

Interim Report

COMP3050: Individual Dissertation (2025-2026)

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Module Timeline

Deliverable	Contribution	Due Date
Project Allocation Confirmation	Mandatory	08 Oct 2025 @ 15:00
Submit Project Proposal	2%	30 Oct 2025 @ 15:00
Preliminary Ethics Form	Mandatory	30 Oct 2025 @ 15:00
Full Ethics Form	If required	20 Nov 2025 @ 15:00
Interim Report	8%	16 Dec 2025 @ 15:00
Dissertation	75%	28 Apr 2026 @ 15:00
Demonstration	10%	05 May 2026 @ 15:00
Q&A Session	5%	14 May 2026 @ 11:00 - 13:00

Table 1: Outline of the FYP deliverables and deadlines

Interim Report

Purpose of the Interim Report

- The Interim Report is a formal document that summarises the progress of your project to date.
- It should be written and presented in a professional manner.
 - There are no strict formatting requirements, but there are document templates available under the “Resources” topic on Moodle.
- The suggested length of the report is 5,000 words.
 - This is a suggested length only.
 - The report should be written in a clear and concise manner.
- There are examples of good Interim Reports available on Moodle.
 - These are provided as a guide only.
 - Your report’s structure may vary depending on the nature of your project.

Structure and Content

- Title Page:
 - Should include: project title, author, affiliation, module code/name, supervisor, and date.
- Abstract.
 - A brief summary of your project (generally, no more than 250 words).
- Table of Contents.
- Introduction.
 - A brief overview of your project, its motivation, and main objectives.
- Literature Review.
 - A fairly detailed review of the relevant literature and work related to your project.
- Methodology.
 - An outline of your project's current methodological approach.
- Implementation / Results.
 - If there are any results to report (from preliminary experiments, etc.).

Structure and Content (cont)

- Progress.
 - A description of the completed work. Project management issues should also be discussed.
 - A review of the original project plan should be included along with an updated plan for the remainder of the project.
 - A Gantt chart is a useful way to present this information.
- Reflection.
 - Issues that have arisen and how they have been addressed.
 - What have you learned from completing the project so far?
- Bibliography.
 - There is no strict format for the bibliography, but it should be consistent throughout the report.
 - Ask your supervisor if they have a preferred format.

Marking

Rubric

- Your proposals will be marked according to a standardised rubric.
 - Ensure you have a good understanding of this rubric.
 - Review your proposal against this rubric before finalising your submission.
- The rubric is available via Moodle.
 - Module Assessment → Interim Report (8%) → Interim Report Marking Rubric.

In-class Exercise - Understanding the Requirements (10 Mins)

Why are we doing this?

- This is a good way to get a feel for the requirements of the Interim Report.
- It is also a good way to get a feel for how your Interim Report will be marked.

- Organise yourselves into groups of 2-4.
- Open your laptops / tablet / phone.
- One person should have the rubric open on their device.
- Another person should have **one** example of a good Interim Report open on their device.
- Go through and annotate where/when the report does/not meet a criterion specified in the rubric.

Example of Annotation

2.2 Motivations

Considering the above, it is possible to consider some use cases for this system, which may be useful future goals. Three of these use cases are:

- C2 1. **Alternative Controllers:** This system may be useful for those who have physical disabilities, and would as such be unable to interact with a system using the provided controllers. For instance, this system could be used in the instance where the user cannot hold a game controller, whereby ?C3?
the machine would learn of and use the gestures of another item that the user could hold instead.
- C2 2. **Generalised Predictive tracking:** Another case where this may be useful is in predictive object tracking, or indeed any predictive component in the Machine Learning field. This project is a special case of supervised learning (Arguably more similar to reinforcement learning [7]) whereby the user supplies the data and also reinforces it with use; and indeed a common aim of supervised learning is prediction [7]. Given this, it could be reasonable to suggest that a general system such as this could be used in the future, and combined with supervised learning such that it could be possible to produce an N-Dimensional predictive tracking system. More specifically, this system could combine predictive tracking of 3-dimensional objects, and make predictions about other features of a data point, such as temperature or sound output, in order to predict how an object may act. Such a system would also be useful in automating reactive simulators which may change as the environment does. C8
- C2 3. **Medical Use:** A simpler and generally useful case would be that of analysing how users interact with a system. Given the knowledge that the users determine how the system would act, this system could be used in order to find patterns of use amongst a populace. This data could be used for things such as predicting symptoms of physical disabilities (such as say, involuntary twitching) or determining patterns of use in a system in order to improve user interface design in the future.

Figure 1: Example of annotations for the Interim Report rubric exercise.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Can I write more than 5,000 words?

- Aim to write around 5,000 words; however, this is not a strict limit. Ensuring you are writing in a clear and concise manner. If in doubt, ask your supervisor.

Q: Are there any formatting requirements?

- There are no strict formatting requirements, but document templates are available on Moodle.

Q: Are there any filename requirements?

- No, there are no specific filename requirements. However, it is good practice to include your student number in the filename.

Q: Can I include code in my report?

- Yes, you can include code in your report. Brief code snippets in the main body are acceptable, but longer code sections should be included in an appendix.

Q: Do the cover page, table of contents, bibliography, and appendices count towards the word count?

- No, the word count applies only to the main body of the report.

Module Administration

Best FYP Award

- Each year the School of Computer Science awards one “Best FYP Award” to the best FYP project.
- The intention of this award is to recognise the best FYP project in the School and to encourage students to produce high-quality work.
- The award is open to all students who have completed a FYP.
- Each supervisor is asked to nominate one student for the award.
- A panel of experienced academics will review the nominated projects and select the winner.
- The panel will evaluate nominees on:
 - Quality of the project.
 - Impact of the work outside of the components assessed in the module.
 - Novelty, creativity, and originality of the project.

Best FYP Award (cont)

- The winner will be announced publicly through the faculty's publicity channels.
- A certificate and prize will be awarded.
- The achievement can be listed as "Best FYP Award Winner" on their CV.
- To celebrate, Dave Towey will buy them a drink at the end of the year.

Distinguished FYP Awards

- In addition to the “Best FYP Award”, the School of Computer Science also awards a number of “Distinguished FYP Awards.”
- These awards are given to students who have produced a high-quality FYP project and who have demonstrated a high level of professionalism throughout the project.
- The awards are open to all students who have completed a FYP.