were correct, any add. literature was wrong”

“The course was interesting, but the grading was rather bad. No wonder that post-exam review was overcrowded.”

“The Prof does not want the right answers to the exam questions, he wants his answers. Don’t learn his slides, learn his words. The exam review was quite frustrating.”

“Grading is not transparent and seems to be random”

MKT 580 Digital Marketing Strategy

“Very well-organized course with diverse teaching methods. Exam is fair.”

“Best class so far!”

MKT 612 Business-to-Business-Marketing

“Interesting content and fair exam”

MKT 613 Verhandlungsführung

“great course with very interesting content, nice lecturer and a very, very fair exam“

“Really useful and easy 2 ECTS”

MKT 623 Strategic Marketing Management Simulation

“A course that teaches you how to deal with different opinions in teams. A great experience and also well-organized. Might be a little too much effort for two ECTS though.”

OPM 501 Logistics Management

"No video recordings of lectures"

"Course was ok. Rather theoretical with a lot of mathematical constructs"

"Good course with limited real-world application and very ambiguous questions in the exam."

OPM 504 Transportation II – Aviation

"The prof seemed to be in a constant bad mood. Unfortunately, not really interesting topics. After listening to his other course, I had high expectations but was disappointed in this case"

"The exam was too long for 45 minutes. It was impossible to answer all the questions"

"The time pressure in the exam was crazy and the grading not very favorable - the lecture itself is very chill though"

OPM 544 Advanced Supply Chain Planning

"wasn't quite sure during the course what the goal of it was. exam was very fair though"

OPM 561 Production Management: Lean Approaches and Variability

"Prof. Stolletz was not really present in the course and seemed not to care much."

"High expectations when it comes to linear modeling capacities. I found the chair very disorganized, and they often weren't bothered to answer questions, they only told us to watch the lecture videos again – which was not very helpful. I wouldn't recommend the class."

"Exam grading by the chair is quite unfair. I highly recommend to go to the exam review. However, they do not provide information about the average grade of the exam or the point threshold for the grades."

OPM 591 Strategic Procurement

“fun professor, interesting cases in exercises”

“Very nice course”

“Free ride”

OPM 691 Supply Risk Management

“really not sure what the insurance and financial hedging is doing in here, seems disconnected. rest was ok”

“Writing a case study paper was a far better experience than having a group work in the online environment”

OPM Seminar

“Fantastic experience, helps for Master thesis”

“Far too much work, little guidance”

“Work-intensive just as Seminars in other areas but interesting topics”

OPM 661 Business Analytics: Robust Planning in Stochastic Systems

“Maybe better organization next time”

“doing lectures in half the time slot and just giving “do-it-yourself” exercises where they don't show the tasks and solutions but want us to do them alone”

“Fair exam but sometimes confusing”

“Very unstructured course, would not do it again”

“Very hard for non-IT people, assistant had a hard time explaining the code

“Very unorganized, teaching assistant particularly bad at explaining. OPM 662 was in contrast my absolute favorite course in Mannheim”