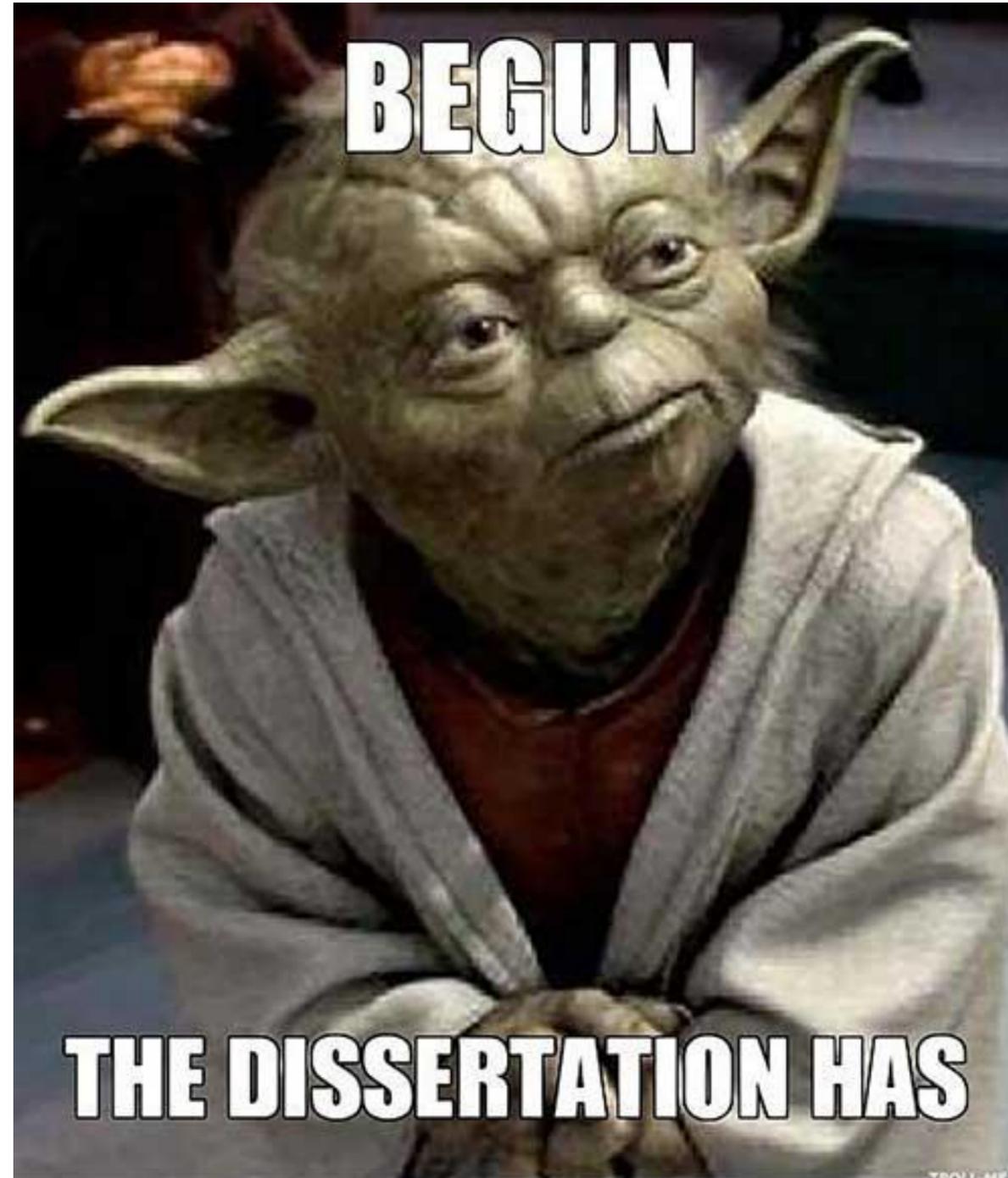


INFO SESSION MASTER'S DISSERTATION

Chantal Hongenaert

19/03/2026

YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?



YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

- All information can be found on the faculty website : <https://www.ugent.be/bw/en>



Education Research Facilities About the faculty Contact Information for 

Students

Prospective students

Alumni

Employees 

For prospective students

- Bachelor Degree programmes
- Master Degree Programmes
- Obtaining a PhD
- Short trainings

For current students

- Course schedule in Oasis
- Elective courses
- Personalized Learning Track
- Master's dissertation



<https://www.ugent.be/bw/en/for-students/curriculum/master-dissertation>

YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?



How will we communicate?

➤ Via mail

Masterdissertation.fbw@ugent.be

➤ Via Ufora

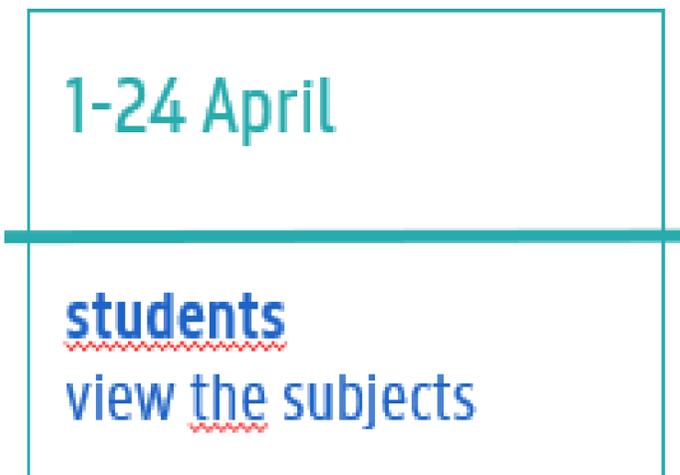
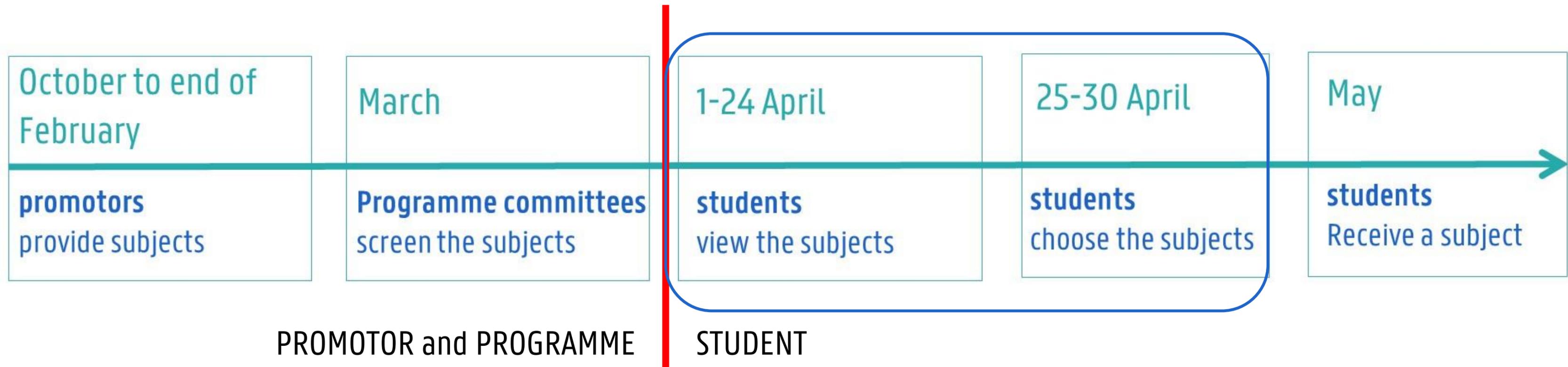
➤ Faculty infosite

➤ Master infosite

➤ [Masterproef – Master Dissertation \(BW\)](#)

→ check your announcements!

