Final Year Projects

CO600/CO620

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Final Year Projects

Important facts

- Project counts as 25% (30 credits) of your final year
- It is a compulsory element of the programme
- CO600/CO620 projects cannot be compensated—any fail is hard
- Deadline for registration:
  - Stage 2 students: Friday of Week 28 at 16:00
Registration

- Module registration
  - Almost automatic

- Project registration - **Not automatic at all**
  - Find a project, a group, a supervisor, and get all the necessary signatures
CO600/CO620 PROJECT ACCEPTANCE FORM 2013/2014

We, the undersigned (for CO600 projects all group members must sign):

Name .................................................. Login .......................... Signature ..................................................

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wish to register for (please tick one of the following boxes)

(1) □ The CO600 Project entitled:

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(2) □ The CO620 Individual Research Project entitled:

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Name of supervisor: ..................................................

Special resources needed for this project (if applicable):

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Special resources are those not normally available by default and may include installation of special software, access to hardware, availability of manuals, etc.

To be completed and signed by the supervisor for the project:

1) I agree to supervise the project for the student(s) named above and have made sure that any special resources mentioned above will be available for the start of the project.

2) This project
   □ will (if this box is ticked the form on the reverse of this sheet should be completed)
   □ will not (if this box is ticked the form on the reverse of this sheet is not required)

All research involving human participants as defined by the Faculty Research Ethics Procedures available at:

http://www.kent.ac.uk/cms/faculty/adminprocedures/research-ethics/index.html

SUPERVISOR’S SIGNATURE .......................... DATE ..........................

When signed and completed, this form should be returned to the Computing Course Administration Office no later than 4:00pm Friday 31 May 2013 (Week 28)
The form has to be signed and submitted to the student admin office. You don’t have to submit a hard copy. The form signed by you and your supervisor can be scanned and emailed to the student admin office.
Types of Project

- **CO600 – Group Project**
  - Software development
  - Practice project organisation, specification, implementation and documentation
  - Students can propose a project, but have to find a supervisor that is willing to supervise it
  - Industrial placement students can suggest projects related to their working experience (One student group)
    - Involves industrial collaboration
  - Groups of 3+ (maximum 5)
    - There is no point of having groups of 2
    - There are **exceptions** for groups of 1
      - E.g., year in industry, project involving confidentiality
Types of Project

- **CO620 – Research Project** *(Individual)*
  - For students who are **considering postgraduate research**
    - Average of 60%
    - Aiming for 2:1 or above
  - These can be intellectually challenging projects
    - Aiming for submitting a paper to a conference, workshop, etc.
  - Research is “time-consuming”, “difficult”, “hard work”, “frustrating”, “complex”, “puzzling” - “**but fun!**”.
  - In most cases, you will address a challenging problem or explore the limits of the state-of-the-art algorithms.
    - Your supervisor will normally know the area of your research very well.
Choosing the Project

Three ways of choosing the project

- Propose a possible project yourself (mainly for CO600)
  - You have to find a member of staff who is willing to supervise your project

- Select it from a list of project proposals suggested by staff
  - CO600 (Canterbury) Group Project
    https://forum.cs.kent.ac.uk/forumdisplay.php?79-CO600-Project-Proposals-(Canterbury)
  - CO600 (Medway) Group Project
    https://forum.cs.kent.ac.uk/forumdisplay.php?80-CO600-Project-Proposals-(Medway)
  - CO620 Research Project
    https://forum.cs.kent.ac.uk/forumdisplay.php?81-CO620-Project-Proposals

- Talk to potential supervisors even if they don’t post projects on the forum!
Important Advice

◆ Sort out your project by the deadline!
  
  ◆ Interesting topics will be taken immediately
  
  ◆ Popular supervisors cannot take all students
  
  ◆ Be pro-active; it is in your interest to find a suitable project and a supervisor who will supervise it
What happens if I don’t have a project after the deadline?

Dear Marek,

Unfortunately I have again received negative responses from the five supervisors which I emailed yesterday. I do not know what to do now, can you please advise me?

Kind Regards,
What happens if I don’t have a project after the deadline?

Dear Sir,

I am an final year undergraduate student and [student name]. I have proposed my project idea to suitable supervisors to help me manage my project, unfortunately I have had no luck because all seem to have too many projects on their hands. I have spoken to Janet regarding this matter and she has advised me to contact you, can you please help me find a supervisor for my final year project?

My project idea is [project idea]

Kind Regards
Forming Groups

Groups should be between 3 and 5 members

◆ The larger the group, the more difficult to manage
◆ More members does not mean less work!!
  ◆ Individuals are assessed, not the groups

Finding partners

◆ Advertise and interview potential candidates
◆ Use the forum to advertise your project
◆ Use the forum to form your group

https://forum.cs.kent.ac.uk/forumdisplay.php?77-CO600-Canterbury-Forming-a-Group
Questions?
What happens next?

- Students who have come back from placement for the day should go to Darwin Conference Suite for lunch

- Everyone else can have a break for lunch

- Everyone should be at Eliot Dining Hall in time for the Poster Fair start at 1:30pm