MSc Individual Project

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MSc Project Coordinators
Aims of the Project

Your Chance To

- Demonstrate independence and originality
- Plan and organise a large project
- Put into practice what you have learned

A Piece of Academic Work

- It is a problem to be addressed
- Aim 1 — produce a great report that demonstrates:
  - Ability to conduct basic background research
  - Ability to produce a non-trivial implementation and/or piece of theoretical work
  - Ability to communicate your achievements
Sources of Information

Project Info

- http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/lab/msc-projects
- Main deadlines, summary
- Can also be accessed using Info button in CATE projects portal, and via MSc noticeboard

Project Guidelines

- http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/lab/msc-projects/ProjectsGuide.html
- Linked to from main page above
- Full information on the process, plenty of advice, pitfalls etc.
Project Milestones

1. Choose (and be chosen for) a project
2. Submit a literature survey
3. Present and demonstrate results
4. Submit a final report (“thesis”)
5. Submit any artefacts (“code”)
Types of Project

The standard route — staff proposed projects

• Browse through the database on CATE
• Plenty of choice

The alternative — propose a project yourself

• Add your proposal to the CATE database
• Must find a willing departmental supervisor
• Complete the admin steps as for other projects

Both types can include industry-linked projects
Industry-Linked Proposals

- Can be great projects but need planning – there are pitfalls
- Must be approved by Course Director
- Must find a departmental supervisor
- Not an internship
- Industry partner not involved in assessment
- Rules for industry-based projects
  - [https://workspace.imperial.ac.uk/computing/Public/files/industry-based-msc-projects.pdf](https://workspace.imperial.ac.uk/computing/Public/files/industry-based-msc-projects.pdf)
Steps in Project Allocation

1. Supervisors propose projects on CATE
2. Students view project proposals on CATE and select ones of interest
3. Students arrange meetings with potential supervisors
   • proposal might specify available times
4. Supervisors record meeting and preferences
5. Students record preferences on CATE
   • 1 first choice, 2 second choices
6. Project coordinator allocates projects to students
The Allocation Process

- You **MUST** shortlist three projects, from at least two different supervisors
- Even if one is your own
- Even if you really only want your first choice
- Even if you have ‘agreed’ with the supervisor that you will get your first choice
- The allocation is done by the coordinators, not the supervisors
- Listing only one choice will not mean you will get that project. You will be given lower priority
- CATE shows a **popularity score** for each project. The more popular the project, the more competition.
Important Dates (Spring Term)

Review project proposals and meet with potential supervisors

• Spring term weeks 4–6

Indicate your project preferences

• one first choice, two second choices
• deadline: 24.00 Friday 20 February
Important Dates (After Spring Term)

Submit literature survey and progress report
- electronic: 24.00 Friday 5 June

Present/demonstrate results
- supervisor and second marker
- by arrangement, close to report deadline

Submit final report
- hard copies: 16.00 Friday 4 September
- electronic: 24.00 Friday 4 September
Timeline

**Weeks 4-6**
- Select
  - Review project proposals
  - Select projects of interest
  - Meet potential supervisors
  - Record preferences

**Weeks 7, 8**
- Allocate
  - Best fit pairing

**Spring term**
- Study
  - Revise and sit exams
  - Arrange initial meeting

**Easter & Summer 1-6**
- Investigate
  - Revise and sit exams
  - Background research
  - Start work
  - Write literature survey

**Until submission ...**
- Focus
  - Meet with supervisor regularly
  - Produce results
  - Present and demo results
  - Write final project report
Projects and ISOs/MRes Projects

Individual Project Must Be **Distinct** From ISO or MRes Project

- You cannot get credit twice for same work

Projects Can Be Related

- Deeper research into specific aspect
- Complementary to earlier work
- You must include extra section in report with ISO/MRes results, explaining relationship to project

Literature Survey

- ISO/MRes may be a literature review
- Need to replace this part of project
- Include in project report with attribution
Some Important Links

Project Information

• http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/lab/msc-projects
• http://www.doc.ic.ac.uk/lab/msc-projects/ProjectsGuide.html
• Can also be accessed using Info button in CATE projects portal, and via MSc noticeboard

Viewing projects and recording preferences

• https://cate.doc.ic.ac.uk/projects/admin.cgi?key=2014:12
Academic Year 2012-2013

v7.1

Personal Page

Page created on Mon Jan 7 17:47:14 GMT 2013

Your identity:

First Name: Timothy
Last Name: Kimber
Login: tk106
Category: TF
Your CATE adviser is: Zappacosta, Silvana

Related external sites:

Email and Modules Subscription:
Teaching Database:

Access other CATE functionalities:

Analytics:
Departmental Grading Schema:
Documentation:
Late Submissions and Extensions:
Lecture Notes and Exercises
Registration:
Projects Portal:
Special Activities:
Students Individual Records:
For detailed administrative aspects of the projects (proposals, offers, selections, allocations, timetables and others as applicable) follow the appropriate link. The functionality is controlled by the deadlines imposed by the corresponding Organiser.

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<tr>
<th>Generic title</th>
<th>Organiser</th>
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