



Minutes from program board meeting in Chinese 07.09.2021

Room: 217, HF-building

Present: Guowen Shang (program coordinator) Shouhui Zhao (online), Huiwen (Helen) Zhang, Julia Christine Marinaccio, Renate Solberg (student representative), Jens Karlsson (online), Hanne Svanholm Misje (secretary).

Agenda:

9/21 Approval of notification of meeting and today's agenda

Approved

10/21 Approval of minutes from the program board's last meeting

Approved

11/21 Orientation:

1. Self-evaluation and student feedback for spring 2021

The self-evaluations and student evaluations were discussed in the meeting and comments are found below.

EAS251

This course is organized together with the Japanese program, and this proves to be a bit difficult. The parameters of the two courses are different, and it does not make much sense to teach these courses together and it does not necessarily benefit the students. Guowen and Julia have talked about rearranging the course. Students lack substantial knowledge about China and academic writing in general and need to be accompanied more.

The deadline has passed for making changes to EAS251 for the spring semester 2022, but a rearrangement of classes should be possible for spring 2022. From student evaluation: important information must be given in writing as well as orally. Please make sure to publish all important information as announcements on Mitt UiB.

KIN201

The sections want to enhance student participation and motivation. In spring 2021, the collaboration with the additional teaching staff (oral training) worked very well. The section should work on generating a particular chemistry amongst the students of Chinese, where they feel they belong to a section or fagmiljø. The student representative (Renate) commented that Chinese will get an active fagutvalg, this is in process now.

Helen will collaborate with Jens about a possible change in textbook from 2023. We need to know what the students know after completing KIN104 and make sure that the language gap from KIN104 to KIN201 is not too big.

Students commented in the student evaluation that they want Chinese to be used more in class and want more oral practice in class. The students have a very diverse background and have different needs, so it is hard to find something that works well for all students.

KIN101/KIN102

Positive student evaluations for KIN101 and KIN102. Some students comment that the obligatory activities are unclear.

Some of the KIN101-curricula could be moved to KIN100 and more basics could be covered in KIN100. For KIN100, a suggestion was made to add four lectures at the end of the fall



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semester to cover pinyin. A change in KIN100 could be made this semester and be valid from fall 2022. The deadline for submitting a change through EpN is 15 December and resources need to be checked with head of department (Kevin) before the next program board meeting.

Renate notes that the courses in the Chinese program could benefit from being from explicit about the demands of the course. Students have commented that they were not aware of the demands and when realizing it mid-term, it is too late. Course instructors could be more explicit about what we expect that students need to work 40 hours a week with studies etc. The program board should consider including a sentence about this in every course description (for instance under *Arbeids- og undervisningsformer* in the course description)

The student advisor will upload the self-evaluations to *Studie kvalitetsbasen*, according to UiBs Quality Assurance system.

12/21 External examiner for Chinese Programme.

The program board approved Dr. Xinzheng Wan from Uppsala University as the external examiner. This is a four-year contract and Dr. Xinzheng Wan can serve as examiner for both the BA and the MA program, should the latter start in fall 2022.

The student advisor will send a letter to the faculty, appointing Dr. Xinzheng Wan as the external examiner and draft up a contract.

13/21 EAS251 collaboration with Japanese and course description

Guowen will contact Benedicte to discuss a possible change for the spring semester 2022, but the course needs revision before 2023.

The reassessment of EAS251 is not clear, this needs to be amended by the next possible deadline. In addition, add a sentence about word count, that it is +/- 10% not including bibliography, appendices etc.

The change will need to be reported by June 2022 and will be valid from spring semester 2023. The student advisor will make sure this gets done in time.

14/21 Textbooks for KIN201, Spring 2022

See comments under 11/21 1. Helen and Jens will work on a suggestion for a new textbook in KIN201. Need a smooth transition from KIN104 to KIN201, one suggestion was changing which unit we start with in KIN201.

15/21 Julia's Intercultural Communication course for BA/MA students

Julia has created a course in intercultural competence that will be an elective in the future MA-program. It is suggested to make this an elective also for the BA-program (perhaps using KIN205 as course code). This will be an irregular course (meaning it does not have a set semester of teaching) and can be offered in fall/spring if/when resources allow. If we present this as a fall course by the deadline 15 December, the course will start in fall 2022.

The resources will have to be checked with Kevin (by November) and the program board should vote on a new course in the next program board meeting. Hanne and the new student advisor can help with the practical aspects. It is important that the course descriptions for



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KIN205 (BA) and KIN305 (MA) reflect the different levels of study we expect from BA and MA students. The course offered in fall 2022 will only be for BA-students (the MA-version – KIN305 – is listed as a spring course in the study plan).

Please contact Hanne to get this process started.

16/21 Possible course description changes for individual courses

It was suggested in the meeting to reduce the obligatory assignments from 6 compulsory tasks to 5.

These changes were passed in the meeting:

KIN102, KIN103 and KIN104: reduce compulsory assignments to five.

Clarification regarding KIN103: 5 written assignments + 5 oral exercises.

The student representative commented that students in KIN103 like the number of obligatory activities (even though it's more than the other courses) because it makes the students interact more with the syllabus.

KIN102 is a spring course, and this change will be valid from spring 2023.

KIN103 and KIN104 are fall courses and will be valid from fall 2022.

The student advisor will make the necessary changes in EpN.

17/21 Change of webpage of Chinese program

The webpage for the Chinese program is outdated, and the student advisor will make some formal changes (update old information). Jens needs to add a photo to his personal web page, and the student advisor could have a written interview with the newest members of staff (Helen and Jens, either separately or combined). The program board decided to wait a bit before committing to video created for Åpen dag.

18/21 Exchange agreements and briefing for students' overseas study

The program board approves Taiwan as a suggested exchange decision and the Chinese section can reach out to universities in Taiwan to see if it's possible to start collaboration. An orientation meeting for students could be held in mid-October, make sure to include the student advisor in the process (Marit Skaatan starts 29 September).

19/21 Other

The teaching of tradition Chinese characters was discussed in the meeting. It could be worth discussing again if the MA in Chinese is approved. This issue will be raised again at a later program board or teacher meeting.

The MA-application was approved by the Faculty board in a meeting 2 September and is now sent to UiBs study quality committee.

The program board needs to agree on a plan for 3-year evaluation of courses. This should align with the agreement made with the external examiner (12/21). It was suggested that KIN100 and KIN103 have a 3-year evaluation this semester, and this could be a schedule



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moving

forward:

Spring 2022: KIN101 and KIN102

Fall 2022: KIN104

Spring 2023: KIN201 and EAS251.

The student advisor will make a draft and present it at the next program board meeting.

3-year evaluation: KIN103 kan ha treårig evaluering. KIN100 kan ha 3-årig evaluering.

Comments?

Send Hanne by 16.09.21