



Project Title	Technical Debt Framework	University	University of Essex Online
Project Manager	Tobias Zeiler	Project Start Date	26 January 2026

WBS	Task	Dependencies	Task Owner	Pct of Task Complete	Start	End	Duration in Days	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	W18	W19	W20	W21	W22	W23	W24	W25	W26	W27	W28	W29	W30	W31
1	Project Initiation and Planning			0%																																		
1.1	Project definition and scoping	Start	Tobi	0%	26 Jan	22 Feb	27																															
1.2	Research proposal and ethics submission		1.1 Tobi	0%	23 Feb	15 Mar	20																															
2	Literature Review			0%																																		
2.1	Core technical debt literature review		1.2 Tobi	0%	16 Mar	29 Mar	13																															
2.2	Enterprise and operational resilience literature		2.1 Tobi	0%	30 Mar	5 Apr	6																															
2.3	Literature synthesis and gap definition		2.2 Tobi	0%	6 Apr	12 Apr	6																															
3	Research Design and Methodology			0%																																		
3.1	Research philosophy and methodology design		2.3 Tobi	0%	13 Apr	19 Apr	6																															
3.2	Case study and data strategy definition		3.1 Tobi	0%	20 Apr	3 May	13																															
4	Tech. Debt Indicator and Framework Design			0%																																		
4.1	Technical debt indicator identification		3.2 Tobi	0%	4 May	17 May	13																															
4.2	Framework and MCDM/TOPSIS model design; conceptual validati		4.1 Tobi	0%	18 May	7 Jun	20																															
5	Data Preparation and Analysis Design			0%																																		
5.1	Data extraction and preparation		4.2 Tobi	0%	8 Jun	21 Jun	13																															
5.2	Analysis design and validation planning		5.1 Tobi	0%	22 Jun	5 Jul	13																															
6	Artefact Development			0%																																		
6.1	Implementation of TOPSIS-based technical debt scoring artefact		5.2 Tobi	0%	6 Jul	12 Jul	6																															
6.2	Model validation, sensitivity checks, and refinement		6.1 Tobi	0%	13 Jul	19 Jul	6																															
7	Empirical evaluation			0%																																		
7.1	Empirical evaluation and analysis		6.2 Tobi	0%	20 Jul	26 Jul	6																															
8	Writing, Refinement and Submission			0%																																		
8.1	Dissertation writing and integration		7.1 Tobi	0%	27 Jul	9 Aug	13																															
8.2	Review, refinement, and submission		8.1 Tobi	0%	10 Aug	16 Aug	6																															
9	Presentation Preparation and Submission			0%																																		
9.1	Presentation preparation and defence		8.2 Tobi	0%	17 Aug	24 Aug	7																															

 Milestones are marked in red

 Supervisory meetings are marked in green

Planned total student effort = 500 hours (=16–17 hours/week) due to full-time employment and personal commitments, versus nominal 600-hour expectation; scope has been constrained accordingly.