Evaluation KJM5310/9310 - 2018

In 2018, the course was held in the first period of the semester, which limited the number of participating students significantly. If possible, this placement should be avoided in the future. Much better for most students would be teaching in the third period of the semester or, alternatively, throughout the seminar.

Another shortcoming was that this time, no student volunteered as student representative, therefore a student was assigned to this role. However, this did not work as smoothly as usual and limited the students' possibilities to give anonymous feedback, as was pointed out as potential problem at the end of the course. If possible, it would be good to additionally obtain written anonymous web-based feedback. This is usually taken care of by the national PhD School BioCat, however, unfortunately, not in this case. It was further pointed out that the course home page only lists chemistry courses (KJM1100 – General chemistry, KJM1110 – Organic chemistry I or equivalent) as recommended previous knowledge and should also include biochemistry courses (KJM1140 – Biochemistry or equivalent). This should be done in due time before H19. At least, the students were properly informed about such recommended previous knowledge at the course start.

Apart from these shortcomings, the course was much appreciated by both Master's and PhD students, and no major changes should be made. Especially appreciated were the two teachers of the exercises. The only weakness with respect to the exercises was the performance of the computers at Ø186, despite information provided to the course responsible by IT that the problems were now solved and all PCs were new. Regarding the lectures, the students were particularly fond of the quizzes and questions throughout the lectures. There was very good contact between teachers and students throughout the course.

As requested by the students in 2016, the minisymposium was held at the end of the course. This worked very well. The integration of this event in the course (and a joint lunch with the lecturers) was considered very valuable and motivating for the students. No changes were made to the student seminars, due to the low student number, which made splitting the event in two sessions unnecessary. The individual feedback for each of the presentations (by individual mails) was highly appreciated. For next year, we may consider adding voluntary oral mini-group try-out exams.