Master project
Information Sciences
Joint program
Structure

• Period 3: Thesis design
  – 6 ECTS
  – Presentations 1 week of Feb

• Period 4-6: Master project
  – 18 ECTS
  – Some flexibility in scheduling
    • 12 ECTS in Period 5
    • 12 ECTS spread over periods 4 and 5
  – Final Presentations end July

**Introduction and Checkpoints**

When you want to start a Master Project you have to take the following steps:

1. First you need to orientate on the different subjects that can be done at the VU or at a company. You can find all the information here on this Wiki and at the "stagebureau" site.
2. Make an appointment with the Master Project Coordinator Lora Aroyo by mailing lise.thomson@vu.nl to discuss your interests. The Master Project Coordinator will suggest a supervisor. When your interest lies with a domain of another Master Programme the Master Project Coordinator will send you to the contact person of this domain. The contact person will then suggest a supervisor. When communicating with your Master Project Coordinator about your Master Project please use "Master Project" in your e-mail header.
3. Make an appointment with the suggested supervisor. During this meeting you will make an agreement about the master project. The agreement must consist of the following items: Project place, theme of the research question, supervisor, second reader and period. After this you have to register your project in the Master Project Wiki (see below).
4. When the project is registered you have to print your Master Project page and let your supervisor sign. Then you have to submit the signed printout to the Onderwijsbureau FEW.
5. After the first month you submit your plan. The plan consists of the context, the problem statement, the research question, the method and a planning formulated on max. 4 pages. At the same moment you will present this material to your supervisor and other students and their supervisors in a meeting.
6. When the final version of master project is submitted to your supervisor and the second reader you will give the final presentation during a special meeting. After this your supervisor will give the final grade for your work. Here you can find the assessment form for the Master Project.

**Some remarks**

1. In general you cannot do your Master Project at the company you already work for.
2. A Master Project IS consists of 18 ects and 9 ects literature research (Thesis Design) this is approximately 4 months of work. If there is an interruption of more than 3 months the project will be considered failed.
3. The Master Project has to be written in English. You have two options of reporting your work on your thesis: [1] a ACM style article approx. 15 pages plus appendices or [2] regular style thesis report.
4. The checkpoints above are derived from the general guidelines for the Master Project within the department of Computer Science.
5. At the end of the Master Project you give a final presentation in the Interact Lab at VU. Practical information can be found here.
6. When you are finished with your project please upload your thesis document on the wiki and check finished box.
7. Further information about Thesis Design in general and about doing a Master Project at the UVA, [1] and for information about the Thesis Design presentations.

Possible supervisors

- Anton Eliens (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~eliens/multimedia)
- Berend Weel (http://www.few.vu.nl/~bw1400)
- Chris Dijkshoorn (http://www.few.vu.nl/~cdn370)
- Chris van Aart (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~vanaart)
- Corrado Boscarino (http://www.few.vu.nl/~cbo210)
- Davide Ceiolin (http://www.few.vu.nl/~dceolin)
- Gusztí Eiben (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~gusz)
- Guus Schreiber (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~guus)
- Hans Akkermans (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~hansa)
- Hans van Vliet (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~hans)
- Jaap Gordijn (http://www.gordijn.org)
- Jacco van Ossenbruggen (http://homepages.cwi.nl/~jvosse)
- Jan Wielemaker (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~jan)
- Laura Hollink (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~laura)
- Lora Aroyo (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~lara)
- Marcel Worringer (http://www.auc.nl/news-events/content/faculty/hum/worringer-marcel)
- Maryam Razavian (http://www.s2group.cs.vu.nl/?page_id=271)
- Michel Klein (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~mcklein)
- Michiel Hildebrand (http://www.few.vu.nl/~michielv)
- Patricia Lago (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~patria)
- Paul Groth (http://www.few.vu.nl/~pgroth)
- Pieter De Leenheer (http://www.pieterdeleenheer.be)
- Roxane Segers (http://www.cs.vu.nl/~roxane)
- Stefan Schlobach (http://www.few.vu.nl/~schlobac)
- Valentina Maccatrozzo (http://www.few.vu.nl/~vm600)
- Victor de Boer (http://www.few.vu.nl/~vbr240)
- Willem van Hage (http://www.few.vu.nl/~wrvhage)

Open project proposals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A user-centric design for the BiographyNet Linked Data interface</td>
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<tr>
<td>A video editing game for shot type classification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applying agile to large projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combing physical interfaces and D3.js</td>
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<td>Copyright checker / calculator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crowd-sourcing Competency Profiles for Time- and Location-based Human-Performed Social Data DJ - designing and integrating physical interfaces for remixing social media and data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design of Service Networks to support Social Communities</td>
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<td>Dr. Watson: The Synonyms Game</td>
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<td>E3value and multichannelmarketing</td>
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<td>Educational support in a video tagging game</td>
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<td>Extended Provenance Visualization</td>
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<td>Extract events from teletext</td>
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<td>Extracting Historical Social Networks: mining BiographyNet</td>
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<td>Find the Clue: Identify terms in text</td>
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<td>Find the Matching People and Locations</td>
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<td>Finding Innovative Businessmodels in Dementia Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finding Semantics in Clinical Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finding event-related clusters of multimedia objects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Timing

• Start thinking about the thesis subject now
• You need to have a thesis advisor by Dec 15
• Contact asap your MSc coordinator
  – Lora Aroyo/Frank Nack
  – request a meeting with them via email to Ilse Thomson, i.h.thomson@vu.nl

• Project types:
  – Internal: typically in ongoing research project
  – External:
    • make sure you have a VU/UvA staff member in the loop
    • avoid conflict of interest if you have are employed
    • MSc project is a scientific and NOT development project
Thesis design

• Select a subject that motivates you 101%

• Literature study
  – IF no literature THEN not an appropriate topic

• Research plan
  – Problem statement + context (research project, company, domain)
  – Research questions
  – Approach: choice of research methods
  – Plan: proposed timeline

• Upload Thesis Design
Thesis project

• Carry out plan
• At least bi-weekly meeting with supervisor(s)
• You are in charge!
  – Prepare issues to discuss
  – Send progress reports
  – Make notes
• Document sharing while you go along:
  – Dropbox, GoogleDrive, etc.
  – Thesis is not written at the end
Thesis & presentation

• Your choice
  – Report
  – ACM-style research article

• Presentation
  – At university
  – At company, if external
  – Feb: Thesis Design
  – July: Final Thesis

• Upload Thesis & Presentation
Assessment

• Assessors
  – VU/UvA supervisor
  – Second VU/UvA staff member
    • take him/her in loop from beginning
  – Advice from external supervisor, if applicable

  – Quality
  – Team work
  – Presentation
  – Independence