

Phase 1: Planning & Background Research

1. Brainstorming and Defining Scope and Objectives

Timeframe: 03/20 ~ 03/26

- **Expected tasks:**
 - Review the project brief and any provided hardware specifications.
 - Establish the scope of the study, including limitations and assumptions.
 - Define clear objectives and measurable success criteria (e.g., model accuracy, performance on edge devices).
 - Draft an initial project management plan outlining milestones and deliverables.

2. Conducting Literature Review and Report Writing

Timeframe: 03/25 ~ 04/02

- **Expected tasks:**
 - Review recent academic publications and technical reports on sign language recognition systems, ones that leverage machine learning on edge devices.
 - Identify commonly used datasets, preprocessing methods, and model architectures.
 - Summarize findings into a structured report, highlighting research gaps.

Phase 2: Initial Setup & Experiments

1. Hardware Setup

Timeframe: 04/04 ~ 04/15

- **Expected tasks:**
 - Procure and configure hardware components (e.g., cameras, Raspberry Pi, desktop computer).
 - Install necessary software frameworks such as TensorFlow Lite, PyTorch Mobile, and OpenCV.
 - Verify hardware-software compatibility and test basic input/output functionality.

2. Gathering Sample Sign Language Data

Timeframe: 04/16 ~ 04/30

- **Expected tasks:**

- Find a representative dataset of sign language gestures relevant to the project.
- Preprocess data by cleaning, normalizing samples for training and evaluation.
- Split data into training, validation, and testing subsets.

3. Building Baseline Machine Learning Models

Timeframe: 05/01 ~ 05/30

- **Expected tasks:**

- Develop initial classification models using standard architectures (e.g., CNNs).
- Train models on the prepared dataset using a high-performance computing environment (e.g., PC or Google Colab).
- Benchmark baseline models for accuracy, precision, recall, and computational requirements.

4. Testing and Refining Models on PC

Timeframe: 06/02 ~ 07/04

- **Expected tasks:**

- Conduct iterative experiments by adjusting hyperparameters, architectures, and data augmentation strategies.
- Evaluate model performance against defined success metrics.
- Identify bottlenecks in inference speed and accuracy.
- Document experiment results in progress reports for transparency and reproducibility.

5. Deploying Models on Raspberry Pi and Testing Results

Timeframe: 06/13 ~ 07/17

- **Expected tasks:**

- Optimize and compress models using techniques such as quantization and pruning to meet edge deployment constraints.
- Deploy trained models onto Raspberry Pi and test real-time performance using live video input.
- Evaluate trade-offs between computational efficiency and recognition accuracy.

Phase 3: Presentation & Poster Preparation

1. Expanding Experiments, Improving Accuracy, and Testing Edge Cases

Timeframe: 07/28 ~ 08/29

- **Expected tasks:**

- Conduct additional experiments focusing on edge cases such as partial gestures, overlapping signs, and environmental noise.
- Enhance model robustness and generalization through advanced techniques (e.g., transfer learning, ensemble methods).