# PUBLISHED COURSE ANALYSIS

A course analysis has been carried out and published by the course convener.

The Karlstad University evaluation tool is owned by the Professional Development Unit and is managed by the systems group for educational administration.

*Computer Security II, 7.5 ETCS cr. (DVGC20)*
*Course convener: Tobias Pulls*

Basic LADOK data

| | |
|---|---|
| Course Code: | DVGC20 |
| Application Code: | 36623 |
| Semester: | VT-21 |
| Start Week: | 202103 |
| End Week: | 202112 |
| Pace of Study: | 50% |
| Form of Study: | Campus |

Course Data

Number of questionnaires answered: 9

Number of first registrations[1]:     31

**Changes suggested in the course analysis of the previous course date:**
Reconsider the order of lectures again, like last year. The goal would be to make the course with the applied crypto content (be it Computer Security II or some other course) more coherent, probably by focusing more on cryptographic systems in the second half of the course. Good lectures could be TLS in more depth, Noise, Wireguard, secure messaging, Tor, Certificate Transparency, and maybe even basics of blockchains.



1. The contents and structure of the course has supported the achievement of the learning outcomes
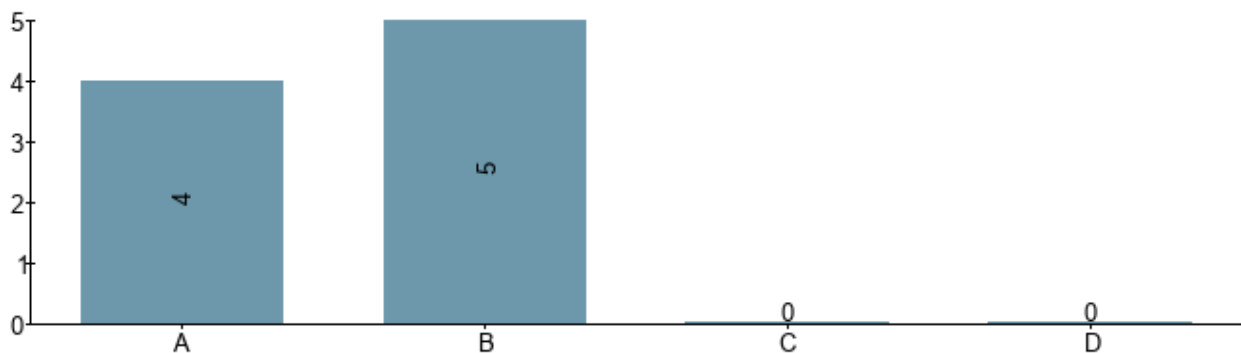
A) To a very large extent
B) To a large extent
C) To some extent
D) To a little extent or not at all

**2. The assessments included in the course have given me the opportunity to demonstrate my achievement of the learning outcomes**
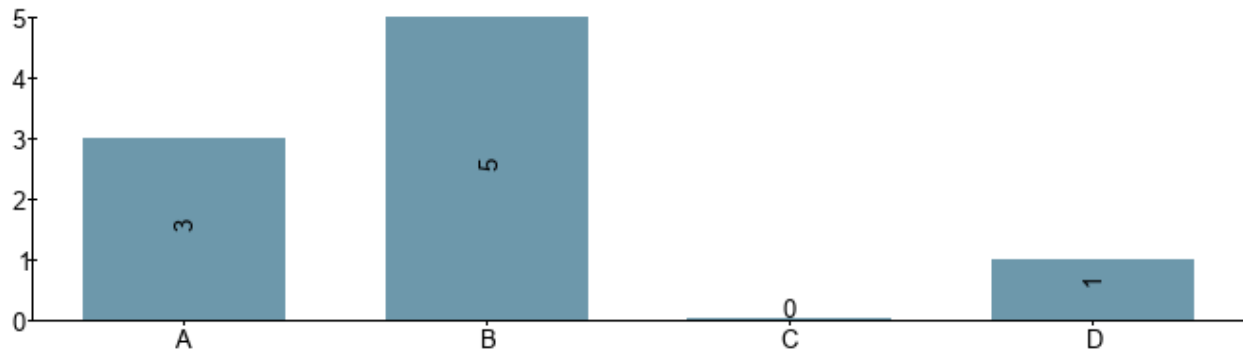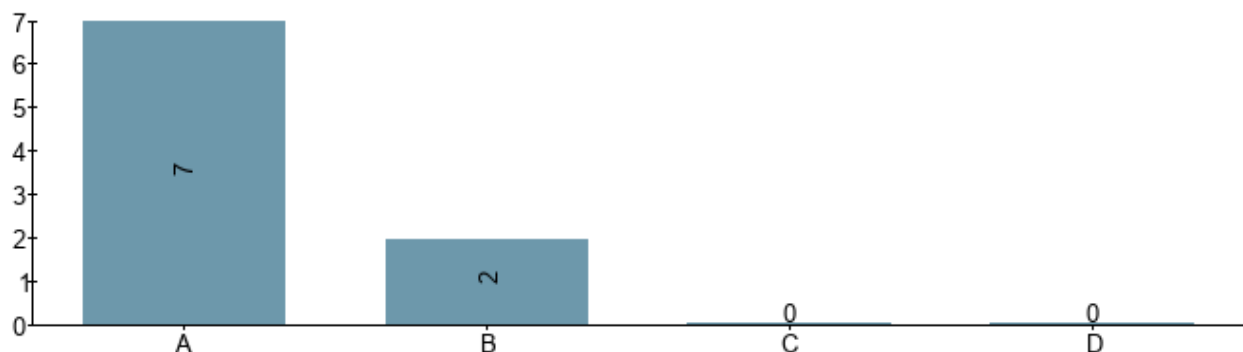


