

# Guidelines for a Research Project

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The research project is a part of your curriculum and requires quite some effort for a successful completion. During your project you should improve your scientific skills (under guidance by your supervisor). These guidelines should help you to make your research project a success.

We advise you to the **Code of Conduct** of the Alpen-AdriaUniversität Klagenfurt to ensure good academic practice (cp. <http://www.uni-klu.ac.at/main/inhalt/6002.htm>).

## Main steps of your Research Project

- I. **Perform a self-evaluation of your programming skills**  
Consult members of the institute's research group where you want to conduct your research project. They assist you to identify your strengths and weaknesses.
2. **Discuss your topic with your advisor** and derive a project plan for your work within the first two weeks. This plan has to include milestones for your project development and required resources (hardware, software etc.)
3. **Register for the Research Project course of the institute's research group via Zeus.**
4. **Participate actively in the weekly group meetings.**  
If you cannot participate you are required to send a mail to your advisor prior to the group meeting.
5. **Document the status and achieved progress** in your (written) progress report on a weekly basis in the pervasive computing EduWiki <http://pervasive.aau.at/eduwiki/>
6. **Hold your mid-term presentation** in a group meeting. Focus this presentation on your problem description, the state of the art and the potential approaches to solve the problem. Your advisor will schedule the mid-term presentation. Prepare a 15-minutes talk and discuss your presentation slides with your advisor prior to the scheduled date. Check also our "Guidelines for Presentations" (online available)
7. **Plan the organization** of the documentation (project report) early. Discuss the outline with your advisor and start writing. Don't wait until the end of your research project.
8. **Complete writing of a single chapter** (e.g., the related work). Your advisor will give you feedback on this "test chapter". Use it for the writing the remaining parts.
9. **Complete the documentation** and carefully proof-read it. Submit the documentation to your advisor. Your advisor will probably make corrections and suggest some improvements. However, note that the quality of your submitted version will have a great influence on the final grade.
10. **Hold your end-term presentation** in a group meeting. Focus this presentation on your chosen approach, the implementation and the evaluation. Your advisor will schedule the end-term presentation. Your documentation should be completed at the end-term presentation. Prepare a 15-minutes talk and discuss your presentation slides with your advisor prior to the scheduled date.
- II. **Submit your project report to your advisor** including all source code in a single zip-file.

## **Some useful hints for conducting your research project**

- Consult our guidelines for performing a literature research (online available).
- Adhere to our formatting guidelines. We advise to use LaTeX and the provided template for writing your thesis.
- A research project should be completed within 1 semester (full time).

## **Assessment criteria**

Your research project will be graded based on the following criteria:

### **1. Project report**

- Content, structure and style of your written work

### **2. Quality of the achieved results**

- Chosen approaches for the research topic
- Own contributions, implemented methods
- Achieved results
- Contribution to a scientific publication

### **3. Presentation**

- Style and clarity of the scientific communication in the group meetings
- Mid-term and final presentations

### **4. Independence and initiative**

- Developing of own ideas, methods and approaches
- Taking care of preparations, implementation and evaluations (experiments)

### **5. Organization of work**

- Time management and professional behavior
- Active participation in group meetings
- Documentation of work in the EduWiki