

Capstone Project

Group Project

As part of the Capstone project, student groups collaborate with a Project partner to address a societal challenge by developing a comprehensive project proposal, designing and implementing a digital intervention, and producing a final report. The process begins with selecting a challenge and writing a proposal that reviews relevant theoretical and empirical literature, formulates research questions, decides on a theoretical framework, proposes a research design, and outlines key elements of the intervention, including a justified system intervention and reflections on stakeholders. Students then design and implement a digital intervention tailored to stakeholder needs, grounded in social science theories, and applying social and data science methodologies to address key intervention points. The intervention aims to have both policy and academic relevance, driving meaningful societal impact. The final report documents the entire process, incorporating a literature review, applied methodologies, critical reflections on limitations and biases, and key findings. It contextualizes the project within broader academic and policy frameworks and evaluates its potential societal and policy impact, emphasizing its significance to the Project partner and stakeholders.

Deadlines

Deadline	What?	Hand-in for progress check
March 19 (Wed), 2025 14.00	Project Proposal	March 5, 2025 17.00
April 9 (Wed), 2025 14.00-17.00	Mid-term Prototype Event (<i>participation mandatory</i>)	-
June 5 (Thu), 2025 17.00	Final Product	March 28 (Fri), 2025 17.00
June 6 (Fri), 2025 17.00	Final Report	April 25 (Fri), 2025 17.00

For Progress Checks, you are expected to submit the version of the assignment that you have completed up to that point. To determine what to submit, refer to the assignment descriptions for each relevant assignment. Additionally, your Core lecturer may provide more specific guidance in individual cases, outlining their expectations for the Progress Check submissions.

How to work on the project...

...as a group

- Interact professionally with your partner organisation and representatives.
- Specify a research agenda that is of appropriate scope for the project and that meets the needs of your partner.
- Lay out a timeline including important milestones and regularly check whether you are on track.
- Be aware of your implicit assumptions and biases regarding the project challenge.
- Incorporate feedback throughout the project.
- Reflect on the weaknesses of your approach and adjust as necessary.

...individually within your group

- Behave professionally towards group colleagues.
- Fulfil the group expectations laid out in the Team Charter.

Project Accommodations

Specific elements of the project may vary based on project-specific needs, with previous agreement from your Core Lecturer.

Accommodations will only be granted in exceptional circumstances and must be well-justified given the internal logic of the research plan.

Accommodations will not be made for student-specific circumstances through this procedure. There is a separate procedure in place to request deadline extensions or other accommodations due to student circumstances; see the “Force Majeur” section of the Course Manual, your Core Lecturer, or the Study Advisor.

Version history:
Jan 20, 2025: v. 1.0