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An MPhil/PartIII project proposal [*delete as appropriate]*

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Abstract

Write an “elevator pitch”. In other words what’s the problem, why is it important or interesting, and what’s your approach. (100 words)

1 Introduction, approach and outcomes (500 words)

Provide an introduction to your project or essay. In particular, try to motivate the work and explain the relevant context (general background, as well as sufficient detail about any related work).

What’s the basic idea and approach? What are you thinking of doing, and how is it going to solve the problem (or need) you’ve identified. What are you going to “produce”? A project will typically produce one (or perhaps more) of the following: a piece of software, an evaluation of a published result, a proof, or the design (and perhaps the construction of) a new piece of hardware. An essay will typically either review and critique a particular area of the academic literature, or evaluate a published result or proof. Try to name the specific things (and describe them) in this part of the proposal – this will allow you to refer to them in the next.

2 Workplan (500 words)

Project students have approximately 26 weeks between the approval of the proposal by the Head of Department, and the submission of the dissertation. This section should account for what you intend to do during that time. You should divide the time into two-week chunks including dates, and describe the work to be done (and, as relevant, milestones to be achieved) in each chunk. You should leave two chunks for writing a project dissertation. You should leave 1 chunk for contingencies.