School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering (ITEE)

Thesis Project Information Session

Commencing Semester 2 2019
Contact

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The purpose of your Thesis Project

• Develop your research and problem solving skills.

• You will formulate, develop and evaluate your own individual research project.

• You will plan and manage your project and present your results in the context of the current literature and existing work.
First you need to:

1. **Enroll**, as soon as you are able to
2. **Find a project and a supervisor**
Topic Selection

1. **Browse** the **Project Database** for suitable topics

2. **Contact potential supervisors** to discuss topics that interest you, or to propose your own topic

3. When you’ve come to an agreement with a supervisor, get them to **allocate you to your project** in the **Project Database**

More info available at:
Topic Selection

**Specialised** projects:
- Offered and supervised by individual academics
- Suitable for a small number of students (i.e. one or two)

**Super** thesis projects:
- broad thesis topics able to be taken by many students at the same time
- some supervised jointly by an academic team

All thesis projects are individual, and the assessment items are the same.
Allocation deadlines

Until semester commences:

• You have an opportunity to find and be allocated to a thesis project
• It is expected that you will have a project before semester start

Semester commences:

• You must commence work on your allocated project
• If you don’t have a project, you can’t take part in the course
The role of your supervisor

• Your supervisor will **guide you** and give you feedback

• They will select the **examiner** for your final demonstration and thesis

• They will **mark** all your assessment items (except the demo) and the final thesis

• They will ask to **meet regularly** (weekly) to discuss your progress
Your role

- **Take responsibility** for planning, managing and executing your thesis project
- **Work consistently** on your thesis topic, e.g. if you are taking a year-long 4 unit thesis, you should dedicate ¼ of your time to your project each week ~10h per week
- Complete your **assessment items on time**
- **Meet regularly** (weekly) with your supervisor to discuss your progress!
Assessment Items

HINT: You can find detailed information about assessment items, including mark sheets, due dates and other resources on the ITEE thesis webpage:

Electronic submissions are via Blackboard

Available projects, project allocations and marks are in the Project Database: https://student.eait.uq.edu.au/projects/
Assessment Items

In the beginning....

UQ Academic Integrity Tutorial (pass/fail)

online: https://www.uq.edu.au/integrity/
Assessment Items

In the beginning...
(for postgraduate (level 7) coursework students only)

Annotated Bibliography (pass/fail)

- develop proper referencing style
- short annotations form kernel of the literature review in your thesis
- The library is running workshops to help you with this
Assessment Items

In the beginning....

**Project Proposal** (10%)

- define your **thesis topic**:
  - state it’s purpose, aims, coverage and relevance
- present a **review of relevant background material**
- specify your **project plan**:
  - milestones (resources and duration)
  - complete and accurate risk assessment
Assessment Items

Half way through....

Seminar (15% for undergraduate, 10% postgraduate)

- **orally present** the key content of your research
  - scope and relevance of your thesis
  - the reviewed literature and its relevance

- **progress of your work**
  - the work carried out so far and
  - the work remaining to be done
Assessment Items

Half way through....

Seminar Attendance (pass/fail)

- participate in at least five other progress seminars during the week in which your progress seminar is presented
Assessment Items

Near the end...
(for postgraduate (level 7) coursework students only)

Conference Paper (10%)

- a conference paper on your research in the form of an extended abstract

- You do not need to submit your work to an actual conference
Assessment Items

Near the end ....

**Poster and Demonstration**
(25% for undergraduate, 20% postgraduate)

- **verbally and visually present** your project’s results
- **demonstrate any tangible working hardware or software**
- **produce a poster** documenting your work to support your presentation
Assessment Items

The very end ...

Thesis (50%)

- primary means of reporting your project
  - problems and goals of the project
  - review of background material
  - applicable methods and the approach taken
  - major decisions and the reasons for approach
  - results and evaluation of results
Assessment deadlines are strict

- Applications for extensions must be made by lodging the Application for Extension of Progressive Assessment Form with the ITEE Coursework Studies Office (level 4 GP South) at least one week prior to the assessment deadline.

- In general, extensions will NOT be given for the submission of the final thesis unless there are very exceptional circumstances.

- Any late submissions receive a mark of zero!
Additional information ...
Library Sessions

Library workshops will be organized to help you with preparation of your annotated bibliography and project proposals.

These workshops cover how to find information, books, journal articles, conference papers relevant to your thesis. Referencing using EndNote is also covered.

The sessions cover research skills but not how to write a thesis. Student services run the writing and other academic skills classes.

Next sessions:

Library Sessions

ITEE thesis coursework guide
http://guides.library.uq.edu.au/iteeprojects

Training page
https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/training

Contact: Adriana De Michiel
a.demichiel@library.uq.edu.au
Laboratory Access

- You have default access to the thesis lab in room 78-108

- You must request access to any other lab via your supervisor ([http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/etsg/access](http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/etsg/access))

- Entry will be given when the appropriate online OH&S Declaration has been completed and the relevant General Risk Assessment has been acknowledged as being read
Budget Information

You will have $250 available for any project related expenses.

All expenditures must be approved by your supervisor through the ITEE Engineering & Technical Support Group (ETSG – Richard Newport)
- Questions?
- Richard Newport & Shohreh Tabrizi: ETSG introduction
- Adriana De Michiel: Library services
- Marlies Hankel: Research Computing Centre and Queensland Cyber Infrastructure Foundation
- Introduction of supervisors and their projects (max. 1 minute each)
Engineering Technical Support Group

50-S309
What we provide

• Day to day technical support for all ITEE labs
• Control of swipe access to teaching and thesis labs
• Monitoring and policing of OH&S in labs
• One stop shop for all your electronic parts
• Soldering tutorials for both surface mount and through hole
• 8 bookable surface mount soldering stations
• PCB manufacturing via Pinecone (during semester time)
• Loan of electronic equipment
• Years of experience - we’re here to help