

# BBC6521 Final-year project

## Project overview



# Important points about final year project

- ◆ The project counts a lot:
  - 20% of the Honours weighting for the QM degree
- ◆ If you fail the project you will not get a degree.
- ◆ Resit project: degree is not accredited
- ◆ It is important for MSc/PhD application, Job interview.

QM Honours  
calculation:

Y2 17%

Y3 41%

Y4 17%

Eng Env 5%

Project 20%

# Important dates

Item	Date	Marking
Project preview	18-22 Oct 2024	-
Project release	23 Oct 2024	-
Self-allocations deadline	31 Oct 2024	-
Allocations by Coordinator	1 Nov 2024	-
Specification	18 Nov 2024	supervisor approve/reject
Early-term progress check (short report)	10 Jan 2025	5% marks from supervisor
Mid-term report	24 Feb 2025	supervisor satisfactory/unsatisfactory
Mid-term slides	26 Feb 2025	-
Mid-term oral exam	3-7 Mar 2025	5% marks from an independent examiner
Up-to-date supervision log	7 Mar 2025	-
Draft report	9 Apr 2025	supervisor satisfactory/unsatisfactory
Late-term progress check (mock viva)	10-17 Apr 2025	5% marks from supervisor
Final report & supporting documents	23 Apr 2025	30% marks from supervisor
Final viva slides	29 Apr 2025	-
Final viva	5-19 May 2025	55% marks from viva panel



# Assessments

Assessment Area	Supervisor	Panel
Early-term Progress Check	5%	-
Mid-term Check	-	5%
Late-term Progress Check	5%	-
Final Marksheet	30%	55%
Total	40%	60%



# Where to find information and ask questions

◆ **QMPLUS!** BBC6521 – Project - 2024/25.



<https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=15247>

**BBC6521 - Project - 2024/25**



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Module Content

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 **Module Announcements** 

All project-related announcements are made through this forum. You should receive a notification via your QMUL email.

 **Student forum** 

Students can raise general questions or discuss issues related to the project by posting in this forum, which will be checked regularly by the project coordinator. Students should feel free to reply to other students if they are able to.

For project specific questions, please email your project supervisor.

If you have any questions related to the Projects module but you feel are not relevant to other students, please email the project coordinator from either of your official student email accounts (i.e., in the form 20xx21xxxx@bupt.cn or jp20xx21xxx@qmul.ac.uk, where 20xx21xxxx is your BUPT student id).

# What you should do now

- ◆ Make sure you receive QMUL email and you can log on to QM+.
- ◆ Download and Read the **JP Project Student Handbook**.
- ◆ Make sure you are subscribed to the module announcement and student forum, you will receive email notifications. (via your qmul email)
- ◆ **All project announcements will be sent through QM+ ONLY.**

# What's next: Project selection and allocation

- ◆ Projects will be released on QMPLUS

**18 October** for preview only

- Full project info without Supervisor info
- 600+ projects available to choose.

- ◆ Projects will be officially released on QMPLUS

**23 October**

- Full project details with Supervisor contact email
- You will see a Live allocation result online

- ◆ Self-allocation will finish by **31 October**



# What is in a project?

- ◆ A project must involve substantial work in at least one of the following areas:
  - Implementation (software and/or hardware)
  - Research – real technical research, must include some implementation as well.
- ◆ Note: it will not be possible to undertake a “business only” project
- ◆ ALL projects must involve Engineering Design (IET Accreditation)





# Implementation

- ◆ Must involve the development of a system
- ◆ For software systems, the project should involve a substantial amount of programming with proper software engineering techniques being used.
- ◆ A lot more than you would do in a piece of coursework!



# Research

- ◆ Real academic research carried out with one of the research teams at QMUL/BUPT (or perhaps in industry)
- ◆ Must include identifying something novel and getting results.
- ◆ It involves Implementation as well. – it is not just reading papers and writing a summary.



# Your own work/contribution

- ◆ Remember you need to produce something to demonstrate that you have done actual work.
  - Software applications
  - Hardware devices
  - Simulation results
- ◆ All projects, must be **your own work** and must include a significant amount of engineering design (hardware and/or software)



# Project specification (18 Nov)

- ◆ A Specification form to fill in.
  - Template provided
- ◆ Provides a clear and precise description of the problem the project is addressing, and the proposed solution.
  - Breakdown tasks and work plan
- ◆ The project will be assessed against the specification.



