



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

ITEE THESIS

ENGG, COMP, METR, DECO

Lecture 0: Course Overview



ITEE COURSEWORK THESIS

- Why?
 - Develop research or problem solving skills
- Involves the specification, development and evaluation of an individually assessed research project on a specific topic or problem within the student's program field.
- Depending on your program and thesis scope:
 - **Undergraduate:** REIT4841, METR4911, REIT4881* (S1 start)
 - **Undergraduate:** ENGG4812, METR4912, REIT4882* (S2 start)
 - **Masters:** ENGG7813, ENGG7817*, COMP7811, COMP7861+, COMP7881*, DECO7861+ (S1 start)
 - **Masters:** ENGG7814, ENGG7818*, COMP7812, COMP7862+, COMP7882*, DECO7862+ (S2 start)
 - **(One-Semester):** ENGG4805, COMP7840, COMP7860+, COMP7880*, DECO7860+, ENGG7802, ENGG7806*

+ = 6 units, * = 8 units, blue = Sem 1 start

COURSE STAFF

- Course Coordinator
Dr Konstanty Bialkowski
Office: 78-615 (GP South)
Email: ksb@itee.uq.edu.au
- Lecturer - Research Methods
Naman Jain Email: n.jain@uq.edu.au
- Supervisors (and Tutor)
 - Academic supervisor for your project
 - Meet regularly with students
 - Over 50 academics offering topics
 - Will mark the first half of the assessment
- Examiners
 - Will mark the second half of the assessment

COURSE WEBSITES

- Blackboard website - ITEE Thesis <http://learn.uq.edu.au/>
 - All announcements, marks will be displayed on the website
 - NOTE: this site is for the full duration of your thesis (i.e. 2 semesters).
 - Please check the website and email regularly.
(NOTE: email is your UQ email).
- Course website - <http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/thesis/>
 - Information on thesis topic selection, assessment items, WHS, and links to the project database.
 - Each assessment marking criteria is found here.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Item	% (UG)	% (PG)
<i>Annotated Bibliography</i> *	-	P/F
<i>Proposal Draft</i> +	P/F	P/F
Project Proposal	(10%)	(10%)
Progress Seminar	(15%)	(10%)
Seminar Participation	P/F	P/F
Conference Paper	-	(10%)
Demonstration	(25%)	(20%)
Thesis	(50%)	(50%)

* = 1 sem PG only, + = 2 semester

ASSESSMENT TIMETABLE - YEAR-LONG

Assessment Item	(UG)	% (PG)
Online Integrity Tutorial	S1/W4	S1/W4
Proposal Draft	S1/W5	S1/W5
Project Proposal	S1/W9	S1/W9
Progress Seminar	S1/W11	S1/W11
<i>Conference Paper</i>	-	S2/W11
Demonstration	S2/W12	S2/W12
Thesis	S2/W14	S2/W14

ASSESSMENT TIMETABLE - ONE-SEMESTER

Assessment Item	% (Undergraduate)	% (Masters)
Online Integrity Tutorial	W3	W3
<i>Annotated Bibliography</i>	-	W3
Project Proposal	W4	W4
Progress Seminar	W7	W7
<i>Conference Paper</i>	-	W11
Demonstration	W12	W12
Thesis	W14	W14

PROJECT PROPOSAL - DETAILS

- Due in Week 9 (year-long), or Week 4 (one-semester)
- Proposal important sections:
 - Defines thesis topic CLEARLY,
 - Relevant Background Material,
 - Impact of previous work on the current project (literature review),
 - State the purpose, aims, coverage and relevance of the project (motivation),
 - Project Plan for completion,
 - Appropriate bibliography,
 - Satisfactory OHS / risk assessment

PROGRESS SEMINAR – DETAILS

- Due in Week 11 (year-long), or Week W7 (one-semester)
- Seminar important sections:
 - Many parts similar to the Proposal (Motivation, Background, Literature review)
 - However, additional should include the progress that since the submission of the proposal.
 - Also, the plan should be updated to include the experience that is gained so far.
 - Seminars are organised in 20 min time slots, usually 15-18 min for the presentation, and then questions.
 - NOTE: you will be presenting to your supervisor, as well as your colleagues from your cohort.