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT



View the subjects in the [application](#):

<https://masterthesis-bw.ugent.be/en/onderwerpen/aanbod>

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

1-24 April

students
view the subjects

View the subjects in the [application](#):

MASTERTHESIS-BW

HOME TOPICS

Overview master's dissertation topics

intro overview my topics

intro promotor department keywords all topics preferences

Using **the tabs** on this page, you can search for subjects by :

- Promotor
- Department
- Keyword

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

1-24 April

students
view the subjects

Overview master's dissertation topics

intro overview my topics

intro promotor department keywords all topics **my preferences**

Title

Faithful attraction: Predicting Ulva reproduction based on temporal shifts in bacterial density and composition

➤ Shortlist of topics will appear under 'my preferences'

To do:

➤ Contact the promotor and tutor before you choose!



UNIVERSITEIT
GENT

<https://www.ugent.be/bw/en/for-students/curriculum/master-dissertation/choosing-master-dissertation#Makeaninformedchoice>

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

25-30 April

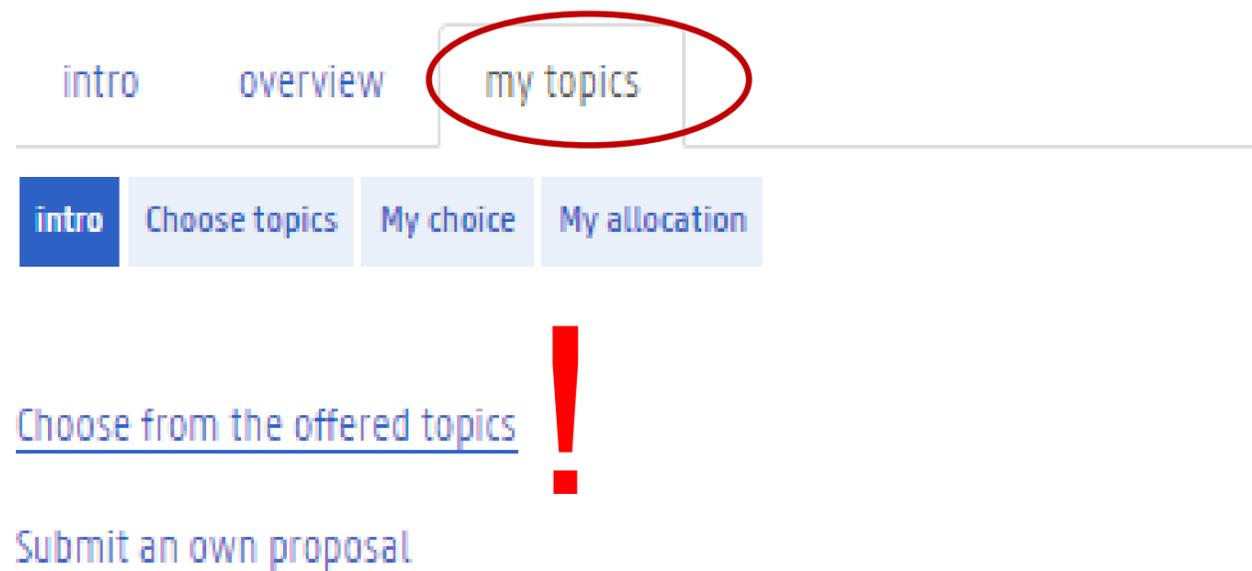


students
choose the subjects

Choose the subjects in the application:

<https://masterthesis-bw.ugent.be/en/onderwerpen/aanbod>

Choose **3** subjects from the list in order of priority or submit **your own subject**



- Find your own promotor
- Screening by OC
- Release by FSA

ENTRY SCREEN 3 CHOICES

intro overview **my topics**

intro Choose topics My choice My allocation

[I want to propose an own topic in stead](#)

Choice 1 (highest priority)

