732A30 Master's thesis

Division of Statistics and Machine Learning
Department of Computer and Information Science (IDA)
Linköping University
Sweden

LiU
expanding reality

Some important general issues

✂ The most important (and most interesting) course of the entire program

    λ Application of course-related attained knowledge and development of scientific reasoning on a problem that has not yet been solved.

    λ Training of communication with commissioners that either lack or are not well-updated on knowledge within the statistical discipline.

    λ Training in short-time comprehension of a problem area, including what has previously been done within this area.

    λ Training in project planning in order to keep with the schedule.

    λ Training in compiling several months of intensive work comprising literature studies and computer programming into a comprehensive scientific report.

A course that <u>starts in January 2015</u> and <u>ends in June 2015</u>.

Your most important record and image towards future employers, schools and cooperation partners.

Some course facts

- Course responsible: Mattias Villani
- Course web page: www.ida.liu.se/~732A30/index.en.shtml
- Compulsory within-course seminars:
  - *Thesis proposal seminar*
  - *Mid-term report*
  - *Revision meeting*
  - *Oral defense seminar*

  All seminars are plenary activities (compulsory to attend other's presentations and take part in the discussion)

- For each student (thesis work) a supervisor is appointed. Supervisor and examiner is not the same person.

Important dates

22 October, 2014: preparatory meeting (*today*)

12 December, 2014: Deadline for handing in project description to Mattias.

17 December, 2014: Approval of thesis topic and selection of supervisor

20 January, 2015: Course start with introduction.

10 February, 2015: Thesis proposal seminar

24 March, 2015: Mid-term report, 8-18 Turing

18 May, 2015 (approximately): Revision meeting

27 May, 2015: Submission of thesis draft

3 June, 2015: Oral defense seminar. 8-18 Turing.

16 June, 2015: Last day to submit final version of the Master's thesis for it to be reported within the study year

12 January, 2016. Second opportunity for an oral defense seminar (for students who become delayed)

How to find a thesis subject

- Each student is <u>responsible</u> themselves for finding a subject proposal by contacting potential commissioners in Sweden or abroad.

- Talk to former students of the program, look at thesis subject from previous years etc. to find about potential thesis subject commissioners

- Public/governmental bodies in Sweden: SCB (Statistical office of Sweden), Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank), Hälsouniversitetet (Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping university), Karolinska institutet (Medical university of Stockholm), VTI (The Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute, Linköping [at Campus Valla]), …

.Private companies in Sweden: Volvo, Gothenburg; Scania, Södertälje; Insurance companies (FOLKSAM, If, …); Private banks (Swedbank, Nordea, SEB, Handelsbanken), …

.Send e-mails, try to contact by phone. Try to get in contact with the economic unit/department [ekonomiavdelningen/enheten] or production unit [produktionsavdelningen/enheten] of a company /public body <u>and not the unit of employees</u> [personalavdelningen]

.Describe yourself as a Master's program student in Statistics and Data Mining with the speciality of analysing large data materials. Emphasize your large practice with computer programming/calculations.

.The thesis subject should be such that it normally requires 5 months of intensive work (from idea to thesis), no more, no less. The level should be advanced.

. Do not focus on one commissioner at a time. Try to be flexible and keep many doors open. You may often have to wait a while for response. Don't require an immediate response. Give your contact details and be patient for a while.

. Be optimistic. Sooner or later you will get response.

. If you get a response from a private company, remember that there might be issues of confidentiality attached to the thesis work. If such issues are too restrictive, you may enter into difficulties.

Should you despite all efforts fail in finding a thesis subject (by 10 December), the department can arrange with a thesis subject for you, but that subject may not be part of your personal interests.