

Information about Final Thesis in Computer Science/Digital Media, Coached by DiMeB (Digital Media in Education)

Bachelor Report –Diploma Thesis – Master Thesis

1. With the master as well as the diploma thesis a student needs to demonstrate:
 - The ability to work autonomously on an academic level,
 - The ability to work autonomously on the solution of a problem in a specific academic area of Computer Science/Digital Media.With the bachelor report a student has to show:
 - The ability to apply a scientific result on a (real-life) problem,
 - The ability to analyze and to solve a problem in a specific area of Computer Science/Digital Media.
2. In order to complete a thesis, it is necessary to study the according academic literature, monographies, or scientific journal articles, conference proceedings, technical reports. A bachelor report should encompass about 30 pages, a master thesis or diploma thesis shouldn't exceed 80 pages.
3. It is often recommendable to prepare the thesis with the study of an appropriate textbook.
4. The development of software or the adaptation and implementation of a software is not mandatory. But in principle it is advisable and useful.
5. The determination of a thesis' subject can be done in several ways: ideally, the subject is based on former studies in a DiMeB project or the "open course offer" (courses offered on a regular basis by DiMeB). In the DiMeB work group subjects with respect to applications are preferred, in particular such concerning education and digital media. In the following the distinctive processes of finding a subject are listed:
 - The student presents his/her own subject in detail to the resp. DiMeB contact person who may accept it where appropriate.
 - The student envisages a subject that is elaborated together with the resp. DiMeB contact person.
 - The DiMeB contact person suggests an adequate subject that is modified with respect to the student's interest. Some subjects are offered at our web-site www.dimeb.de
6. Prior to the thesis' registration at the examination office the student drafts a synopsis/plan ("exposé") and adjusts it in accordance with his/her DiMeB contact person. Its purpose consists in a precise description of the subject and its feasibility. The "exposé" and its discussion among student and contact person build an important step to a successful final thesis.

The "exposé" shall cover 1 up to 3 pages and shall contain the following information:

 - *Personal Information* (name, matriculation number, course of studies and semesters, email, address)
 - *Working title* for final thesis
 - *Objective*, leading question: What has to be achieved in the end? Which questions should be answered?
 - *Area of Computer Science/Digital Media*: Where exactly is the subject placed (at DiMeB this will frequently be an application area, especially education)?
 - *Work packages*: What has to be done? (This might be its most extensive part)
 - *Method*: How will it be accomplished?
 - *Work- and Time-table*: Which single steps are necessary and at what point in time do they have to be attended to?
 - First *overview about literature* that the thesis will be based on
 - Suggestion for the thesis' *outline*After the agreement on the expose, the thesis should be registered at the "Prüfungsamt".

7. A second referee should be looked for in clear advance to the thesis' due date in accordance with the student's DiMeB contact person.
8. There are distinct alternatives to conduct and finish the thesis. These should fit each student's individual work style and respective interests:
 - Autonomous approach with casual feedback to the contact person,
 - Under more rigid supervision with detailed specifications of to be delivered mile stones.

Please be aware: All quotes (literally or analogous) have to be referenced (author, year and page in a bracket). Meanwhile it's not too difficult to check if parts of texts are taken from existing texts. If references are missing, this has to be counted as attempt to defraud. That means: The thesis is graded as failed and – in serious cases – an exmatriculation can be the consequence.