

DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT – IFEL8000

The following rules apply to the design of project descriptions at the IV faculty:

- The project description must be between 7 and 10 A4 pages with normal page layout and continuous text
- The project description must have a title
- Both the candidate and the main supervisor must sign on the first or last page

The project description must contain the following items:

Background

- Give a brief description of the context and motivation of the research project.
- Outline the current state of the art.
- Why is the proposed thesis subject of interest given the current state of the art? How will the proposed thesis contribute to closing the knowledge gap/improve the state of the art?

Objectives

- The *academic or scientific* objectives of the PhD thesis work are to be specified.
- The objectives are to be listed in bullet points and formulated in a way that enables them to be examined and evaluated once the research is concluded.

Scope (limitations and coverage)

- Describe the specific focus of your research.
- Consider the limitations in the coverage and explain which topics are to be covered by the thesis and which related topics are outside the scope of the work.

Research method

- The overall research strategy of the PhD thesis is to be specified.
- Describe the specific research methods (for example numerical, experimental, field observations etc.) that will be used to achieve the objectives listed above.
- If experimental or field data is to be collected, describe the planning of measurement and data analysis that will be used.
- Comment on any interdisciplinary assignments/challenges in the project; in other words what type of challenges and how to handle them.

DOCTORAL DEGREE COMMITTEE

Ethical issues

- Outline any ethical issues in connection with the project
for example, issues relating to social and environmental consequences, handling of personal information or biological material, someone's personal information, or environmental consequences of your research, or how your research may have consequences for human conflict (for example concerning the arms industry).
- Give examples of positive ethical impacts in the project

Expected results

- Explain the potential new knowledge, in terms of scientific impact/contributions to theory, that could result from the research.
- Show how the results from the thesis can be applied in an industrial context or be useful to other sectors such as public administration.
- Comment whether the doctoral work will contribute to innovation (for example a new product, process, or method).

Work plan/work schedule

- State the tasks that will be performed to achieve the stated objectives.
- A Gantt Chart that shows the time required for each of the tasks in the work plan should be included.
- A plan for publication should be included, and if possible, a plan for conferences. Any other plans for scientific dissemination should be included as well.

References

- The references used to describe the background and current state of the art should be included.