

Meeting: d. 15. februar 2023 at. 14.00-16.00

Building 1467, room 316

UN-meeting, Global Studies

Minutes

Present

Member VIP: Uwe Skoda, Birgitte Pristed, Georg Fischer, Raymond Yamamoto

Member Students: Frederik Edsberg Hansen, Daniela Lange Andersen, Jonas Østvand Matthiesen, Julia Ieva Jørgensen, Karoline Thode Fogh, Jakob Frederik Thomsen og Sofie Lambertsen.

Observers: Christina Fiig (VIP), Chun Zhang (VIP), Vivek Kumar Shukla (VIP) , Hagen Schulz-Forberg (VIP), Anemone Platz (VIP), Sofia Pedersen (student), Studievejledere IHO, and Sine Gyde Meler (Arts Studies, ref)

Uddannelsesnævn Globale Studier

Dato: 24.februar 2023

Side 1/6

1. Approval of agenda and follow up from the minutes from last meeting (14.00-14.05)

The agenda was approved and point 3 was postponed for a future meeting.

Uwe Skoda (US) followed up from the last meeting and informed that there have been a meeting with the school management regarding the lack of student places for students going abroad at Japan studies and the department and management are working on establishing more for the coming semester.

Discussion about diversity will be on the agenda after the next meeting in the "fagudvalg".

2. Terminology for different types of courses (item for discussion) (14.05-14.20)

The point was postponed.

3. Briefings (14.20-14.35)

3.1 News from the Board of Studies

US informed:

- That SN discussed that there have been some problems with communication about the rules in relation to Group exam when one student in the group has a functional impairment, and examples of deadlines for submission of exam papers in the middle of the night when extra time is allowed for students with functional impairments. The chair of the SN has sent the case presentations about these issues to the Vice-Dean.
- The procedure about the "Teacher award" have been revised and UN will hear more about this.

- There will be a seminar about the process of teaching evaluations.

See agenda and minutes from the SN meetings [online here](#).

3.2 News from the Head of Department

US informed that:

- The department have advised the administration that it wishes to make new study regulations for two MA programmes (international studies and GLAS), with focus on more “samlæste” courses.
- There have been found Cheftutors for alle degree programmes.

3.3 News from the student guidance

- U-days are coming up (23-25 February) – it’s an open house event, where some events are online and others on campus.

3.4 News from the study administration

News letter from Arts Studier ([click here](#))

Headlines in the newsletter from February:

- Practical questions during the teaching period
- Re-examinations, winter 22/23
- Updating the study portal to include new members of the board of studies and degree programme boards
- Exchange programmes 2023-24
- Presentation for new exchange students by the Study Centre
- New Power BI reports

4. Information on changes to academic regulations following a review by the Dean’s Office to take effect on 1st of September 2023 (information) (14.35-14.40).

US informed that the vice-dean for education has reviewed the proposals received for changes to academic regulations. All the changes from the department have been approved. The changes mainly regard to a change in wording to its clearer that it is not always possible for students to go abroad. Academic regulations with changes:

BA Japan studies 2018:

- BA Russia studies 2020
- BA Brazilian studies 2018
- BA India and South Asia Studies 2018

The approved changes to the academic regulations take effect on 1st of September 2023. Autumn courses are published in the course catalogue on 1st of April 2023.

5. Approval of IV Electives (item for decision) (14.40-14.50)

US informed that in the autumn of 2022, the degree programme for India and Southasia studies prepared a new proposal for the IV courses, which will be offered in

the spring of 2024. The course takes place in INLANSO (Centre for the Study of Indian Languages and Society) in Varanasi and is reserved for students enrolled on The Bachelor's degree programme in India and South Asia studies.

Decision:

The degree programme board approved the new IV-course for F24. The course will be published in the course catalogue to allow students to register.

6. Review of teaching evaluations from the autumn semester (item for discussion) (14.50-15.15)

The degree programme board processed the course evaluations for the autumn semester 2022 according to Global Studies rotation principle and the school's evaluation policy. Uwe Skoda presented the key points across the evaluations:

- Students overall seems engaging and active in classes.
- In some courses students wish for more theory other more practical exercises, so it's hard to find the overall balance but it will be looked into for individual courses.
- Some courses wish to spread the teaching over more days than current.
- Some technical issues with "blue" for courses e.g. IV-electives. But other than that, the evaluation templates seem to be working.
- The question "do you feel respected in the classroom" was added for the questionnaire because of earlier surveys showed that not all students felt included and UN decided there was a need to monitor this. The evaluations show positive feedback on this matter.
- In general, there is a low respond rate on the evaluations and not all use the opportunity to write comments.
- There is a high range of variation on how many hours the students say they use on their studies ranging from very low to very high.
- There seems to be improvement in outcome of the thesis preparation course (BA and MA) since last year.
- It can be difficult to address the right level/content for students in courses which are "samlæst".

UN discussed how to raise the respond rate on evaluations. Christina Fiig (CF) gives the students time to fill in the evaluation in the two last lectures. This practice is used among the other teachers also. Vivek Kumar Shukla (VKS) informed that VKS uses the midterm evaluation to explain more detailed how the evaluation can be used.

Students commented that the international students are not used to a culture where they can evaluate, so there is a need to explain the purpose further to them. Students expressed that some students do not respond the evaluation if they do not wish any changes in the course. In general students are not aware that the evaluations are processed, read by UN and SN and might cause changes in the various courses, they are

taken “seriously” by the School. So there seems to be a potential to explain that students can use the evaluation to give feedback, both positive and negative to maybe make changes in the courses.

