

CS907/13 Dissertation Project

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## CS907/13 Dissertation Project

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|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ▶ Finding a supervisor and project | October until December |
| ▶ Registration                     | January 18, noon       |
| ▶ Presentation                     | April 29 to May 10     |
| ▶ Interim Report                   | July 11, noon          |
| ▶ Dissertation Report              | September 3, noon      |

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Website: `https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/dcs/teaching/material/cs907`

All submissions via tabula.  $\text{\LaTeX}$  is optional. No templates available, but sample dissertations are available:

`https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/dcs/teaching/material/cs907/sample-library`

## Your supervisor

- ▶ Helps you shape and refine your project idea and the project direction
- ▶ Can give advice on how to conduct research
- ▶ Can give advice on how to present results, i.e., how to structure a dissertation
- ▶ Is **NOT** involved in the writing process of the dissertation
- ▶ Does **NOT** teach you the topic that you have chosen

## Working with your supervisor

- ▶ Agree on a timetable of meetings at the start of your project. Stick to it
- ▶ Be on time to each meeting
- ▶ Make sure each meeting has a focus, e.g., “setting a research problem”
- ▶ Be prepared with your questions during the meetings: Do not take up time thinking up your questions during a meeting
- ▶ Send documents that can form the basis of a discussion about your progress to your supervisor before meetings, e.g., research plan, early results
- ▶ Record discussion and action points right after each meeting
- ▶ Recognise that using systems and learning about tools is your responsibility: Linux, Bash, make, git, etc

## Tips and Tricks

- ▶ Do not wait for your supervisor to micromanage you. Be pro-active.
- ▶ Show your partial progress to your supervisor as early and as often as possible.
- ▶ It gives a better impression if you made a lot of progress, possibly in the “wrong” direction, compared to not having anything to show.
- ▶ Not only show that you are interested and willing to learn, but that you can actually *do* things.

## Planning your project

With guidance from your supervisor:

- ▶ Make precise what the project milestones are and when you plan to reach them.
- ▶ Create a Gantt Chart of the expected course of the project: Tasks should get names and realistic timeframes

### Website Development Process

Gantt Chart

PROCESS	QUARTER 1				QUARTER 2				QUARTER 3			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Planning												
Wireframing												
Design Process												
Front-end development												
Back-end development												
Deployment												

# Presentation

- ▶ April 29 – May 10
- ▶ Worth 5% of the mark.
- ▶ You will get a second assessor assigned before the presentation (provided you do not have a second supervisor).
- ▶ A presentation of your progress at that point. Your engagement, your consistent progress, your project management, your planning, etc
- ▶ The Assessment Criteria are on the website:
  - ▶ Technical content
  - ▶ Project management and organization
  - ▶ Communication skills