

The Student Parliament's Student Board at NMBU
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Teaching Excellence

With this resolution, the Student Parliament at NMBU wishes to emphasize what they understand as teaching excellence. Little has changed in education forms in the past decade, but the student body in higher education has changed immensely. Students are becoming more diverse in regards to background and age. Parallel to this development, research has become the way to go for an academic career development, and because of this, teaching has often been set to the side.

The Student Parliament at NMBU believes the following lays the foundation for teaching excellence:

Expectations:

- The lecturer should shape their teaching methods according to their associated subject, and according to research about how students learn best
- The lecturer should be able to convey the essence of the subject
- Cohesiveness with subjects that are listed as required previous knowledge
- Facilitate dialogue and communication in learning, and secure a safe environment in the classroom that enables participation
- All academic staff should have recent teacher training before being hired, or courses immediately after being hired.
- Academic content of books and materials should be constantly up to date, and available on different learning platforms from the beginning of the semester
- The institution has good classrooms available to all students at NMBU, where both physical and psychological learning is protected.

- With a large number of international students at NMBU, the lecturer should be well versed in the language in which they teach.

Teaching Excellence:

- Students should be active participants through various educational tasks, for example case studies, digital tools, or other methods. Feedback and evaluation must be a central part of the education. This ensures that students' skills are developed further, and are not just tested with a final exam or other examination methods.
- Activities should be based either on research developments or relevant examples from the work force.
- The institution should ensure the right for students to participate in their learning process, for example through learning help programs.
- With a large number of international students at NMBU, the lecturer should be well versed in the language in which they teach.
- Involving students in research projects should be strived for, as long as is it appropriate.
- Education should develop students' general understanding and reflective abilities, as well as having good academic content. Upon finishing, students should be well equipped to engage in society and the working force, which requires continuous innovation, not just knowledge of the subject.
- Subjects with mandatory activities should keep them at a minimum. This is because of large variations in students' knowledge, and because of this it is inappropriate to have many obligatory activities.
- Students should be a part of an academic community with scholarly discussions between students as well as professors.
- An excellent teacher should have positive interactions with students where exchange of experience and further development of knowledge goes both ways, for example, through things like subject evaluation. The lecturer should have high expectations, and challenge students to develop their analytical skills that can help them master the subject.