Next step:

Based on the UN discussion, the Head of Department will complete an evaluation report on the background of the evaluation notes from the courses. The draft of the report will be circulated to the UN after the meeting and members are asked to comment on the draft.

After this the draft will be sent to the SN-secretary no later than the 15th of March to the following mail: arts.uddannelseskvalitet@au.dk. And the board of studies will discuss the evaluations in the meeting in April.

7. Global Studies Outreach service “Formidlingservice” (item for discussion) (15.15-15.35)

Student representatives have drawn up a memo about the idea for establishing an outreach service for Global Studies. Daniela Lange Andersen (DLA) gave UN a brief presentation about the background and purpose of the Global studies outreach service.

The idea of setting up a global study's communications service arose from the number of enquiries associate professors and students received in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Many of these enquiries came particularly from primary and lower secondary school students. Due to the number of enquiries, the idea of a Russia study's communications service arose. Though it could make sense to work on creating a global study's communications service. An official global study's communications service could benefit the students on degree programmes (CV) and create awareness about the degree programmes and strengthening recruitment.

UN thanked the students for the initiative and think it could be a great tool for visibility and recruitment. UN gave ideas and inputs on how the initiative can move forward:

- AU have an initiative called “Spørg en AU'er” and maybe there can be found inspiration from there.
- Possibility to team up with a teacher representative.
- Use the Global studies homepage for promotions.
- Birgitte Beck Pristed (BBP) told that BBP have been in contact with Arts communication, who can be helpful with setting up the formal and technical support. BBP suggested to include “students” in the name because it's students who are behind it and to reach out to NCFE (National center for fremmedsprog) to ask for funding or help with spreading awareness.
- Georg Fisher (GF) encouraged the students to prepare information material and flyers to share at schools or send out.

US summed up the next step for the project, which include revisiting the draft and a discussion in the fagudvalg. Information on the initiative should be shared on the Globalstudies webpage and the department AU webpage to promote the initiative. Student volunteers should be recruited to join the service. The UN will follow up on the initiative after the fagudvalg have discussed the draft.

The UN also discussed how to create awareness and knowledge about the departments degree programmes in general. It was mentioned that “Student for a day” can be a supplement to “Studiepraktik”, because its more personal. ATU (Akademiet for talentfulde unge) is an organization which can help spread knowledge about the degree programmes to high school students. China studies participate in “foreign language day” it takes a lot of preparation for teachers to create these contacts around high schools and to join events, but it pays out.

8. Project placement: Letter to Project hosts (Information and discussion) (15.35-15.45)

Based on the vice-dean's wish to strengthen the quality assurance of project placement, the Arts studies administration, with the involvement of heads of studies and individual heads of department, has drawn up a letter which can be used by the students who take an academic internship at their master's degree programme.

The purpose of the letter:

Student can send the letter to the project host, or bring it to the first meeting with the host. The letter is intended for the project hosts, and the idea is to help 1) support the understanding of expectations between the host, the students, and the University, 2) strengthen the quality assurance of the project placement and 3) support the student in the contact with the project host.

UN would like to have the letter highlighting that students from the department are valuable for the companies and have qualifications to address matters on: global perspective, intercultural sensitivity and for GLAS language skills.

The UN decided to draw up three letters specific for the three MA degree programmes. Christina Fiig will write the section for European studies, Hagen for International studies and Anemone Platz for GLAS. The draft is sent to head of department/department coordinator.

The head of department sends the subject-specific text to artsuddannelses-kvalitet@au.dk no later than 6th of March 2023, thereafter the letter will be uploaded on the programmes own page about project placement on the study portal.

Teachers and students will be informed by head of department when the letter is online.

9. Updates (time) (15.45-15.55)

9.1 Updates from the students

The semester start is going well, and students are happy. At ES and IS the search for internships are started and some students are a bit stressed about this. There was a workshop about applying for internships, but the date was after many deadlines for international internships, which were unfortunate and could be reconsidered in the next round.

Students commented that the title on the course EU flashpoints was a bit misleading in light of the course context which only focuses on one theme – other than that the students liked the course. CF informed that the academic regulation talks about themes/flashpoints for the course as one or as several. Teachers have taught both in the Flashpoint-course over the past years. European Studies will inform the coming class year 2023 more intensively about the theme for the Flashpoints-course in spring 2024.

DLA encouraged the teachers to mention and motivate students in classes to volunteer as tutors.

9.2 Updates from the degree programmes

A lot of different activities going on at the different degree programmes, information about date and so on will be sent out from the teachers responsible.

10. Suggested points for upcoming meetings 15.55-16.00)

CF proposed an UN-discussion of which possibility the faculty offers for MA -students staying at campus on 3rd semester on the MA. There seem only few possibilities to take classes in English and every year there seems to be students from ES who do not go abroad or apply for an internship. US suggested that a representative from Arts Studies join the UN to explain the possibilities for the 3rd term students attending classes at AU. Students told that particularly international students wish to take courses on campus for 3rd semester.

Points for upcoming UN meetings:

- Update about from the diversity working group (March).
- Discussion about the 3rd semester (Internship, “profilfag”)
- Social/well-being across the department (mental health/ social events)
- Recruitment

11. AOB

Hagen informed about a situation where the AU’ webpages about which jobs students from international studies are most likely to take, have been used as decision for an case of residence permit for a former student. The UN were surprised that this list of jobs was used for other than just inspiration for people who may wish to apply for the degree programme. It was encouraged to go the school management with the matter.