ETH

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

**Department of Civil, Environmental and
Geomatic Engineering
Master's degree programme in Geomatics**

Information sheet: Interdisciplinary Project within the Master's degree programme in Geomatics

Basis: Programme Regulations 2013 of the Master's degree programme in Geomatics, version 26.10.2021 – 2

1. General conditions

According to Article 17 of the Programme Regulations 2013 all students of the Master's degree programme in Geomatics must carry out and complete an interdisciplinary project. Ideally they do so during the third semester. At least two professorships or one professorship and an external partner are involved per project. As computed from its designated 12 ECTS credits, the project workload totals about 360 hours. The duration of project work is normally one semester.

The students select a project (theme) which
    a) is offered or co-supervised by at least one professor from IGP, IKG, IRL or IVT, and
    b) belongs for a substantial part to at least one of the two chosen specialist subject areas.

The Director of Studies rules on any exceptions.

2. Objective

The project is supervised by a professorship and fosters the ability of students to address a scientific issue in a project-oriented, independent and structured manner. It is designed to be interdisciplinary.

3. Organisation

In the first half of the Spring Semester the Study Administration Office asks professors to announce the themes of their interdisciplinary projects. The Office recommends a suitable number of themes per professorship, taking into account the number of students signed up for the respective specialisations.

The following aspects should be considered when announcing themes:
- Two or three students ("project team") should carry out the project. As an exception it is possible to announce projects for single students; the interdisciplinary character of the project also needs to be ensured in this case, e.g. through cooperation with an external project partner.
- Themes can be announced for more than one project team. In this case each of these project teams works on its own aspect of the theme, independent of the other teams.
- The language of communication (supervision), report and presentation needs to be made clear in the project announcement. Usually it is the language of the announcement, preferably English.
- There must be tasks within the project that will be carried out by the students individually in order to enable individual grading of each team member.
- The final grade draws on an assessment of the technical performance, the deliverables (written report), the presentation and the general working performance of the respective student. The assessment criteria (grading key) are set out in advance by the supervising professors and communicated to the students in writing when project work begins.

Students may view the selection of themes on the degree programme website. They contact the supervisors to clarify the suitability and availability of the topic, preferably by the end of the Spring Semester.

From mid-July up until 15 August at the latest, students register for the interdisciplinary project in myStudies (Functions → Projects/papers/theses). Supervisors give consent via eDoz in a timely manner. The students receive further information by email from the Study Administration Office during the course of the Spring Semester.

The interdisciplinary project must be graded. A project with a pass grade (at least a 4.0) is awarded 12 credits. A failed project may be repeated once; it must address a new theme. A repetition may be conducted with a different professor. Projects with pass grades may not be repeated.

The grades are entered in eDoz by the responsible professors.

Project work may only be aborted in justified exceptional cases and with the written consent of the Director of Studies. The respective written request, also signed by the supervising professors, must be submitted immediately to the Director of Studies. From the fourth week of the project period onwards the reason for withdrawal must be urgent (e.g. illness or accident), and the written request must be accompanied by corresponding evidence (e.g. a medical report).

4. Presentation

The presentation of the project consists of two parts: (a) a brief oral presentation and (b) a poster. Both are presented in the context of a concluding event with poster exhibition, open to the public. The concluding event takes place in the ultimate or penultimate week of the Autumn Semester. It consists of brief oral presentations during which each team presents its own project, followed by a poster exhibition (one poster per team) where students are required to explain their projects further.

More information and the presentation schedule will be sent to supervisors towards the end of the Autumn Semester by the Study Administration. Supervisors are responsible for giving information to their students. All members of the project teams are obliged to participate in the concluding event. The Study Administration Office will notify all students of Geomatics (MSc) and Geospatial Engineering (BSc) of the event, and invite them to attend.

5. Dates and deadlines

- Clarification of suitability and availability of the desired topic until the end of the Spring Semester
- Topic registration via myStudies: From mid-July until 15 August at the latest
- Start of the interdisciplinary project: First week of the Autumn Semester
- Interim discussions with supervisors: By arrangement
- Presentation: In the ultimate or penultimate week of the Autumn Semester
- Handing in of deliverables: By arrangement with supervisors, but no later than January 13, 2023

In exceptional cases it is also possible to carry out the interdisciplinary project in the Spring Semester. In this case it is the responsibility of the students to identify a suitable project and appropriate supervisors in agreement with the professorships. Students and supervisors need to be announced by e-mail to the Study Administration Office by the students from mid-December up until 15 January at the latest. The other regulations described in this information sheet apply correspondingly.