Results Report

Report for documentation of an alternative evaluation

Course evaluation – WiSe 2020

Course: "The Astrophysics of Exoplanets, Gruppe 1"

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1   Introduction and structure of the report

Dear reader,

the report at hand informs you about the results of the evaluation, which has been carried out by the lecturer using an individual procedure of evaluation. The results were documented by the lecturer. The aim of the report is to record the results in order to provide a documentation to the lecturer and also support further developments regarding the teaching. The structure of the report follows the four steps of an evaluation process.
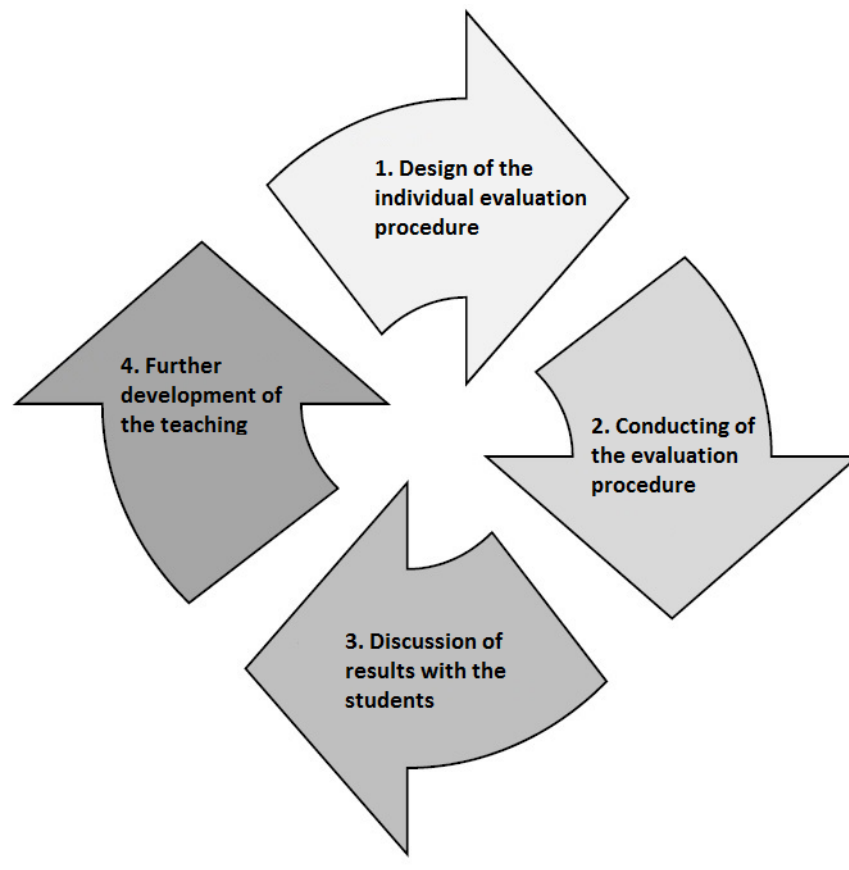
Figure 1 - Evaluation Process

Step 1: Design of the individual evaluation procedure
The procedure and description of the evaluation process conducted by the lecturer is provided in **chapter 2**.

Step 2: Conducting of the evaluation procedure
You can find an overview of the positive feedback as well as suggestions for improvement in **chapter 3**.

Step 3: Discussion of results with the students
If discussing results is not already part of the procedure, results should be discussed with the students.

Step 4: Further development of the teaching
In **chapter 4** you can find information about conclusions drawn considering prospective teaching.

2 Process of the evaluation

The evaluation was conducted on 09.02.2021 and 7 students took part. Results of the evaluation were not discussed with or passed to the students.

2.1 What was the aim of your evaluation or what did you want to learn from your evaluation?

- I wanted to learn how the studetns judged their own learning progress, and how they liked the format of the course (given as an online course due to the Covid-19 restrictions).

2.2 How did you carry out the evaluation?

- I provided the students with a Google form as a questionnaire.

3 Feedback regarding the course

3.1 What positive feedback was given?

- 100% of the students answered the following questions with "'strongly agree"' or "'agree"':
  - My understanding of exoplanet detection, formation and evolution has improved throughout the course.
  - Interaction with the professor and the other students was encouraged.
  - The material was presented in a way that helped me to understand it.
  - The interactive parts helped me to understand the material better.
  - The course materials that were provided (lecture notes, video recordings, research papers) were useful to me.
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  Some positive free-form responses were:
  "'What I liked the most is working with real data (going to the websites and discussing various aspects) because that gave me the comfortability and was not daunting."'
  "'To work with original data which helped understand the concepts more. The interactive sessions were really great. More importantly, I felt at ease asking questions"'

3.2 Which suggestions for improvement and possibly points of criticism were mentioned?

- I explicitly asked for feedback on how the course could be improved, and these were the answers I received:
  "'I do not think anything comes in my mind regarding what could be improved."'
  "'I think the course is nicely structured and very well delivered."'
  "'Honestly I don't think there is anything to be improved. So far the way you conduct lectures suits me very well. In fact personally, your lectures were the first for me that I could understand from day 1. They were engaging and interactive. Thank You for that."'

4 Enhancement of your teaching

4.1 Which conclusions do you draw considering your teaching?

- I will definitely continue to use real data from astrophysical objects that the students can interact with. They liked that a lot. I also try to lower barriers to understanding by presenting concepts in more than one way, and that seems to have worked well.

4.2 Information about trainings and further services related to teaching

4.2.1 Didactics at the university

Covering a lot of aspects on how to organize teaching and courses of studies, the **Network "'Studienqualität Brandenburg"'** offers a wide range of programmes and informations to lecturers.
You can find the current workshop programme online: *www.faszination-lehre.de*

4.2.2 For young teachers

The **Potsdam Graduate School** offers targeted further qualification in academic teaching training to doctoral candidates (Junior Teaching Professionals) as well as post-docs and junior professors (Senior Teaching Professionals)
You can find more information online: *https://www.pogs.uni-potsdam.de/article/teachingprofessionals/Teaching-Professionals.html*

4.2.3 E-Learning

The main goal of the **AG E-Learning** is to improve the study quality of the Univerität Potsdam by sustainable integration of E-Learning into the teaching at Universität Potsdam.
For further information check: *http://uni-potsdam.de/agelearning/eteaching/*