Practical Lab

Computer Systems Lab

https://github.com/TUM-DSE/sys-lab

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Course instructors

Dr. David Schall

Postdoc

Prof. Pramod Bhatotia

Professor

Systems Research Group

https://dse.in.tum.de/team/

Mentors

Masanori Misono

Postdoc

Dimitrios Stavrakakis

Postdoc

Dennis Sprokholt

Postdoc

Anatole Lefort

Postdoc

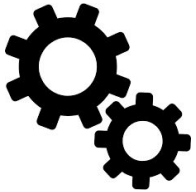
David Schall

Postdoc

Computer systems lab (aka “sys-lab”)

Team
(~3-4 students per team)
advised by a mentor

Understand



Evaluate

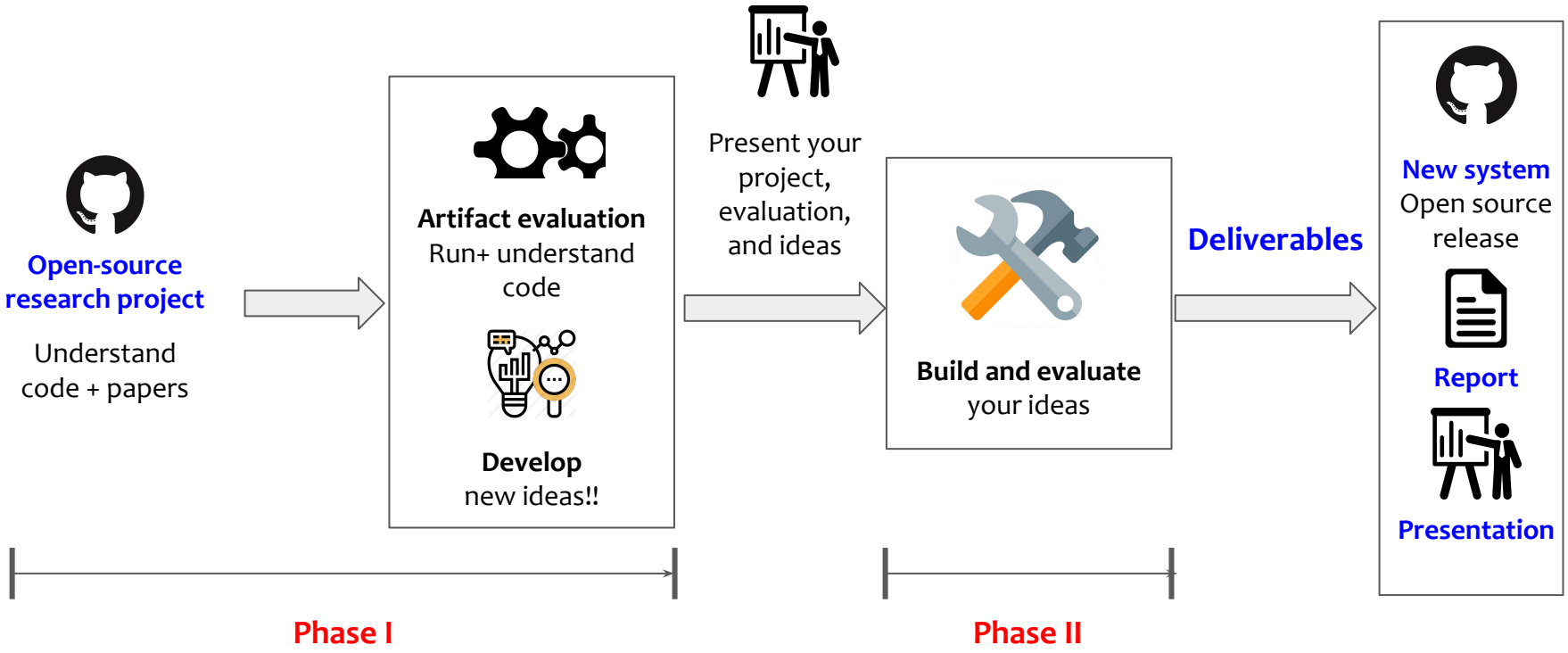
Generate ideas

Build on your ideas

sys-lab

Open source project
(state-of-the-art research topic)