Biogeochemical recovery of secondary forests in the Congo Basin ▼

Motivation choice 1

Choice 2

Evaluating ground measurements of tree height in the Congo Basin through comparison with airborne data ▼

Motivation choice 2

Choice 3

Evolution of hyperdominance in Congolese tree flora using soil charcoal identification ▼

Motivation choice 3

Submit

PREVIEW SCREEN 'MY CHOICE'



Choice 1

Biogeochemical recovery of secondary forests in the Congo Basin

Choice 2

Evaluating ground measurements of tree height in the Congo Basin through comparison with airborne data

Choice 3

Evolution of hyperdominance in Congolese tree flora using soil charcoal identification

ENTRY SCREEN SUBMISSION OWN PROPOSAL

intro overview **my topics**

intro Choose topics My choice My allocation

[I want to choose from the offered topics in stead](#)

Language

Dutch 

Title

Description

B *I* \times_2 \times^2 Ω        Paragraph    Source

Rasir HTML  [About text formats](#)

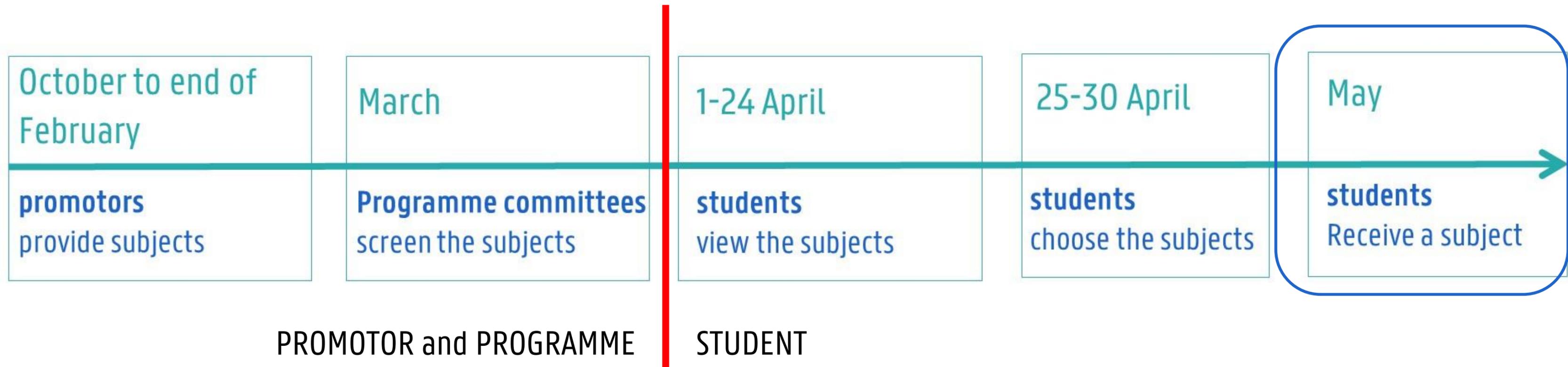
The description can contain max. 2000 characters

Keywords

Confidential

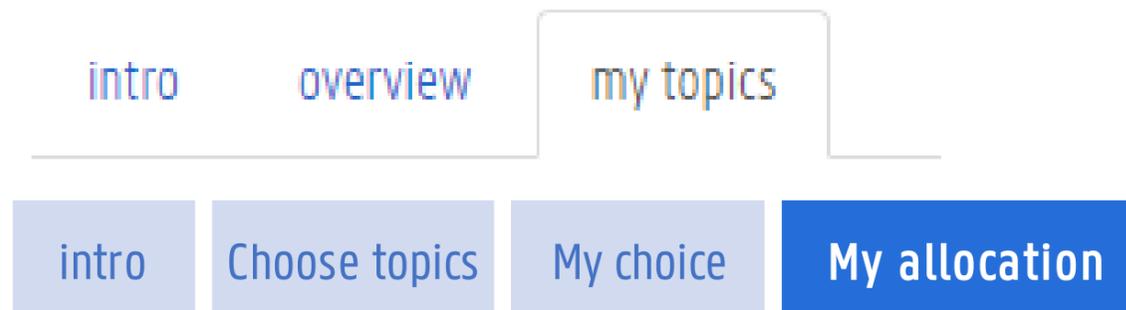
No
 Yes

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT



→ Promotor assigns the subject!

