



Evaluation results: Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth System - an overview (March 16 - April 09, 2020)

Course details

Instructor: Martin Heimann

More information is provided on the webpage: <https://www.bgc-jena.mpg.de/domains/impres-gbgc.de/index.php/Courses/OverviewCourse2020>

6 out of 14 participants filled in the survey by April 09, 2020

Survey results

Q1: Did the goals and the structure of the course matched well with the course description?

- Yes = 6
- It was a great overview and also a summary of all biogeochemical cycles in the earth system.

Q2: To which extend has the course improved/clarified your general notion of BGC cycles in the Earth system?

- Significant. Considering I am not from this background.
- I did not know much about all the details before. So, this was the first time I learned something about all those things. Hence, there was a vast improvement in my case :)
- As I've never focused on the detail of physical and mathematical aspects of biogeochemical cycles, the course sheds additional light on some parts of my ecological studies.
- The course was my first exposure to these topics, and it did give me a good overview.
- In all aspect

Q3: Do you think the workshop was helpful? Would you recommend this course to others?

- Yes = 2*
- I took the course because of several recommendations from colleagues. It was very helpful for me and I will recommend it to others.
- Certainly, this course is highly recommended to all students working during the biological fields of study to have a large scale viewpoint and to solve or answer their questions based on a computational perspective.

Q4: Did the trainers take sufficient time / opportunities for questions and discussions?

- Yes = 6*
- it was my pleasure to have Martin as the master of this course. he is an excellent source of knowledge, he was eagerly responsible for all questions.
- I always felt comfortable asking questions and Martin took the time to answer them in depth.
- Martin was always open for questions

Q5: Which parts were especially good (and why)?

- I liked his unconventional way of teaching with references in research papers rather than following a couple of textbooks. He incorporated a lot of his experiences into a week's course which is really appreciable.
- Clarifying the bigger picture since I did know almost nothing of this.
- The atmosphere between us was friendly, the webinar made us possible to handle everything confidently.
- The introduction as well as lectures on the carbon cycle, earth system models and climate projections, because these helped me to gain some insight into the "big picture" of the climate system.
- The model visualizations and the toy models. It allows us to explore the impact when we change the parameters.
- The disruption due to Covid-19 was unfortunate but handled well and although doing it online was not ideal, I am pleased it went ahead and impressed with how smoothly it went The content was concise, relevant and informative, and was presented well

Q6: Which parts were not so good / not so fitting / not well enough presented?

- Of course the online learning was a bit strange at the beginning, but it was all right. Apart from that, it was perfect.
- There were so much details and information that I could not grasp all of them. But again, all of this was very new to me. I am a machine learner and my goal was to have a better understanding where my data comes from. The course totally satisfied this.
- Everything was completely well! = 2*
- If I need to write something here, I'd say the part on nutrients, which I found quite specialized.
- I found it difficult to answer some of the questions on the slides as I don't have a background in biogeochemistry or modelling and the information was a little difficult to find on the slides

Q7: Do you have other suggestions for a future workshop?

- I actually enjoyed the online format.
- Not something special!
- Really good course, keep it up :)