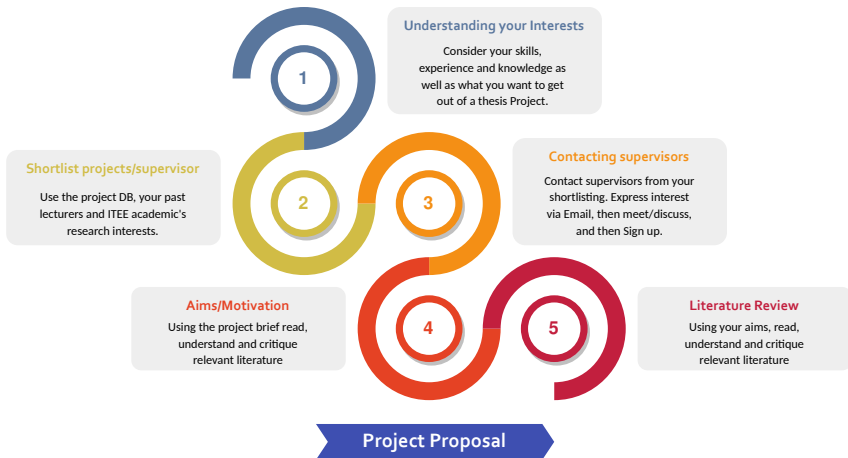
DEMONSTRATION - DETAILS

- Due in Week S2,11 (year-long), or Week 12 (one-semester)
- Demonstration important sections:
 - Verbally and visually present the results of your work
 - If have HW or SW, should demonstrate this live
 - Poster should be used to support the presentation
- Examined by the examiner.

THESIS - DETAILS

- Due in S2, Exam Week (year-long), or Exam week (one-semester)
- Thesis important sections:
 - Reports the main contributions of the project
 - Facilitate the examiner to evaluate the project
 - Include: problems, goals of the project, approach taken and major decisions
 - Evaluate how the goals have been achieved, and the importance and context of those achievements
- The thesis, like other parts should be done under the guidance of your supervisor. i.e. submit drafts.

NEXT STEPS: SEARCHING FOR A TOPIC IS CRITICAL



NEXT STEPS: ACTIONS

- Enrol in your thesis course (ASAP)
- Find a project/supervisor
 - Browse the Project Database - <https://student.eait.uq.edu.au/projects/>
 - **Contact potential supervisors** to discuss topics that interest you, or to propose your own topic
 - After coming to an agreement, get them to **allocate you** to your project in the Project Database

NEXT STEPS: EMAILING POTENTIAL SUPERVISORS

Template to contact academic via email

Dear <insert supervisor name>

I wish to indicate my interest in a thesis project you have advertised.

Student Name:

Student Number:

Thesis Course Code:

Student Program and Plan:

Project Title:

Why I am a good fit for the project (short paragraph):

Thank you for considering the above information and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

<insert your name>

Please cc – [ITEE Thesis Enquiries](#) when you send an email to the prospective supervisor.

TOPIC SELECTION

All topics are individual, and assessment items are the same.

- Some topics have multiple offerings, (i.e. **super** projects).
- These are broad thesis topics with different aspects that can be taken by many students at the same time.

You should aim to have a thesis project as soon as possible.

- Many students have a project before the semester begins.
- For one-semester students, you would already have a topic as a requirement of getting permission to enrol.
 - NOTE: first assessment in W4 (Proposal), additionally Annotated Bibliography in W3 (Masters Students).
- For year-long students, the research methods lectures starting in W2 will assume that you have a topic.
 - NOTE: first assessment item in W5 (Proposal Draft)
- Without a topic, it is impossible to get assessed in this course.

QUESTIONS

- Research Methods content (W1-W7) is designed to be a companion to your thesis project.
- These will be on Thursday 16:00 to 18:00 in 50-T203 (Hawken Building).

- Thesis Q/A