

## SH Project Report

The final project report will normally contain a main body and a number of appendices. The main body of your report will normally take the following form, although this may be varied if you and your supervisor feel it appropriate. It is always a good idea to produce an early outline of the thesis structure and discuss this with your supervisor before writing large parts of the thesis. Please bear in mind when reading reports from previous years that these guidelines may have changed over recent years.

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|-------------|---|
| Title page  | Containing the title of the project, the names of the student(s), "University of St Andrews" and the date of submission. You may add the name of your supervisor if you wish.   |
| Abstract    | Outline of the project using at most 250 words.   |
| Declaration | <p>"I/we* declare that the material submitted for assessment is my/our* own work except where credit is explicitly given to others by citation or acknowledgement. This work was performed during the current academic year except where otherwise stated.</p> <p>"The main text of this project report is NN,NNN* words long, including project specification and plan.</p> <p>"In submitting this project report to the University of St Andrews, I/we* give permission for it to be made available for use in accordance with the regulations of the University Library. I/we* also give permission for the title and abstract to be published and for copies of the report to be made and supplied at cost to any bona fide library or research worker, and to be made available on the World Wide Web. I/we* retain the copyright in this work."</p> <p>(* to be filled in as appropriate)</p> <p>If there is a strong case for the protection of confidential data, the parts of the declaration giving permission for its use and publication may be omitted by prior permission of the Honours Coordinator.</p> |

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| Contents page                | Table of contents  |
| Introduction                 | Describe the problem you set out to solve and the extent of your success in solving it. You should include the aims and objectives of the project in order of importance and try to outline key aspects of your project for the reader to look for in the rest of your report.   |
| Context survey               | Surveying the context, the background literature and any recent work with similar aims. The context survey describes the work already done in this area, either as described in textbooks, research papers, or in publicly available software. You may also describe potentially useful tools and technologies here but do not go into project-specific decisions. |
| Requirements specification   | Capturing the properties the software solution must have in the form of requirements specification. You may wish to specify different types of requirements and given them priorities if applicable.   |
| Software engineering process | The development approach taken and justification for its adoption.   |
| Ethics                       | Any ethical considerations for the project. You should scan the signed ethical approval document, and include it as an appendix.   |
| Design                       | Indicating the structure of the system, with particular focus on main ideas of the design, unusual design features, etc.   |
| Implementation               | How the implementation was done and tested, with particular focus on important / novel algorithms and/or data structures, unusual implementation decisions, novel user interface features, etc.  |

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| Evaluation and critical appraisal | You should evaluate your own work with respect to your original objectives. You should also critically evaluate your work with respect to related work done by others. You should compare and contrast the project to similar work in the public domain, for example as written about in published papers, or as distributed in software available to you. |
| Conclusions                       | You should summarise your project, emphasising your key achievements and significant drawbacks to your work, and discuss future directions your work could be taken in.  |

The appendices to your report will normally be as follows.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Testing summary  | This should describe the steps taken to debug, test, verify or otherwise confirm the correctness of the various modules and their combination.                            |
| User manual      | Instructions on installing, executing and using the system where appropriate.   |
| Other appendices | If appropriate, you may include other material in appendices which are not suitable for inclusion in the main body of your report, such as the ethical approval document. |

You should **not** include software listings in your project report, unless it is appropriate to discuss small sections in the main body of your report. Instead, you will submit via MMS your code and associated material such as JavaDoc documentation and detailed UML diagrams.

Examples of past reports can be found in the Project Library:

<https://info.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk/student-handbook/learning-teaching/project-library.html>

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(originally written by Tom Kelsey)