A) To a very large extent
B) To a large extent
C) To some extent
D) To a little extent or not at all

**3. My workload (including scheduled activities and independent work) during the course has been**
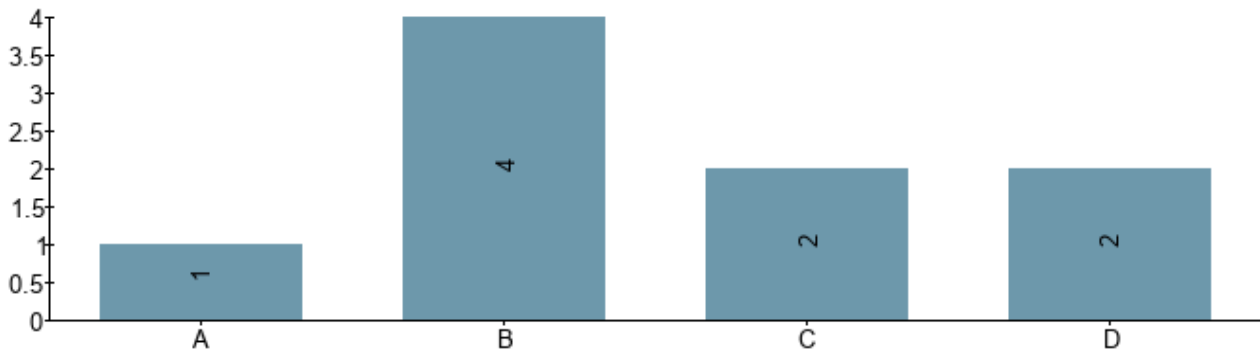


A) 40 hours per week or more (or 20 per week or more for courses given as half-time studies, 10 hours or more for cour
B) Between 30 and 39 hours per week (or between 15 and 19 hours for courses given as half-time studies, or between 8
C) Between 20 and 29 hours per week (or between 10 and 14 hours for courses given as half-time studies, or between 5
D) Less than 20 hours per week (or less than 10 hours per week for courses given as half-time studies, or less than 5 h

**4. During the course, I have experienced the reception from teachers and other staff as professional**



A) To a very large extent
B) To a large extent
C) To some extent
D) To a little extent or not at all

**Analysis based on course evaluation, including comments fields. If information has been collected in other ways, it should also be analysed here. Any effect of joint courses should be commented**

**on.**

About 30% of students responded to the course evaluation. Most students appear happy with how the course turned out. One set of comments said that the labs and and the exam were well done and should be kept as-is, while another set of comments didn't appreciate the home exam format and was unhappy about doing labs without being able to get live face-to-face support.

There was also one negative comment about the exam not being representative of the course. Other comments and the answers to question 2 disagree. The points on questions on the home exam were split proportionally to the lectures. The crypto-questions were applied, because the exam was an open book home exam, and not a campus exam.

Two comments also related to parts of the course they thought were less well-aligned with the rest of the course.

This year, we included more cryptosystems in the lectures and introduced a project presentation towards the end of the course, where students got to present a cryptosystem to each other. We got good feedback on the changes, also after the presentations.

Overall, I'm really happy with how the course turned out. I agree with the comments about alignment for some parts of the course. The exam was OK, but I think it ended up a bit too intense given the allotted time I also long for going back to a campus exam when it comes to the more fundamental parts around crypto: with an open book home exam it's too easy to just look up basic questions so they cannot be used to assess the knowledge of students. For students that cannot apply their knowledge in this area, as required in the home exam, it becomes harder to pass in this format.

**Suggestions for changes to the next course date.**

Keep the project presentation. Continue to better align the course towards applied cryptosystems, in line with comments from students this year and last year. For that campus exam (hopefully) next year, consider structuring the exam based on learning outcomes, where students have to pass each learning outcome to pass the exam. This would prevent students that only master the first part of the course from passing the exam, just like the home exam did this year. Perhaps past exams have been too easy in this regard.

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1. **Number of first registrations for a course:** First registration = the first time a student registers for a specific course.