→ Announcement via UFORA → application



TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

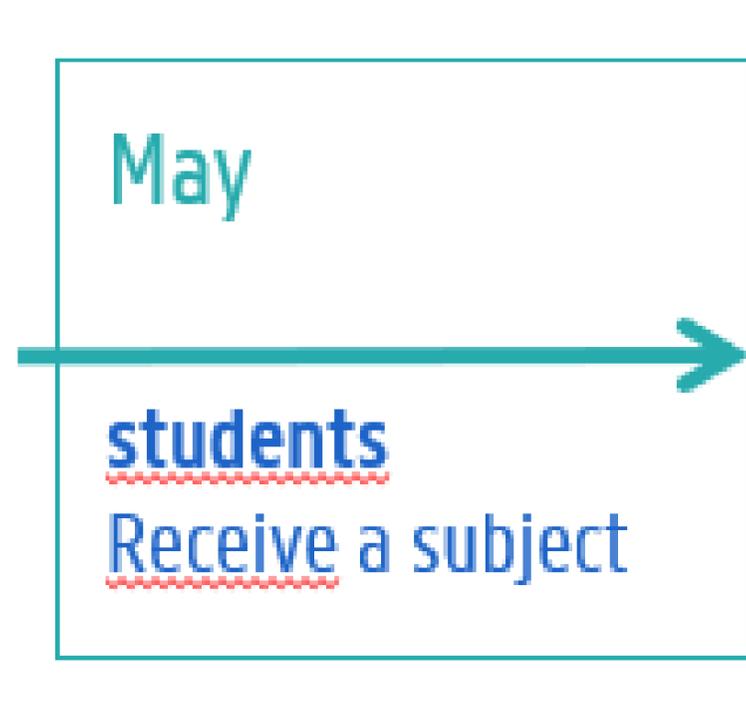
May

students
Receive a subject



ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN PROMOTOR AND STUDENT

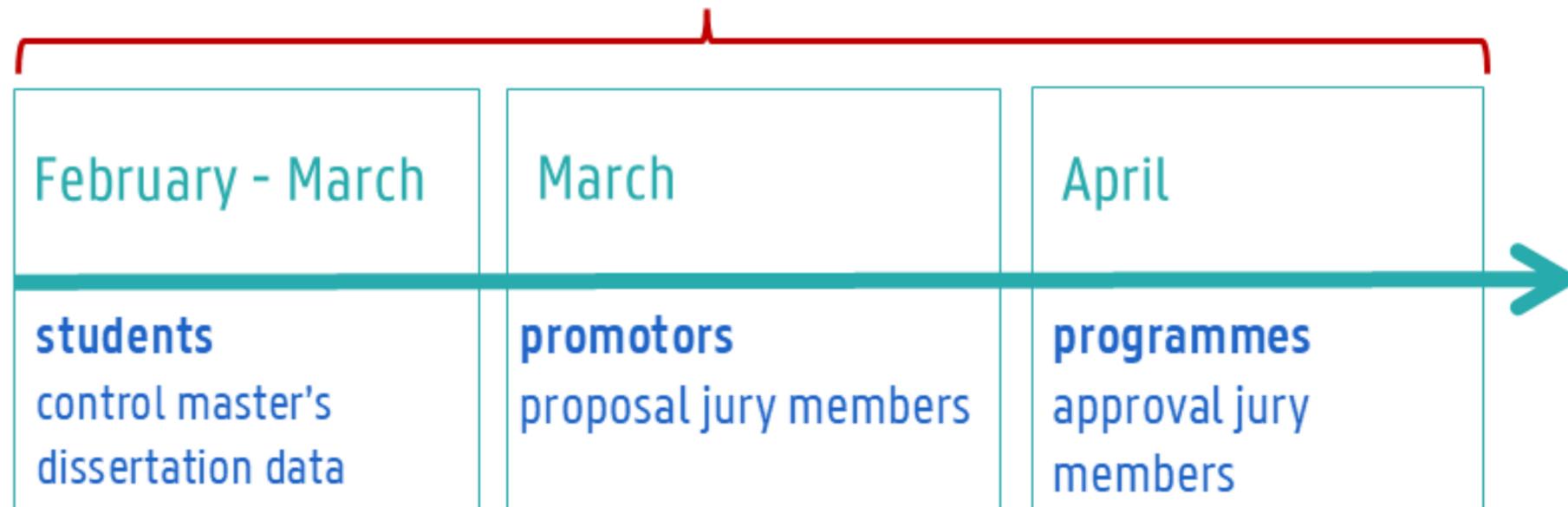
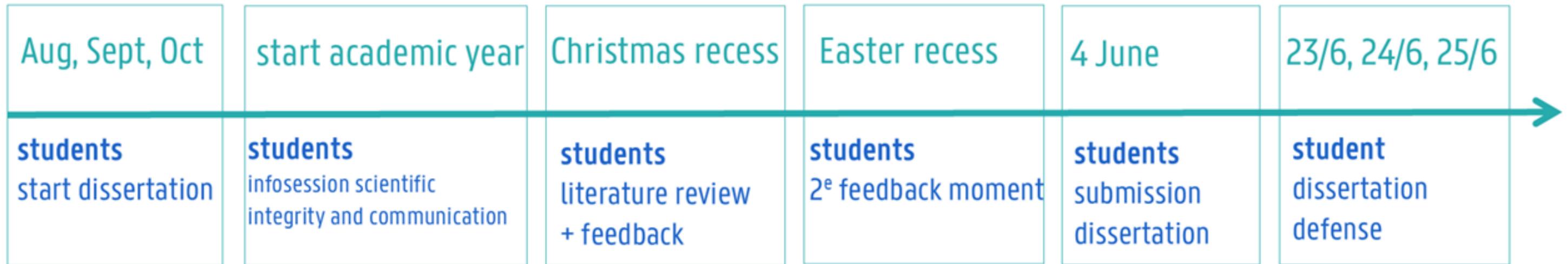
TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT



Contact your promotor and tutor for further arrangements

- Send a mail in the week of the catch-up activities
- Set the starting date
- Special status and related facilities?
- Ethics approval?
- Collaboration with a company → master's dissertation contract

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: THE PROCESS



GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION



Master's dissertation = the capstone of your programme (30SP)

Learning outcomes

- 1 Establish a well-defined research problem
- 2 Define/Formulate clear research questions and/or hypotheses
- 3 Establish a **suitable methodology** in accordance with the prevailing scientific standards of the research field
- 4 Systematically collect, search, critically interpret and integrate **scientific literature**
- 5 Collect data in an accurate way (existing and/or obtained through personal laboratory and/or fieldwork and/or surveys)
- 6 **Process data in a correct way**
- 7 Analyze data critically in a scientific context
- 8 Adjust independently the research process based on feedback from experts and critical self-assessment
- 9 Summarize and present data in a concise manner
- 10 **Write a report** on scientific and technical information, materials and methods, results and findings
- 11 Handle a problem critically, creatively **from an engineering perspective** with attention for ethical, social, international and sustainability aspects
- 12 Act according to the principles and good practices of **scientific integrity**
- 13 Show **independence, motivation, commitment, a drive for innovativeness and creativity, initiative and perseverance** to achieve learning outcomes 1 to 12
- 14 **Present, defend** and frame the research results vis-à-vis peers and experts

