

## **Guidelines for an interesting, suitable, and successful Interdisciplinary Project in the Master's Program Informatics**

(Information referred to see <http://www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html>)



In the Master's program Informatics an IDP is a mandatory part, see <https://campus.tum.de/tumonline/WBMODHB.wbShowMHBReadOnly?pKnotenNr=1227810&pOrgNr=14189> for the module description **IN2334**. It's worth 16 credits and consists of two main parts, a **lecture** (usually 4 weekly hours resp. 5 ECTS) and a **project** work including presentation and documentation; for the calculation of the overall grade lecture: project count **3:7**. The IDP must be done with a supervisor from another department than Informatics. Sometimes IDPs are announced on the website, most of the times you are welcome when you directly ask, often IDPs are not yet known, so you have to explain it (to the person you address at the particular department). On the website examples of IDPs in different subject areas can be found.

### **How to find an interesting IDP:**

- Think of interesting areas, subjects.
- Browse the websites of the departments of the TUM (<https://www.tum.de/en/about-tum/departments/>) and for areas not covered at TUM also at LMU ([http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/about\\_lm/academics/faculties/index.html](http://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/about_lm/academics/faculties/index.html)). Look for interesting research projects and courses.
- Talk to fellow students who already work on an IDP.

### **How to find a suitable IDP:**

- Remember your experiences in other areas from your bachelor.
- Remember your experiences in other areas from your internships.
- Gather your knowledge and interest you can build upon.
- If you depend on English IDPs:
  - Projects can (almost) always be done in English.
  - Groups (almost) always adapt to English.
  - If the corresponding lectures are not taught in English, ask for English literature and an oral exam.

### **What to take with you on your way to find an IDP:**

- It is very different how people want to be initially contacted. We suggest you go there personally but be aware that they might ask you to write an email or give you an appointment later. Ph.D. students usually have time for a quick first talk right away.

- Your CV
- A list of courses/experiences which fit to the profile of the group
- Your Transcript of Records (in TUMonline it is called certificate)
- Your interest in the area, e.g. in form of a short statement
- The *Registration Form Interdisciplinary Project*
- Examples of IDPs

#### **How to manage a successful IDP:**

- Look around and make up your mind until the beginning of your second semester.
- Don't forget to register on time for the IDP. Keep in mind that your supervisor has to sign the registration form. She/He will also receive the approval of the application of your IDP together with a grading form.
- Work on the courses and the project in semester two and three.  
(These timelines are only hints!)
- Keep close contact especially to your advisor which in most cases will be a Ph.D. student from the supervisor. She/He is your most important contact person for the IDP and must always know the progress of your work.
- Work out a time schedule for the IDP and discuss it with your advisor.
- Your documentation/report has to be handed in only to the supervisor/advisor. The department of Informatics does not need a copy.
- The IDP is considered as passed if you get a weighted (3:7) average grade of 4.0 or better for lecture and project.
- If you work in a group please consider: Generally, the grading form is sent to the department of Informatics when all participants finish their part of the IDP; otherwise you have to talk to your supervisor. Finally, the average grade can be put in TUMonline; before that the 16 credits will not count for your curriculum.

#### **Whom to ask on your way finding an IDP:**

- Professors who are head of research groups or teachers of classes (will usually be the supervisor then)
- Ph.D. students who work in research projects or give seminars (will usually be the advisor then)
- In case you need specific advice for a certain subject area feel free to contact the following persons from the Informatics department who have close relations to the corresponding departments:

- Business Administration: Prof. Krcmar  
<http://www.winfobase.de/>
  - Electrical Engineering and Information Technology: Prof. Baumgarten  
<http://www.os.in.tum.de/en/home/>
  - Mathematics: Prof. Bungartz, Benjamin Uekermann  
<http://www5.informatik.tu-muenchen.de/wiki/index.php/Home>
  - Mechanical Engineering: Prof. Knoll, <http://www6.in.tum.de/>
  - Medicine: Prof. Navab, <http://campar.in.tum.de/WebHome>
- Some professors of the Informatics department are also member in another department so that they can also be supervisors of IDPs:

<https://www.in.tum.de/en/the-department/people-services/affiliate-membership/>

#### **General contact:**

- Christina Trenn [www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html](http://www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html)
- Sandra Kemler, Sibylle Roden-Kinghorst, Vivija Simic (academic advising), [www.in.tum.de/en/academic-advising](http://www.in.tum.de/en/academic-advising)

#### **Further information:**

- Let's talk about: Interdisciplinary [Projects @in.tum](http://www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html), information event every semester, slides available at [www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html](http://www.in.tum.de/en/current-students/masters-programs/informatics/interdisciplinary-project.html)
- [www.in.tum.de/en/tips](http://www.in.tum.de/en/tips)

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