

Leistungselemente, Zwischenprüfungen

Course: **Mechanik 1**, introductory lecture on kinematics and statics for mechanical and civil engineering bachelor 1st semester.

Lecturer: Edoardo Mazza (since 2006)

Students: typically > 750 enrolled



3 hours V

1 hour Kolloquium

2 hours Schnellübungen (Sü):

- about 30 Teaching Assistants, HA
- mentored solution of exc.
- Additional homework (Hü)

Exam:

Block 1, together with Mechanik 2, (Jahreskurs); open questions.



ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
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Zwischenprüfungen, motivation:

Students in first semester:

- motivate to learn continuously during semester

- motivate to follow weekly exercises (→ exam)

- provide feedback on their performance

- provide examples of exam situation

- push mechanics w.r.t. other courses?

Did it work?

- Students do take it seriously.

- High participation, also good attendance of weekly exercises.

- Positive feedback by students.

- Positive correlation with exam results (obvious!).



Zwischenprüfungen, realization (so far):

2-3 times each semester.

Exam duration: about 1 hour.

Own notes (1 page) allowed.

Open questions, "manual" correction (ML!):

30 TAs work for about 6 hours (25 exams each)

Assistants of the group to check about 10%.

After correction, exams given back to students.

If grade change required: main assistant involved, understand case.

Average to improve 30% the grade of Mechanik 1, "wenn verbessernd".

Justifications for absence: only illness or military service.



Zwischenprüfungen, realization (new):

2 times each semester.

Exam duration: about 1 hour.

Strict exam conditions, i.e. in Prüfungseinsicht available, exam cannot go back to students → change style!

Exam questions correspond to Sü or Hü (slightly changed). No notes allowed.

Multiple choice answers. Average to improve 30% the grade of Mechanik 1, "wenn verbessernd...".

Justifications for absence: according to rectorate.

Discussion: type of exam for multiple choice? Cannot "translate" our earlier questions. Points for "ideas", "concepts" are lost if only final result is relevant. "Segmented" exam guide through thinking process...

