

MASTER THESIS SUPPORT SESSIONS:

11/01/2022:

Create your thesis design:

1. Problem statement
2. Research question (main and sub-questions) - answer a manageable research question well-grounded in the literature that can be answered with the data you are going to use
3. Ground your work in the existing literature (if you are planning to use (secondary) quantitative data: you must have seen it, done Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) on it and be confident that the data is sufficient to answer your research question before continuing with the project)
4. Methodology (Methods, Data and Evaluation)
5. Project plan

Timeline:

- Submit Thesis Design by 18 February via Datanose
- Submit Final Thesis by 30 June via Datanose

Monthly reports via Canvas (mandatory):

- Data Collection and Preparation (Exploratory Data Analysis for secondary quantitative data) - 18 March
- Methodology and Experimental Setup – 15 April
- Analysis and Results – 20 May
- Discussion and Conclusion – 15 June

You are evaluated on:

1. Quality of your research question
2. Related work
3. Data collection
4. Validity and plausibility methodology
5. Evaluation
6. Reflection

Thesis Design Structure

1. Title, student, name, ID, email, supervisors with e-mails (and link to private GitHub repository for DS students)
2. Introduction: defining the research problem/gap, context and stating the **Research Question**
3. Related work: indicating how your work is grounded in the literature and how it builds upon state-of-the-art research
4. Methodology: mentioning resources (data, algorithms, software, etc.), arguing for research method(s) you will use and describing how you will **evaluate** your results
5. Risk assessment: describing the risks and your plan B
6. Project plan: describing a timeline – Gantt chart or table with results per week (describe achievements instead of actions)

Goal setting:

- Bring your initial research question (or your rough topic)
- Write out 1 thing you are planning to do for your thesis design

Next time:

- Research Questions
- Writing Tools
- Literature Management

Have a look:

- Wieringa. 2009. Design science as nested problem solving.

Thesis Design structure:

1. Title, student name, ID, email, supervisors with emails, abstract
 - Add a link to the private Github repository for DS-related projects
2. Short introduction defining the problem, context and stating the Research Question
3. Literature review indicating how your work is grounded in the literature and builds upon the state-of-the-art research
4. Methodology
 - Resources where applicable (datasets, software, etc.)
 - Approach: choice/justification of research method(s) to answer the research question
 - Describe how you evaluate your results
5. Risk assessment
 - Describe the risks, and describe your plan B
6. Project plan
 - Timeline (Gantt chart with results per week)
 - NB: describe achievements, not actions. (e.g., instead of data preparation you write all data in XXX format, well-described, ready for analysis using YYY)