Degree Project at the Department of Intelligent Systems, EECS

Information Meeting TSCRM, 2019-10-08 (Room D2)

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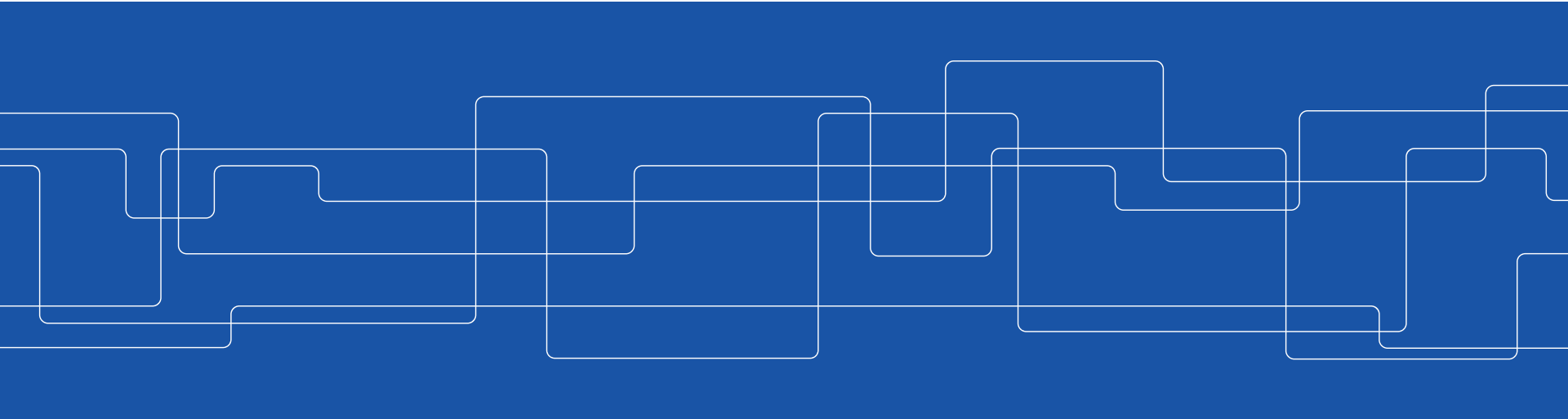

Disclaimer

Due to a reorganization at the EECS school there may be changes and updates in the procedures and the course plan.

Please check the course page in Canvas (QR code) for updates and the latest information.

Role of the Degree-Project Coordinator at IS

Course responsible for MEX courses:

- DA233X Degree Project in Computer Science and Engineering, specializing in Machine Learning
- **DA236X Degree Project in Computer Science and Engineering, specializing in Systems, Control and Robotics**
- **EA236X Degree Project in Electrical Engineering, specializing in Systems, Control and Robotics**
- EA260X Degree Project in Electrical Engineering, specializing in Information and Network Engineering
- DA235X Degree Project in Computer Science and Engineering, specializing in Industrial Management

Support students, examiners, and supervisors when getting started

Degree Project Course

Two mandatory degree project course for TSCRM:

If you aim for a degree in Computer Science:

- **DA236X Degree Project in Computer Science and Engineering, specializing in Systems, Control and Robotics**
- Course plan: https://www.kth.se/student/kurser/kurs/DA236X

If you aim for a degree in Electrical Engineering (from VT2020):

- **EA236X Degree Project in Electrical Engineering, specializing in Systems, Control and Robotics**
- Course plan: https://www.kth.se/student/kurser/kurs/EA236X

Canvas (QR): https://kth.instructure.com/courses/19582

Note: Exceptions can be granted by the PA under certain conditions.

Specific Prerequisites

The following courses have to be fully completed in order to be eligible:

- All courses that are required for issuing the Degree of Bachelor
- 60 credits of courses for second-cycle studies (i.e., TSCRM)
- A course on philosophy of science and research methodology

Comments

- These are hard constraints; there is no grey-zone.
- If the requirements are not fully fulfilled, an exception has to be granted by the GA (Ann Lantz).

Procedures

Step 1: Eligibility check

- If you know/think that you are eligible, send the following documentation to the master coordinator, Cristina La Verde (clv@kth.se):
  - Completed and signed application form for degree projects, part 1 (click here!)
  - A short paragraph explaining how you fulfill the requirements.

  Cristina will return the signed document if you are eligible.

- When? – As soon as you fulfill the criteria (but not earlier)!

