CSC3031
Project Skills: Aim and Objectives Drop-in

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Aims and objectives

- **Project aim** - should be a single, high-level statement of the hypothesis the project is investigating, or what the overall goal of the project is.

- **Objectives** are smaller sub-goals that will help you achieve your project's aim. If you can achieve all your objectives, then you should have fulfilled your aim

Aims

Could also include:

- Why the research is needed (motivation) – "enhance wellbeing"

- Where the research is needed (context) – "self-tracking tech"

Try starting with a question:

"Can wearable devices that track routine behaviour enhance wellbeing?"

Objectives

- Should contribute to the hypothesis or aim

- Each objective should be a small sub-goal for the project

- Personal objectives can be included as well as technical ones.

SMART Objectives

- **S**pecific – enough detail of what is to be done

- **M**easurable – progress can be measured

- **A**ppropriate – relevant to the aim, goal of the project

- **R**ealistic – can it be done in the time available?

- **T**ime-related - will you be able to assign a duration (in planning)?

Question, context, method

1. **What is your research question(s)?**

   - Where is the opportunity for discovery in your topic? Your project aim could help here.

2. **What is the context for your research?**

   - Where are you seeking to answer the question? Which technical domain and/or real world situation? And why here (the motivation)?

3. **What method(s) will you use to answer the question(s)?**

   - Which methods best suit what you want to find out (question), where you want to find out (context), and the time and resources available to you?

- **Aim** – high level, hypothesis to be investigated or goal to be achieved. what? where? who? (why?)
- **Objectives** – smaller sub-goals that help achieve the aim. Can be personal. Not requirements. how?

Question, context, method:

1. What is your research question(s)?

2. What is the context for your research?

3. What method(s) will you use to answer the question(s)?

- Specific
- Measurable
- Appropriate

- Realistic

- Time-related