

SEMESTER PROJECTS REGULATIONS

The study plans of the programs in Computer Science and Communication Systems, as well as the Master programs in Data Science and in Cyber Security include the following semester projects:

- PROJECT I (Bachelor level): a project to be done during the 5th or 6th semester according to the student's choice, worth 8 ECTS¹ credits.
- PROJECT II (Master level): a project to be done during M1, M2, M3 or M4 according to the student's choice, worth 12 ECTS¹ credits. Note that students in the Cyber Security Master's program must do their project in the field of cyber security, and have the corresponding [form](#) signed by the Professor who will supervise them as well as by the Deputy Head of Section.

A project can be done in pairs: two students per project. This option is either offered by the laboratories or can be requested by the students.

Master students in Computer Science, Communication Systems, Data Science and Cyber Security have the possibility to do an additional semester project, called optional project and worth 8 ECTS¹ credits.

The mandatory project and the optional project cannot be done in parallel during the same semester.

As per EPFL rules, ECTS credited semester projects cannot be remunerated.

The SSC and SIN sections ask the laboratories for projects in April for the fall semester (5th semester, M1 and M3) and in October for the spring semester (6th semester, M2 and M4). Students are then informed by email that the list of the projects on the website is up to date and that they can proceed with choosing a project. They will also receive all relevant information related to registration.

Procedure and length of projects:

▶ COMPUTER SCIENCE, COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, DATA SCIENCE AND CYBER SECURITY

Project I (Bachelor level) can be done during the 5th or 6th semester, but it must start at the beginning of the 6th semester at the latest. The working hours are established together with the project supervisor(s).

¹ One ECTS credit corresponds to approximately 30 hours of work, including homework and preparation for exams or presentations.

Project II (Master level) can be done during M1, M2, M3 or M4, but it must begin no later than the beginning of the last semester of the Master's degree. The working hours will be established together with the people supervising the project. Students in the Cyber Security Master's program can choose to do their semester project during their mandatory semester at ETHZ. In this case, a professor at ETHZ must supervise the project.

The duration of the semester project is 14 weeks. **The student must start the project on the official start date of the beginning of semester**, according to the academic calendar. No exceptions will be granted without the approval of the Deputy Head.

The student must submit a written report to the laboratory by the official date mentioned on our web pages as follows:

Bachelor: <https://www.epfl.ch/schools/ic/fr/education/bachelor/semester-project/>

Master: <https://www.epfl.ch/schools/ic/education/master/semester-project-msc/>

The project supervisor provides information on the format and the content of the report.

The hand-in of the report will be followed by an oral defence organised by the laboratory.

When the deadlines are not met by the student, it shall be considered as a failure (NA in the transcript).

Exchange students:

Students who are in the exchange program during their 3rd year must do Project I at their exchange university.

If Project II is done during the semester upon returning to EPFL, the project must be organized from abroad.

The registration deadlines may be extended upon written request from the exchange student, who must motivate his/her request.

Conditions:

- ▶ **COMPUTER SCIENCE, COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, DATA SCIENCE AND CYBER SECURITY**

Project I must be passed in order for the student to be allowed to move into the master program and Project II must be passed in order for the student to move on to the master thesis. In case of failure, a second attempt is allowed in another laboratory.

A student who has chosen a project on a specific subject and who abandons it cannot take up the same project again the following semester.

Changing projects during the semester is exceptional. The student must first send an e-mail to the Professor in charge of the project and to the Deputy Head explaining the reasons for his/her request. If the request is justified, the section will give its approval.

A semester project may be abandoned during the course of the semester for exceptional reasons and in agreement with Professor of the laboratory and the Deputy Head.

Abandonment of a project by the student after the exam withdrawal deadline will be considered a failure.

Supervision and procedure:

If a student wishes to choose a project outside the list on the section's website and proposed by a section other than Computer Science or Communication Systems, his/her project must be **co-supervised** by an I&C faculty professor who is related to the subject. In this case, the student must complete the application form:

- **Semester project** for IN, SC and DS: [Form](#)
- **Semester project** for CYBER: [Form](#)
- **Optional project** for IN, SC, DS and CYBER: [Form](#)

The form, duly completed and signed, must be submitted by e-mail to the Bachelor or Master secretariat (before the beginning of the semester). After obtaining the authorization of the Deputy Head, you can proceed to the registration on IS-Academia.

Registration on IS-Academia:

Once you have obtained the approval of the laboratory supervisor, and of the section if applicable, register for the project on IS-Academia during the official course registration period.

Extension of the project:

A time extension may be granted **exceptionally** in unforeseeable cases, illness or problems encountered during the semester outside the student's control. For medical reasons, a medical certificate must be provided.

A two-week extension may be granted by the Deputy Head of Section upon request of the professor supervising the project, if justified by a valid reason.

***** the deadlines given by the sections must be respected *****