Quantitatively in case of non bio-engineer programmes



GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: THE PROCESS



GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: YOUR RIGHTS

YOUR master's dissertation → you are not in it alone

→ Guidance → identify planning and deadlines

→ Galileo

→ Dissertation report

→ Feed up, feedback, feedforward



GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: YOUR OBLIGATIONS

YOUR master's dissertation → take control

- Follow information and communication: [faculty website](#) / [UFORA](#)
- Respect the agreements made in the lab/company
- Respect agreements with promotor/tutor → Record them!
- Use [Galileo](#)
- Act with (scientific) integrity
- You do the work
- Ask for help

*If not you,
who?*

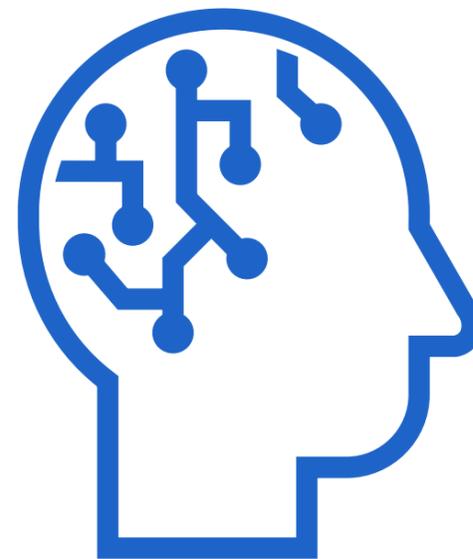
GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: OUTPUT

Written dissertation

→ requirements: see [website](#)

→ Personal work, some form of freedom

→ [Galileo](#)



GAI?

4 June

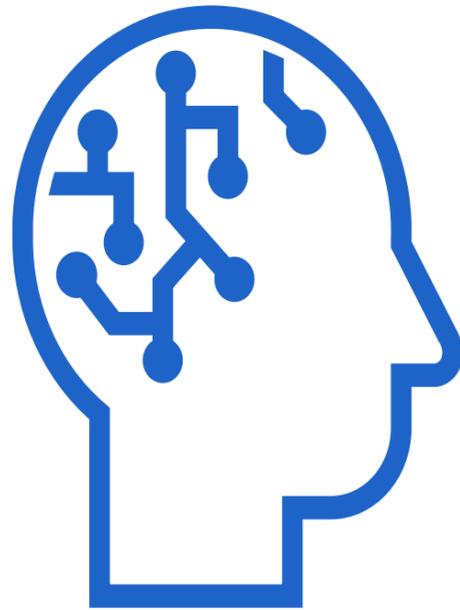
students

submission

dissertation

AAN DE SLAG MET JE MASTERPROEF: OUPUT

GAI?



- Use it responsibly
 - ✓ Check the guidelines: dissertation report and GAI
- Respect the basic principles of scientific integrity:
 - ✓ Be transparant
 - ✓ Correct use of sources and references
- Know the basic scientific literature
- **Be careful with confidential and personal privacy-sensitive information**

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: OUTPUT

Defense

- requirements: see [website](#)
- Personal work, some form of freedom
- [Galileo](#)

23/6, 24/6, 25/6

student
dissertation
defense

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: ASSESSMENT



PROCESS (30%)

Promotor (with input of tutor)



REPORT (40%)

2 Reading commissioners



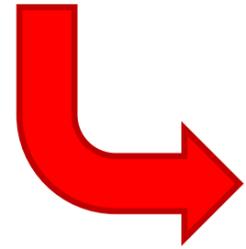
DEFENSE (30%)

Full jury

- Chairman
- Secretary
- Promotor
- 2 commissioners

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION

What to do with problems?



Working environment
Relation with promotor/tutor
Scientific integrity
Student rights and obligations
...

COUPURE



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