# Early term progress check (10 Jan)

- ◆ A short report (you must use the template)
- ◆ Literature review and a summary of technical progress – with evidence
- ◆ 5% marks from your Supervisor



# Mid term progress check

- ◆ A report (you must use the template), supervisor satisfactory/unsatisfactory. (24 February)
- ◆ A 5-minute presentation to an independent examiner (**3 -7 March**)
- ◆ 5% marks by the examiner



# Late term progress check (9-17 April)

- ◆ Draft report (9 April)
- ◆ Mock viva (10-17 April): 20 minutes, to your supervisor
- ◆ 5% marks by supervisor



# Final report and viva

- ◆ Final submission: report (23 April), supporting docs(23 April), Acknowledgements (23 April), presentation slides(29 April)
  - 30% marks from supervisor
- ◆ Final viva: three examiners – not including supervisor (mix of QMUL and BUPT), 30 minutes. Presentation and demonstration. (5-19 May)
  - 55% marks from the viva panel





# Working on the project

- ◆ Talk to your supervisor regularly
  - Face to face
  - Online
- ◆ Remember he/she may be away at times
- ◆ Your supervisor is there to provide guidance, not to do the project.
- ◆ You need to be self-motivated.



# Contact supervisor

- ◆ Do
  - Your supervisor is there to provide guidance
  - Discuss ideas
  - Talk about your problem and concerns
- ◆ Do NOT
  - Your supervisor is NOT there to do the project.
  - Do NOT ask your supervisor to debug or write programs



# Supervision Log: keep a record

- ◆ Supervision log: template provided
- ◆ Record meetings with Supervisor
  - Date/Time
  - Form
  - Key points
- ◆ It's your responsibility to keep the supervision log up to date
- ◆ Your supervisor will approve/reject it at the end



# Manage your time

- ◆ Allocate a considerable number of hours a day, and give yourself a timetable of specific tasks (not something like “read stuff”)
- ◆ Plan all details and do not leave things to the last minute
- ◆ If your plans change, record the changes and why they were necessary
- ◆ Need project management techniques



# What resources are available?

- ◆ Supervisor
- ◆ Information sources
- ◆ Library, including online
- ◆ Internet



# Plagiarism

- ◆ Cutting and pasting background text without proper referencing is plagiarism
  - Most common in background section
- ◆ Project reports will go through **Turnitin** software for plagiarism detection
- ◆ Penalty could be serious



# Use open source code

- ◆ Writing code is similar to academic writing
- ◆ When you **use** or **modify** code developed by someone else as part of your project, you must **cite your source**.
- ◆ Give proper reference/acknowledgement/citation



# Plagiarism detection

- ◆ Report: QM+ turnitin score
- ◆ Code: code comparison using automated tools

“Queen Mary defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as one's own irrespective of intention. Close paraphrasing, copying from the work of another person, including another student, using the ideas of another person without proper acknowledgement or repeating work you have previously submitted without properly referencing yourself (known as 'self plagiarism') also constitute plagiarism.” – Regulations on Assessment Offences.

<http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/students/student-appeals/assessment-offences/index.html>



# Lectures/Recorded videos

- ◆ A series of lectures/recorded videos will be arranged covering different aspects of the project, including:
  - Project selection and allocation
  - Project specification
  - Literature review
  - Guidance on using Generative AI
  - Risk and Environmental impact assessment
  - Technical report writing
  - Presentation skills
  - How to prepare for viva



# Key staff members and contacts

- ◆ Dr Ling Ma [ling.ma@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:ling.ma@qmul.ac.uk) : project coordinator
- ◆ Dr Yixuan Zou [yixuan.zou@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:yixuan.zou@qmul.ac.uk): deputy project coordinator
- ◆ BUPT: [gjbs@bupt.edu.cn](mailto:gjbs@bupt.edu.cn)
- ◆ Maggie Li/Gina Li [qmbj@qmbupt.org](mailto:qmbj@qmbupt.org) : Equipment loan and purchase
- ◆ Dr Yan Sun (Cindy) [yan.sun@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:yan.sun@qmul.ac.uk) : overseas projects
- ◆ For general questions, please post to the QM+ student forum

