Master's project (PDM) - Directives

Important information

Chemical engineering vs chemistry
- Chemical engineering:
  - Minor → PDM in industry
  - Internship → PDM in academia
- Chemistry: either in academia or in industry

Confidentiality

N.B: no PDM (confidential or not) will ever be published unless authorised by the owner.

PDM conducted at EPFL are not confidential. A PDM can be considered as “confidential” if conducted in industry and if its results have to be kept confidential as requested by the company. Confidential PDM will not be able to be uploaded on IS-Academia and take part in students' prizes.

Glossary

- EPFL advisor (=thesis director)
  EPFL teacher supervising the PDM who will also select the experts / be the president of the jury.
  Can be any teacher/senior scientist (MER) who is teaching at the section (even if linked to another section).

- Expert
  Must be external (can be your local supervisor if PDM done in industry/academia outside EPFL).
  For PDM completed in another section at EPFL, the local supervisor can be part of the judging panel but there must also be an external expert.
PDM at EPFL

Inscription

- registration form on SCGC website + registration on IS-Academia following the usual deadlines given by the SAC. The relevant box should be ticked if the PDM is confidential (will then be validated by the advisor)
- proposals are available on SCGC website

At the end of the PDM

The following has to be taken into account for reports’ delivery (detailed information on the document “Report delivery”)

- **Confidential**
  - Binded copies signed on the conclusions’ page to be brought to the secrétariat SCGC
  - Poster: no
- **Non-confidential**
  - Electronic version (pdf) of the PDM to be uploaded on IS-Academia. The examining board and the section will receive an email confirming the upload.
  - Poster: to be brought at the secrétariat SCGC

A date for the oral examination (approx. 2/3 weeks after the delivery) will be chosen and the SAC will be informed. For Spring PDM, the limit for oral examinations is around the 10th of September (please check with the section). The advisor then judges the work with the expert(s) taking into account the quality of experimental work, of the project paper and of the public presentation.

Posters’ exhibition:

- The poster exhibition takes place in Autumn just before the Magistrale.
- The three best posters are rewarded by the section.
PDM in industry/in academia (also other Swiss universities)

Inscription

*After having chosen its subject/company/university where to complete the PDM, the student will also choose an advisor (professor or MER) at EPFL (EPFL advisor), who will be the link between the company/university and the EPFL.*

- registration form on SCGC website + registration on IS-Academia following the usual deadlines given by the SAC. The relevant box should be ticked if the PDM is confidential (will then be validated by the advisor).
- proposals from various partners available on SCGC website

During the PDM

The EPFL advisor is officially supervising the PDM, he follows up the progress of the project, and will preside the examining board.

At the end of the PDM

The following has to be taken into account for reports’ delivery (detailed information on the document “Report delivery”)

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  - Binded copies signed on the conclusions' page to be brought to the secrétariat SCGC
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