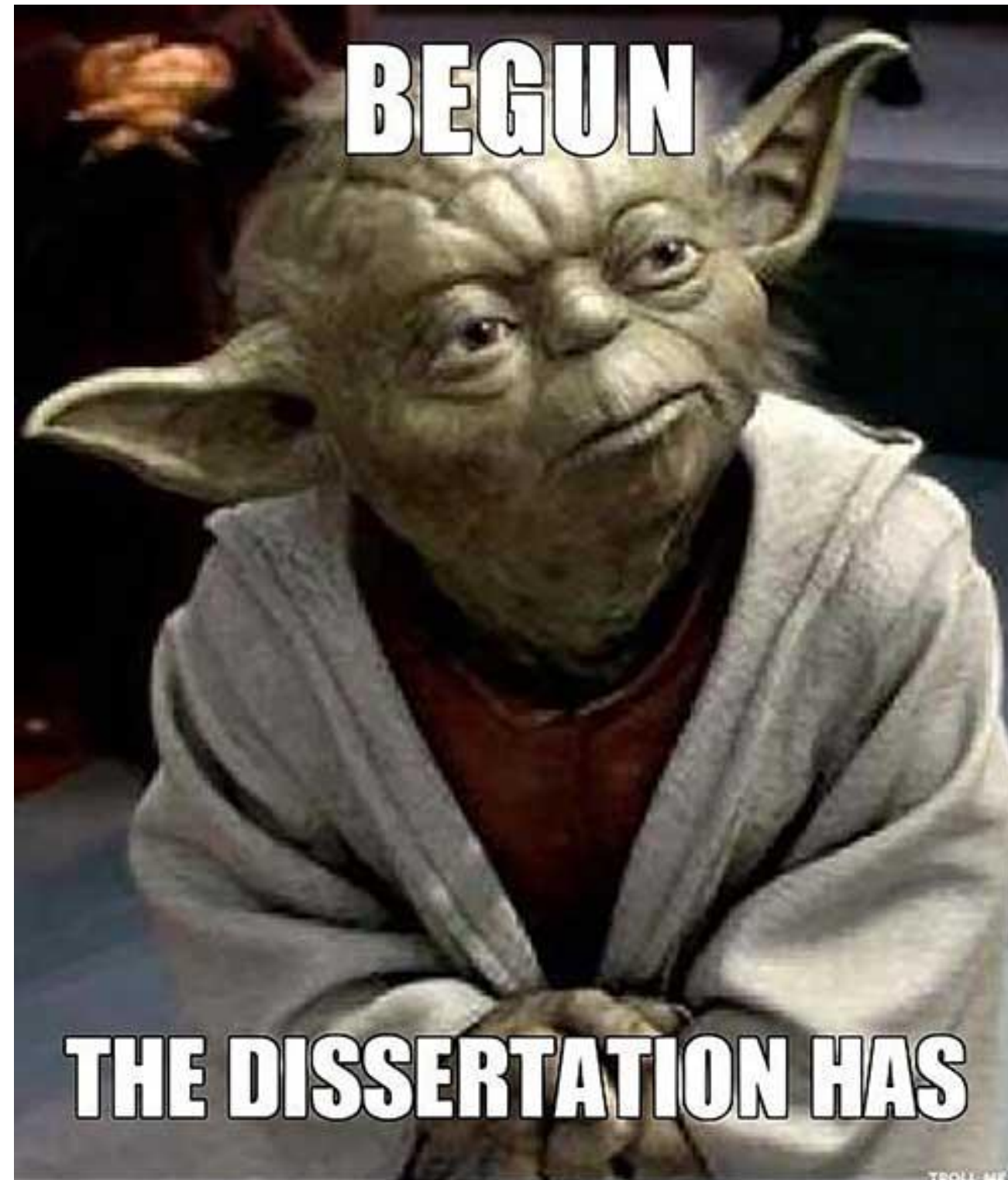


INFO SESSION MASTER'S DISSERTATION

Chantal Hongenaert

26/03/2025

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



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

- Timeline: what do you do when?
- How does the selection and assignment process work?
- How do we communicate?
- What is the master's dissertation aiming for (competences)?
- What can you expect from a promotor and tutor?
- What are your student rights and obligations?
- Scientific communication (Galileo, scientific integrity, template)?
- How will you be assessed?
- What do you do if something goes wrong?