Format


Open-source research project
Understand code + papers
Artifact evaluation
Run+ understand code
Develop
new ideas!!
Present your project, evaluation, and ideas
Build and evaluate
your ideas
Deliverables
New system
Open source release
Report
Presentation
Phase I
Phase II

Focus of this Lab

- State of the art open-source computer systems projects

- End-to-end system design and development
  - What is it? → Learn by understanding the system
  - How can we use it? → Learn by evaluating the system
  - What can be improved? → Learn by generating new ideas!
  - How to realise our ideas? → Learn by building the system

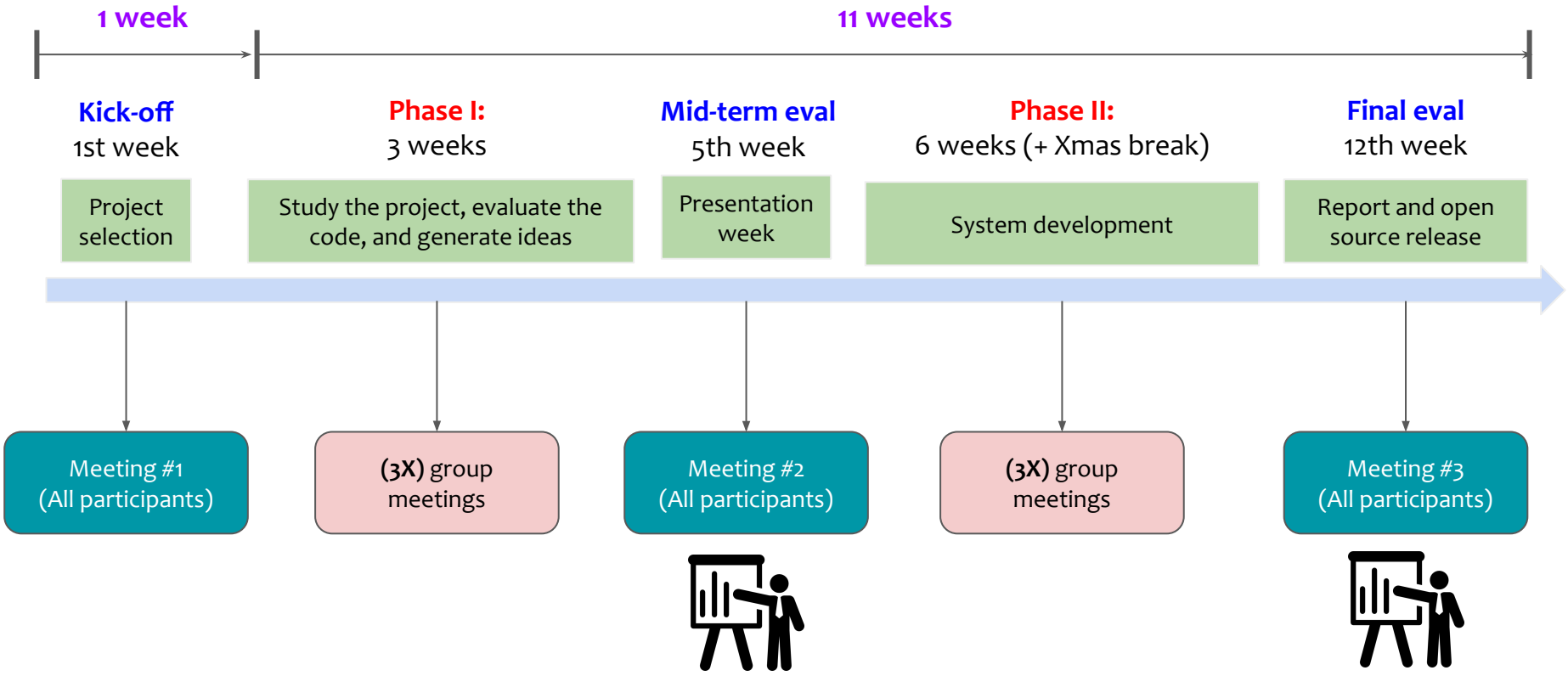
Tentative topics (WS 24/25)

Projects are based on the research themes at the chair

1. Microarchitecture (David)
2. Trusted computing (Dimitris)
3. CXL memory systems (Anatole)
4. Verification (Dennis)
5. Confidential computing and cloud (Masa)