- *If you know that you do not fulfill all requirements, you need to apply for an exception. Exceptions are granted by the GA.*

Procedures

Step 2: Find a project

- Degree Project Fair in Kista (October 9, 2019, 11.30-15.00, focus on ICT)
- KTH Degree Project Portal
- Company websites (Ericsson, Spotify,…)
- Talk to KTH researchers in relevant areas
- Develop own ideas (ideally in collaboration with a KTH researcher/supervisor/examiner)
- Programs for external funding (KTH intranet), e.g.,
  - Minor Field Studies (see studera.nu), Erasmus

Procedures

Step 3: Prepare a short project proposal (1-3 pages)

- Can be based on the project description provided from a company/researcher
- Recommended structure (based on CSC instructions, click here):

1. CONTACT
2. PRELIMINARY THESIS TITLE
3. BACKGROUND/CONDITIONS
4. RESEARCH QUESTION
5. BACKGROUND OF THE DEGREE PROJECT STUDENT
6. SUPERVISOR AT THE COMPANY
7. LIMITS/RESOURCES
8. STUDY PLANNING
9. COMPLIANCE WITH COURSE GOALS (new)

Procedures

Step 4: Find an examiner and KTH supervisor

- Students are supposed to find an examiner and supervisor on their own based on the project proposal
  - Examiner: teacher who listed as examiner on the course code
  - Supervisor (at KTH): teacher, postdoc, PhD student, researcher
- Support by the degree project coordinator at IS
  - List of examiners including areas interest (Canvas)
  - Short list of recommended examiners if necessary
- Examiner decides on the KTH supervisor; however, students can make suggestions.
- KTH supervisor is needed even for industry projects.

Procedures

Step 5: Course registration

- If project proposal is finalized and examiner and supervisor are decided, send the
  - Completed degree project application form (part 1+2)
  - Finalized project proposal
  - If needed, GA decisions

  to the student support (education-support@eecs.kth.se) with a copy to the degree-project coordinator IS (exjobb-is@eecs.kth.se) and master coordinator (clv@kth.se).

Examination

Degree project

- Pre-study, discussion of method choice and literature study
- Written report with abstract in both Swedish and English
- Oral presentation

Seminars and opposition

- Active attendance at two oral presentations of second-cycle degree projects
- Written and oral opposition of another student's second-cycle degree project

Self-assessment report

- How did you fulfill the course goals (all course goals need to be fulfilled)?

Course Goals

After completed degree project, the student should show such proficiency that is required to participate in research and development work […]. These include:

- considerably advanced knowledge within the main field of study/the specialisation for the education, including advanced insight into current research and development work,
- specialised methodological knowledge within the main field of study/the specialisation for the education,
- ability to participate in research and development work and so contribute to the formation of knowledge,
- ability to, with a holistic approach, critically, independently and creatively identify, formulate, analyse, assess and deal with complex phenomena and issues, even with limited information,
- ability to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake advanced tasks within predetermined parameters, as well as to evaluate this work,
- ability to create, analyse and critically evaluate different technical/architectural solutions,
- ability to critically and systematically integrate knowledge and ability to identify the need of additional knowledge,
- ability to orally and in writing be able to clearly present and discuss their conclusions, as well as the knowledge and arguments on which they are based,
- ability to within the frames of the degree project identify the role of the scholarship and the engineer in the society,
- ability to within the frame of the specific degree project be able to identify which issues that need to be answered in order to observe relevant dimensions of sustainable development, and
- ability to within the frames of the degree project assess and show awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work, with respect to methods, working methods and results of the degree project.

Important

- Students are not allowed to start the project before the course is registered in Ladok.
- A degree project is an individual project performed by a single student.
- All course goals need to be fulfilled.
- Projects should not exceed 12 months.
- The final report is always a public document regardless of whether you agree to publishing it in the Diva database or not.
- The grading should be performed / should be verifiable based on the final report.
- Publishing the thesis is a requirement for receiving the grade.

Consequences

- If confidential parts of the report are removed, the remaining parts of the report must be sufficient to fulfill the course goals.
- If a company blocks results (and publishing the report) under a certain period in time, you will receive your grade when the report is finally released.

Important

- KTH does not sign NDAs.
- IPR (click here for further information)
  - It is important to have an agreement with companies before the project starts.
  - If the project is performed as part of an employment at a company and the company has proposed / “owns” the idea, the company owns the IPR. A compensation for the student should be formalized in an agreement.
  - If the student proposes or “owns” the project and in such a case there is no agreement, the student owns the IPR.

What if…

I do not fulfill all eligibility requirements?

- GA needs to issue an exception.

I want to use another course code?

- PA needs to grant an exception under certain conditions.

My preferred examiner is not listed on DA/EA236X?

- Ask for permission to use another course code (PA).
- In some cases, we may be able (and want) to add a missing examiner (requires GA decision).
- In any case, this will delay the process by a few weeks!

When Contacting the Degree-Project Coordinator…

- Send an email to exjobb-is@eecs.kth.se
- State your name the way it can be found in Ladok
- State your program and course code
- Do not send your personal number unless it is requested