

Final Year Project

Week 1: Intro to the Project

22nd September 2025

Overview



Project Timelines and Milestones



Overview of the project process



Project Resources

Contact Me

- Project Organisers:
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 - Lecturers – School of Computer Science
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Overview of the Project Process

FYP and your Programme

- All students take this module
- 20 ECTS out of 60 ECTS for the year
 - Number of Hours per 5 ECTS - ?
- 33% of your Year 4 mark
- Your degree award mark is based on your mark in year 4

Project Class

- For semester 1 the project class will run each Monday from 1pm to 2pm
- The class will be a combination of:
 - Formal classes on relevant topics
 - Review of required elements
 - Project clinics (drop-in)
- Open to suggestions on content to cover.
 - Areas not well understood
 - Review topics and New topics

What is a Project?

- Individual piece of work
- Development of a complex project
 - Documentation
 - Multiple documents
 - Analysis, Design, Coding, Testing, Evaluation,
- Deliver/Architect a system
- This will be a significant body of work
- Projects will be presented at the project fair (excellent employment opportunity)
- Generate an idea
 - Supervisor will advise

Types of Project

- User Systems Project
 - Development of an artifact / Software system
- Research Project
 - Solving a research-oriented problem
 - Experiment and evaluation based
- Hardware / Infrastructure project
 - Micro-processors
 - Internet-of-Things

Project Ideas

- Students come up with their own project idea and their supervisor will advise on direction and suitability.
- Sources of ideas include:
 - Your own idea / interests / unique idea?
 - Work placement suggestions
 - Students working with communities etc
 - Staff suggestions

Meeting Project Expectations

- To get an idea of the project expectations it is a good idea to go through the past project documents on the library website:
 - <https://www.tudublin.ie/library/cc/search-resources/dissertations-theses/>
 - Talking to lecturers
- The level of work for the projects must equal 20 ECTs.
 - Equivalent of 4 X 5 credit modules!!

Project Start

- Your FYP project starts right now
- You settle on an idea and research it
- You write up your idea as a formal proposal
- This is submitted via Brightspace (use template!)
- You get allocated a supervisor
-and it's game on....

Project Proposal

- The project proposal contains all the details of your project idea and the approach to be followed and technology to be used.
- You should consult with lecturers in the School of Computer Science to discuss your idea and to get suggestions and feedback
 - Project Title
 - Summary
 - Background
 - Proposed Approach
 - Deliverables
 - Technical Requirements

Project Resources



Project Resources

- All resources, files, documents, submissions and uploads will be available through Brightspace
- Single module for TU856 / TU857 / TU858 (*CMPU4027*)
- Self-enrol on module *ASAP* (currently open)

90-100	The student went above and beyond with the FYP interim. The complexity on all levels, and the objectives of the interim demonstrates that a real intellectual challenge is being attempted. All elements of the scope are covered and provides critical analysis and discussion.
80-89	The student presented a very strong FYP interim. The project provides a solution for a particular niche. The prototype and standard. The interim successfully discusses all elements of the scope and discussion of achievements.
70-79	The student presented a good, solid interim that demonstrates quality of work. Although the project is not mainstream, the student successfully discusses all elements of the scope and provides achievements.
60-69	A very good FYP interim. The project covers a complete scope and several discussion. The project presents a real intellectual challenge or innovation.
50-59	The student presented a good interim that overall works. The project presents a distinct challenge. The project is lacking as a prototype. The project is implemented in a technical manner without strong complexity.
40-49	The student presented an FYP interim that is largely lacking. The project is either not a prototype of any kind, or the project is of such low quality as a prototype-concept for the remainder of the FYP. Never successfully thought out.
<40	The FYP interim demonstrates that the student has so far not implemented the project or the student has so far failed to engage with the FYP process overall FYP. The interim submissions might be incomplete. and/or engagement.

Rubrics

- New rubrics this year (14th October).
- Think of them as a *contract* between you and your examiner
- Rubrics tell you exactly what you need to do to achieve the mark you want
- Rubrics for interim and final submissions available in Brightspace
- It is *extremely important* to be familiar with the rubric!!

Weekly Logs

- As part of the project process you should keep a weekly log of work carried out and meetings
- This will keep a track of what was delivered for a given week and what needs to be completed for the next week.
- This is a really good way to manage your project and document your achievements on a weekly basis.
- There will be a submission link each week on Brightspace, this will have a cut-off date/time. Submissions will be accepted only through Brightspace (i.e. Don't email me)
- **You should spend no more than 12 mins completing the log.** This is a high level documentation of what was completed, what was discussed and what we need to do.

Traps to Avoid

- Looking at ideas that are too simple (e.g. basic phone app) OR too hard (you only have till March/April)
- Looking at ideas that lack originality or that do not address a problem
- Picking an idea that sounds good but which you really have no interest in

Approach and Mindset

- The project is a considerable amount of work.
- The best approach is to put a plan in place and work on your project week by week with your supervisor.
- The supervisor does not specify the work you need to do, they are there to guide you through the process and offer advice and feedback.

Equipment

- There is a budget for specialized equipment
- We do have some equipment in stock too
- Equipment request needs to be filled out, signed by a lecturer too and submitted to school office
- Please download and fill out equipment request form (available in Brightspace) and email to Ciaran.



If you need specialized equipment / software to complete your project, please ensure you can get access to it in a timely manner. This can add undue delays to your project progress

Summary

- Start researching your project idea
- Look at the past projects to get project ideas and an overview of what is required
- Be aware of the project timeline and milestone submissions
- Start drafting your project proposal asap and use the template on Brightspace.
- If you are having difficulties let us know!!
- Be mindful of the disadvantages and challenges of using AI when using AI

New Rubric

- New section on Systems Analysis
 - Out from Literature review
- Reduced Marks for Coding Skills
 - Required to Demonstrate understanding of Code
- Slight change to Project Management marks
- Gen AI required to be cited and Prompts shown in an appendix

1	NO AI	<p>The assessment is completed entirely without AI assistance. This level ensures that students rely solely on their knowledge, understanding, and skills.</p> <p>AI must not be used at any point during the assessment.</p>
2	AI-ASSISTED IDEA GENERATION AND STRUCTURING	<p>AI can be used in the assessment for brainstorming, creating structures, and generating ideas for improving work.</p> <p>No AI content is allowed in the final submission.</p>
3	AI-ASSISTED EDITING	<p>AI can be used to make improvements to the clarity or quality of student created work to improve the final output, but no new content can be created using AI.</p> <p>AI can be used, but your original work with no AI content must be provided in an appendix.</p>
4	AI TASK COMPLETION, HUMAN EVALUATION	<p>AI is used to complete certain elements of the task, with students providing discussion or commentary on the AI-generated content. This level requires critical engagement with AI generated content and evaluating its output.</p> <p>You will use AI to complete specified tasks in your assessment.</p> <p>Any AI created content must be cited.</p>
5	FULL AI	<p>AI should be used as a 'co-pilot' in order to meet the requirements of the assessment, allowing for a collaborative approach with AI and enhancing creativity.</p> <p>You may use AI throughout your assessment to support your own work and do not have to specify which content is AI generated.</p>