

MSc Data Analytics Dissertation 2021/22

Interim Assessment Guidelines

Deadline: 10/06/2022

Contribution to dissertation mark: 20%

This document outlines the requirements for the project interim assessment. All submissions must be in accordance with DKIT Academic Integrity policy.

1 Deliverables

For the interim assessment, you are required to submit your interim report and a poster. You will be graded based on the following three criteria:

1. Interim Report 75 Marks
2. Quality of Engagement 5 Marks
3. Poster Presentation and Interview 20 Marks

1.1 Interim report

75 Marks

Your interim report must be between 5,000 and 10,000 words in length. The indicated word count does not include the references and source code. Guidelines for your interim report and mark distribution are as follows:

1. Background/Introduction 15 Marks

- Brief introduction of problem
- Your hypothesis for a solution
- Clear and Concise Research Questions
- Problem definition
- Project relevance in the field of Data Analytics
- Core technology, architecture and research processes used
- Structure of the report

2. Literature Review 25 Marks

- Focused Literature review relevant to the research questions.
- Limitations of existing solutions (if any)
- Contents from peer-to-peer academic sources are highly recommended

3. Exploration of Data 20 Marks

- Data Collection and Methods of Data Collection used.
- Procedure of Ethical Approval undertaken (DKIT and/or external approval) - All documentation should be included in Appendix
- Data Description
- Data Cleaning
- Data Visualisation

- Preliminary Analysis

4. Proposed Future Analysis 10 Marks

- Describe initial prototypes (if any)
- Explanation of the hypothesis of your proposed solution
- Outline your plan for progressing your project to September 2022. Your plan should contain specific tasks and checkpoints, clearly linked with your research questions.

5. Document Structure and Writing 5 Marks

- All interim reports will be scanned by TurnItIn for similarity scores. You are reminded that where concerns regarding academic integrity arise, the institute's academic integrity processes will be applied in full. Reports should be presented as a professional document. Interim report will form a basis for the final Thesis.
- Spelling and grammar should be checked prior to submission. Submit your report in PDF only.
- References must be cited and collated in the bibliography using the Harvard system. You are strongly advised to review the DkIT library guide to Harvard referencing.

1.2 Quality of Engagement

5 Marks

All students will be graded for their:

- Regular meetings and follow up with the project supervisor.
- Clear and accurate documentation of their meetings
- Updated weekly progress in DKIT Mahara (or any other portal as agreed by the supervisor)

1.3 Poster Presentation and Interview

20 Marks

1. Poster 15 Marks

You are required to submit a poster as a part of your interim assessment. The project poster should provide a concise overview of the core issues pertinent to the project.

Posters must be submitted as A1 size, PDF only to the Poster submission point on Moodle.

You can use the template provided in Research Process module. Link to additional resources is given below.

You should aim to use no more than 100 words in each of the main sections on your poster. Poster resolution should be 300dpi, otherwise images will appear pixelated.

- Guidelines and samples: <http://www.writing.engr.psu.edu/posters.html>
- Poster templates: <http://www.posterpresentations.com>
- Poster creation guide: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKEwjewpWQ8KL2AhVTasAKHcTLCEQFnoECAIQAAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nuigalway.ie%2Fmedia%2Fdisabilitysupportservice%2FDesign-tips-for-research-poster-presentations.pdf&usg=AOvVaw35YrgR0_hhDx1jpCBCTc_v

2. Interview and Q&A 5 Marks

Your interim submission will be assessed by an academic panel comprising of your supervisor and at least one other academic assessor(s). Each student is required to attend an interview with the assessors.

Students who do not attend interview will not receive an interim grade.

Interviews will take place in the week of 13/06/2022 and will be scheduled by the project coordinator.

Each interview has two main stages:

- Presentation (10 minutes): You will give a short presentation of your project using your poster as an aid. Slides are not required.
- Discussion (15 minutes): The assessors will discuss aspects of your project with you in more depth.

You should take note of feedback and suggestions given in the interview to help you as you progress towards the final assessment in September.

2 Grading and feedback

- Interim report grades will be returned prior to June 20th on Moodle.
- You also will receive brief written feedback via Moodle on your work to date and any items requiring attention for the final assessment.