DS 5690-01 Gen AI Models in Theory Prac...   CK Charlee Kraiss

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Project Development Timeline & Expectations

Shivam Tyagi posted on Oct 20, 2025 8:21 AM   •   ↻ Edited

Hello everyone,

To help you plan your final project effectively and avoid last-minute rushes, here's a suggested project development timeline. These checkpoints are not formal graded assignments, but they are strongly encouraged milestones to help you stay on track and deliver your best work.

If you follow this timeline, your project will come together naturally, one step at a time.

Week	Focus	What To Do	Goal
Oct 20 - 25	Project Definition	Finalize topic and problem, discuss with TA/Professor, submit on brightspace	Commit early and clarify your direction
Oct 27 - Nov 1	Design and Data Plan / Implementation	Identify data sources, expected outcome, approaches, models, etc.	Ensure feasibility and connection to course concepts
Nov 3 - 8	Implementation	Have your environment ready (data loaded, base model running, or pseudocode drafted)	Reduce setup panic and start experimenting early
Nov 10 - 15	Mid-Project Check-in	Share partial results, challenges, progress with TA/Professor and get feedback	Early debugging and course correction.
Nov 17 - 20	Final Prep and Submission	Upload code, presentation materials, model/data cards	Gives a firm cutoff and time to practice giving the presentation in class

These milestones are meant to make your life easier, not harder.
Consistent, small progress now will save you many late nights later.
Use class time, office hours, and feedback loops to ask questions and refine your ideas as you go.

You have complete freedom in what you build, just make sure it demonstrates your understanding of the course and applies the concepts meaningfully.
Even if your model doesn't "succeed," a well-structured and well-analyzed project will still receive full credit.