IMPORTANT:
The exact list of projects will be provided in the first week

Timeline


1 week
11 weeks
Kick-off
1st week
Project selection
Phase I:
3 weeks
Study the project, evaluate the code, and generate ideas
Mid-term eval
5th week
Presentation week
Phase II:
6 weeks (+ Xmas break)
System development
Final eval
12th week
Report and open source release
Meeting #1 (All participants)
(3X) group meetings
Meeting #2 (All participants)
(3X) group meetings
Meeting #3 (All participants)

Dates

All participant meetings – **IN PERSON**	**Dates (Thu, 13:00h)**
Kick-off: Project selection	16th October 2025 (**13:00h-14:00h**)
Phase I: Mid-term evaluation	20st November 2025 (**13:00h-16:00h**)
Phase II : Final evaluation	22th January 2026 (**13:00h-17:00h**)

Group meetings	**Dates**
(3x) phase I group meetings	Directly organized with the team mentor
(3x) Phase II group meetings	Directly organized with the team mentor

Grading

Category	Details	Grade
Phase I: Artifact evaluation	Running and evaluating code by reproducing the results described by the authors	20%
Phase II: System building	Extending the system with your own ideas	40%
(2x) Presentations	Two presentations are due after each phase, audience participation is also graded	20%
Report + Open-source release	One report covering all aspects	20%

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If applicable: Pull requests to the project -> Bonus points

Organization

- **Project-based course (~4 students per team) advised by a Team Leader**
- **Meetings:**
  - **3x** all participant meetings
  - **6x** group meetings (with the team mentor)
- **Communication:**
  - Slack: course channel for announcements and group channel for the team work
- **Format:**
  - **Meeting #1: Kick-off** -- project selection, team formation, and next steps
  - **Meeting #2: Intermediate presentation** covering overview, evaluation, and new ideas!
  - **Meeting #3: Final presentation** covering your final contributions (demo, code, & report)

Learning goals

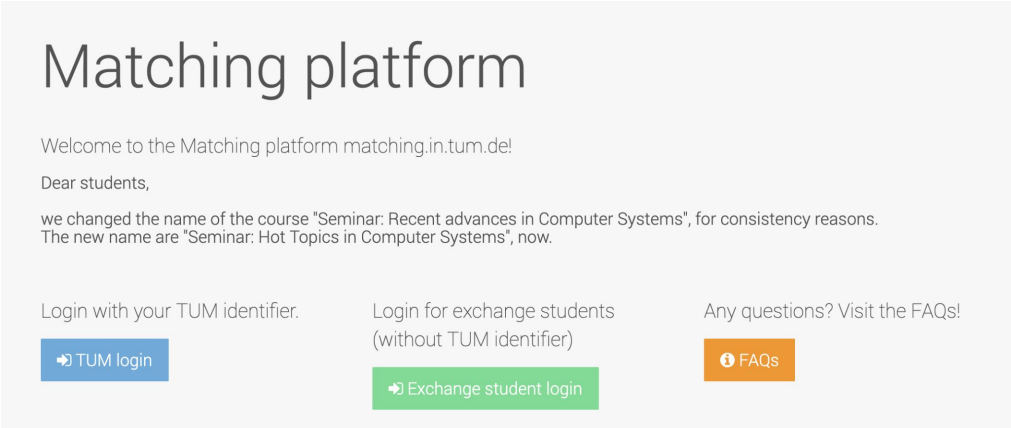
- Our goal is to have fun breaking and hacking computer systems
- Learn about cutting-edge research in computer systems
- Cultivate an environment for innovation and collaboration
  - Pushes the boundaries of the state of the art
  - Contributing to ongoing open-source research projects
- Communication: presenting your work to your peers and giving constructive feedback to improve other's work
- Reproducibility: delivering your work such that others can build on it

Code of conduct

- University plagiarism policy
  - https://www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/administrative-matters/student-code-of-conduct/

- Decorum
  - Promote freedom of thoughts and open exchange of ideas
  - Cultivate dignity, understanding and mutual respect, and embrace diversity
  - Racism and bullying will not be tolerated

Interested?



Sign up on the TUM matching platform

Contacts

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  - pramod.bhatotia@tum.de

  - **All course information:** https://github.com/TUM-DSE/sys-lab

Workspace: http://ls1-courses-tum.slack.com/

Channel: #ws-25-sys-lab

Join us with TUM email address (@tum.de)