PhD project description

{Insert planned title of the PhD project}

This template should be used for preparing a description of a PhD project, which will be part of an application for admission to the PhD program at the Department of Technology Systems. The project description outlines the plans for a PhD project at its start, and should be prepared by the PhD candidate and the supervisor together.

The PhD project shall be an independent scientific work that meets international standards regarding academic level, methods, and ethics. The scope of the project shall be adequate to train the candidate as an independent researcher at a high international level, consistent with [the goals of the PhD programme](https://www.uio.no/om/regelverk/forskning/forskerutdanning/phdforskr.html).

The purpose of the project description is to show that adequate PhD training is feasible within the time, resources, capabilities and infrastructure available to the candidate. The project description should be sufficiently detailed that the PhD committees at ITS and the MN faculty can assess the feasibility and quality of the planned research. The project description also forms the baseline for the third semester evaluation and any later evaluations.

By its nature, research is not predictable, therefore the plan shall not be seen as an obligation constraining the work. The PhD candidate and the supervisor are free to decide together during the work that other avenues of research are more fruitful or important.

The project description should not be longer than 10 pages, and will normally not be shorter than 4 pages total. Formatting of the text is not important as long as the structure of this template is followed, for example in a LaTeX document. To use this Word template, fill in text where indicated by dummy text in {braces}, using the “Normal” text style. When finished, delete these guidance texts in italics, selectable by right-clicking the “Template guidance (delete)” style in the Word style gallery.

# Abstract

Write a short abstract presenting a brief summary of the project.

{Paragraph text}

# Introduction

Provide an introduction to the project, decribing the scientific background, the main objectives of the project and existing research forming the scientific basis for the project. Include literature references.

{Paragraph text}

# Research questions and scientific approach

Outline your research questions and scientific challenges for the thesis. Obviously, much is uncertain at the start, but try to describe how this work can be structured as a set of publications. Describe your ambitions with respect to impact, or advancing the state of the art, and outline how to reach these goals.

If your project is a part of a larger research effort requiring coordination, explain specifically your planned contributions within the larger framework.

{Paragraph text}

# Project organisation and resources

This section is normally written by the principal supervisor. Provide an overview of existing resources for the project in terms of funding, equipment, materials, data etc. as appropriate. Also explain the relevant expertise contributed by each of the supervisors and how the supervision team covers the required competence as required by the project. Describe how the members of the supervisor team will cooperate. Explain how the new project fits into ongoing activities, and how the project will be supported by other academic staff and their PhD candidates, if relevant.

Some projects have significant contributions from non-UiO partners, like partial external supervision of the PhD candidate, or part-time employment of the candidate by an external partner. For each external partner, a separate standard agreement will be established on a separate form submitted as part of the PhD application. The agreement(s) will include a list of specific contributions from the external party. The project description should summarize this, and may contain further details about the planned cooperation.

{Paragraph text}

# Ethics

Describe any ethical issues related to your research, as well as potential ethical issues related to the impact of the results on society and the environment. A useful reference is the [The Norwegian National Committee for Research Ethics in Science and Technology](https://www.forskningsetikk.no/en/guidelines/science-and-technology/guidelines-for-research-ethics-in-science-and-technology/). Check if your project requires [notification to Sikt](https://sikt.no/en/notification-form-personal-data). Candidates doing fieldwork abroad should check if they also have to register their project with the applicable authorities there. If the collected material is intended for molecular work, follow the requirements of [the Nagoya protocol](https://www.cbd.int/abs/about). If no particular ethical issues arise in the project, this should be stated.

{Paragraph text}

# Project timeline

The timeline should include the expected timing and topic of foreseen publications, as well as other foreseen activities and milestones such as conferences. Also include the courses in the educational part. As for the rest of the project description, changes are to be expected, but the plan highlights the need for sustained work through the project period so that important elements such as publications are not delayed to the end. The timeline will be an important reference for the third semester evaluation.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester | Courses | Research | Milestones |
| Fall 2025 |  |  |  |
| Spring 2026 |  |  |  |
| ... |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |

# References

It is suggested to use the format [Jones2020] for citations in the text, and then list references alphabetically here.

{[Jones2020] J. Jones, “Scientific paper title,” Journal volume and page (year)

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