

Training Assessment: Advanced Modules II in DTU May 2019

Following the Project Meeting in DTU, a questionnaire was submitted to the 13 PhD Students to have a feed-back on both the practical organization of the Advanced Modules II and on the content of the courses given.

1. Practical organization

The accommodation was rated positively by 7 students. The others had a more mitigated point of view. The fact that the hotel had no reception after 10 pm and that some students did not have a shower in their room was pointed out.

8 students positively rated the transport. The students that were more mitigated thought that the bus could have been scheduled on all the days that the meeting and the training modules took place.

The schedule and programme was appreciated by all students as was the timing of the event. 11 students positively assessed the lunch breaks.

A very high satisfaction was given to the lab visits with 11 students rating them as “excellent”.

2. Content of the Advanced Modules II

All students said the courses covered the basics in their field. Only one student gave a suggestion of a course that could have been given and that was not covered during these Modules. The student suggested that a course on “systemic rheological knowledge” could be given. All students said they received sufficient course material to follow the training offered. They are happy to receive PowerPoint presentations in advance and to have courses available online before the presentations.

They viewed the length of each course as good in its timing and viewed the ideal length of a course as 1h. They all underlined they had sufficient time to ask questions after each presentation.

The choice of lecturers and visiting experts were also viewed positively by all participants as they underlined this choice as “pertinent considering the content of these training modules”. All requests made during the training modules were taken into account.

3. Comments on the Hands-on experiments

The hands-on experiments were much appreciated by all students. They underlined the following:

- “The hands-on experiments are introduced in details, which is helpful to understand uniaxial elongation rheology and Filament Stretching Rheometer”
- “Very good for understanding how to conduct the experiments and analyse the data”
- “The hands-on experiments are well organized. I learned a lot from it. Thanks Prof. Qian Huang and also the TA student”
- “I really liked to have lectures in the morning and hands-on experiments in the afternoon!”
- “The lab course was very interesting and I learned a lot. It was good we did this in small groups”

For the next experiments, the data analysis can be improved. As one student underlined: “Only the evaluation of the data was a little bit neglected. Maybe it would have been better to do this with the supervisor as well”.

4. Suggestions for the next Advanced Modules

The following suggestions were made at the end of the questionnaire:

- The accommodation could be easier to reach from the venue.
- They would appreciate having hands-on experiments as well as data analysis scheduled again.

5. Subjects for the next Advanced Modules

The following ideas were given as specific subjects that could be covered during the next Advanced Modules:

- “All the type of measurements that are possible with light scattering”
- “Hands-on experiments would be interesting”
- “Examples of using light scattering in research”
- “Slides or documents on some relevant basic theory available in advance would be better”

- “I would like to know if, in case we have interesting sample, we can bring them to study during the lab experiment instead of random samples?”

6. Attention points for the next meeting

Following the results of this questionnaire, the following items need to be taken into consideration for the next meeting.

- Lab :
 - They would like to have some more hands-on experiments as well as data analysis.
 - More time could be given to the data analysis of hands-on experiments. The participation of academic supervisors would be beneficial.
 - Can they bring their own samples for the hands-on experiments?
- Practical side :
 - An accommodation close and in easy reach of the venue would be appreciated
 - They appreciated having the presentations online before the beginning of the event.
- Subjects for Advanced Modules:
 - All the type of measurements that are possible with light scattering
 - Examples of light scattering use in research