



FINAL PROJECT BRIEF — DEVOPS, CI/CD & CONTAINERIZATION

COURSE: 020IDCE5 - INTÉGRATION ET DÉPLOIEMENT CONTINUE

EVALUATION DATE: DECEMBER 22

GROUP WORK: 2–3 STUDENTS

TOTAL POINTS: 100 (+10 BONUS)

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1. Project Overview

In this final project, your team will design, containerize, automate, and deploy a small application using DevOps principles and tooling.

You may choose any simple application or template, provided it is multi-service and includes a mandatory database.

The project evaluates your understanding of:

- Docker and containerization
- Docker Compose orchestration
- CI/CD workflows using GitHub Actions or GitLab CI
- Kubernetes deployment
- Persistent data management
- DevOps architectural reasoning
- Ability to justify and defend technical decisions

You must design, implement, document, and defend your technical choices during a live evaluation.

2. Project Requirements

2.1 Application (Mandatory Persistence)

Your application must include:

- A backend/API service
- A database service (PostgreSQL recommended; MySQL, MariaDB, or MongoDB acceptable)
- At least one feature that reads and writes data

This ensures a clear demonstration of persistent state management.

2.2 Docker and Containerization

Each service must define a clean, production-ready Dockerfile using best practices:

- Lightweight base image
- Proper working directory
- .dockerignore
- Clear dependency installation
- Exposed ports
- Functional entrypoint/CMD
- Consistent builds

Evaluation includes correctness, clarity, image quality, and reproducibility.

2.3 Docker Compose Stack

Your Compose setup must orchestrate:

- Backend service
- Database service
- Persistent volumes
- Networks for communication
- Environment variables for credentials
- Service startup ordering (depends_on or healthchecks)

The entire stack must launch with one command.

2.4 CI/CD Pipeline

Create an automated workflow using GitHub Actions or GitLab CI.

Mandatory stages:

1. **Test stage**
2. **Build stage**
3. **Registry push stage** (Docker Hub or GitLab/GitHub registry)

Evaluation includes:

- Pipeline correctness
- Use of secrets and environment variables
- Proper triggers and conditions
- Demonstrable execution in your repository

2.5 Kubernetes Deployment

Deploy your application to a local Kubernetes cluster (Docker Desktop K8s, Minikube, or Kind).

Your deployment must include:

- Deployment resource
- Service (NodePort or ClusterIP)
- ConfigMap or Secret
- Readiness and liveness probes
- Demonstrable access via Kubernetes
- **Database location requirement (choose one):**

Option A: Database deployed inside Kubernetes

- StatefulSet
- PersistentVolumeClaim
- Headless service

Option B: External database (Compose or cloud)

- Requires clear written justification
- Must connect correctly and securely

3. Technical Defense (Mandatory)

Each team must complete a **live 10-minute technical defense**.

Evaluation criteria:

- **Architectural justification**
Ability to explain the reasoning behind architectural and design decisions (images, container structure, cluster layout, database placement).
- **CI/CD pipeline reasoning**
Clear explanation of pipeline stages, variable handling, rules/triggers, and artifacts.
- **Kubernetes reasoning**
Understanding of Deployments, Services, probes, pods, scaling behavior, and how stateful components were handled.

This component measures **understanding**, not memorization.

4. Optional Bonus (up to +10 pts)

Choose one (or more):

- **Monitoring** (Prometheus, Grafana, metrics endpoint)
- **Infrastructure-as-Code automation** (Ansible or Terraform)
- **Advanced CI/CD logic** (multi-environment, rolling strategies, tagging systems)

5. Deliverables

1. **Git repository**, including:
 - Source code
 - Dockerfiles
 - docker-compose.yml
 - CI/CD configuration
 - Kubernetes manifests
 - README.md
2. **README.md** containing:
 - Overview
 - Architecture diagram
 - Compose and CI/CD instructions
 - Kubernetes deployment instructions
 - Database design justification
3. **Technical demonstration and oral defense (mandatory)**
A live walkthrough of pipeline, containerization, deployment, and design choices.

6. Evaluation Rubric

Component	Points
Application functionality	10
Dockerfiles	15
Docker Compose	15
CI/CD pipeline	25
Kubernetes deployment	20
Technical Defense	15
Bonus	+10

Raw total: 110 points

Final grade will be scaled to **100 points**.

7. Final Notes

- Keep the application simple; focus on DevOps implementation.
- Begin early; pipeline and Kubernetes debugging require time.
- Ensure documentation is clear, structured, and complete.
- Be prepared to fully justify all decisions during the defense session.