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>

The screenshot displays the website of the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering at Ghent University. The header includes the Ghent University logo and the faculty name. A navigation bar contains links for Education, Research, Facilities, About the faculty, Contact, and Information for. The 'Information for' dropdown menu is open, showing options for Students, Prospective students, Alumni, and Employees (locked). A red arrow points to the 'Students' option. Below the navigation bar, there are two columns of links. The left column, 'For prospective students', lists Bachelor Degree programmes, Master Degree Programmes, Obtaining a PhD, and Short trainings. The right column, 'For current students', lists Course schedule in Oasis, Elective courses, Personalized Learning Track, and Master's dissertation. The 'Master's dissertation' link is circled in red.

GHENT UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCE ENGINEERING

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

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



How will we communicate?

➤ Via mail

Masterdissertation.fbww@ugent.be

➤ Via Ufora

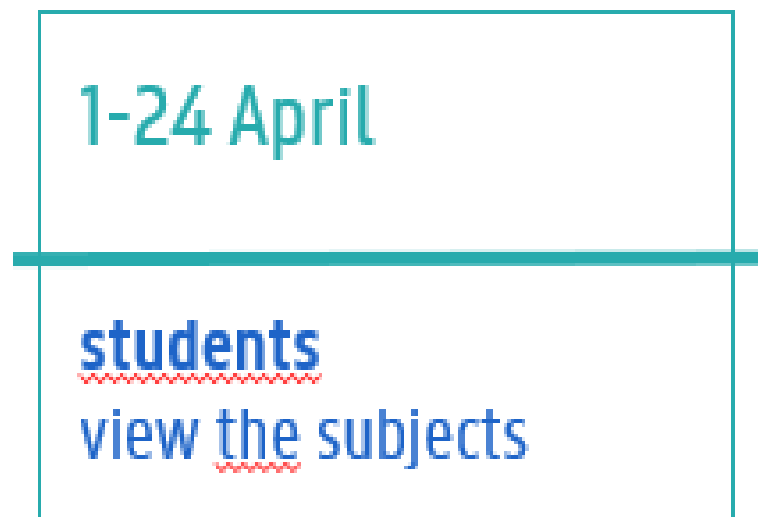
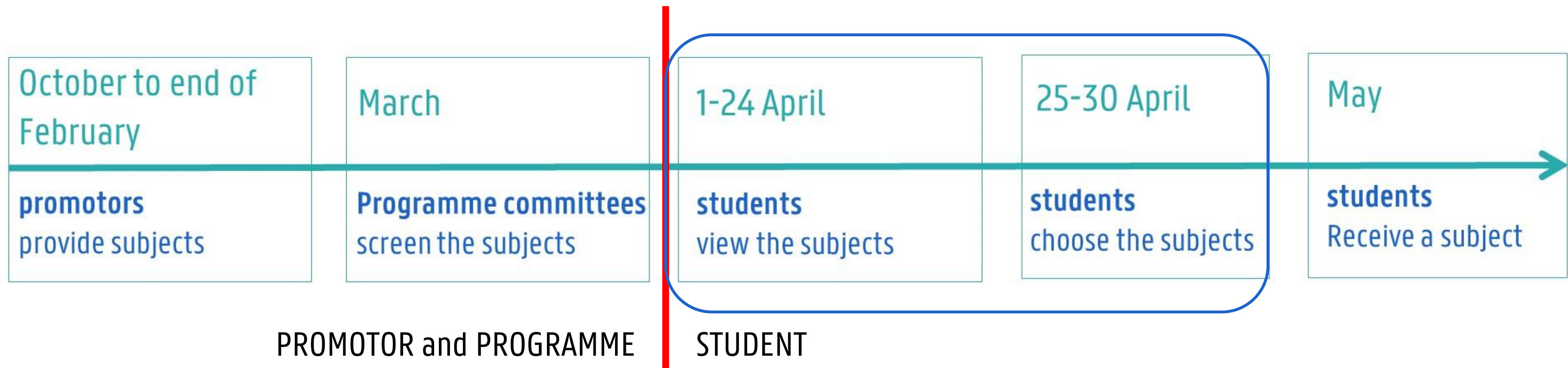
➤ Faculty infosite

➤ 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

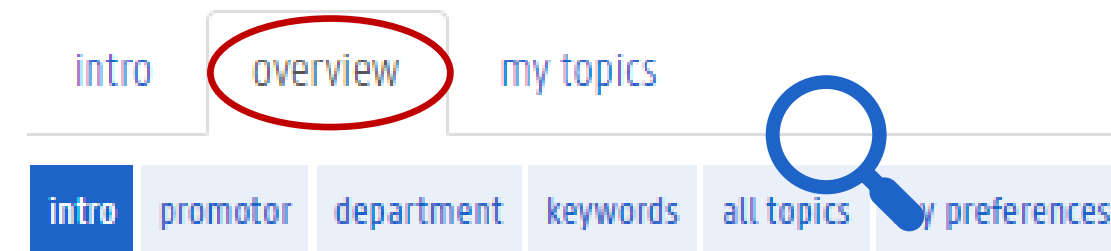
students
view the subjects

View the subjects in the application:

MASTERTHESIS-BW

HOME TOPICS

Overview master's dissertation topics



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

Make a shortlist of preferred promoter):

Boon Nico

Title

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

Anaerobic co-digestion of organic fraction of municipal solid waste and sewage sludge: Eval

A clean getaway, identifying microbes escaping stressed biofilms

Drinking water research on a pilot scale

Nutritional role of bacteria in the different life stages of benthic copepods

Overheersen ijzer-oxiderende en sulfaat-reducerende bacteriën het kanaal Gent – Terneuzen

Fast-screening tools to detect changes in the quality of drinking water

Let's get radical?! Degradation of organic pollutants by microorganisms and their enzymes.

Self-healing bio-based materials

Faithful attraction: Predicting *Ulva* reproduction based on temporal shi...

[add to my list](#)

Keywords: aquaculture; seaweed; *Ulva*; microbiome; flow cytometry; quorum sensing

Description:

The green macroalga *Ulva* is of economic (edible seaweed) and ecological (green tides) importance in Asia. Unraveling the role of *Ulva*-microbiome interactions in reproduction is crucial to advance commercial aquaculture. The accumulation of quorum sensing (QS) signaling molecules, which depends on bacterial density, plays a role in *Ulva* development. However, it is not known whether QS signaling affects *Ulva* reproduction. An experiment will be set up where temporal changes in bacterial density and community composition during *Ulva* reproduction will be followed using flow cytometry and 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Wet lab experiments will be performed during summer at Ghent University Global Campus, Songdo, South Korea. Depending on the progress of the experiments further analyses can be performed at CMET in Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium.

Promotor(s): Nico Boon, Thijs Van Gerrewey

Tutor(s): Thijs Van Gerrewey

Confidential: No

For students of the programmes: IMCEGB, IMCHEM, IMLAND, IMMITE

Number of topic: 17

Number of students: 1

Part of the fieldwork is outside Flanders - exchange programme (Erasmus,...)

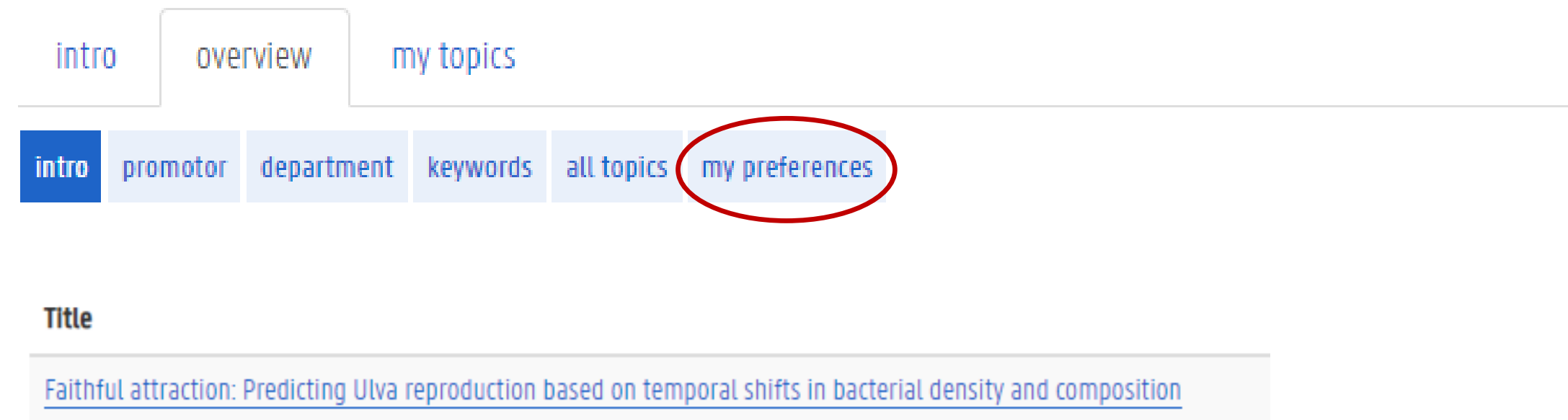
UNIVERSITEIT
GENT

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

1-24 April

students
view the subjects

Overview master's dissertation topics



➤ 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

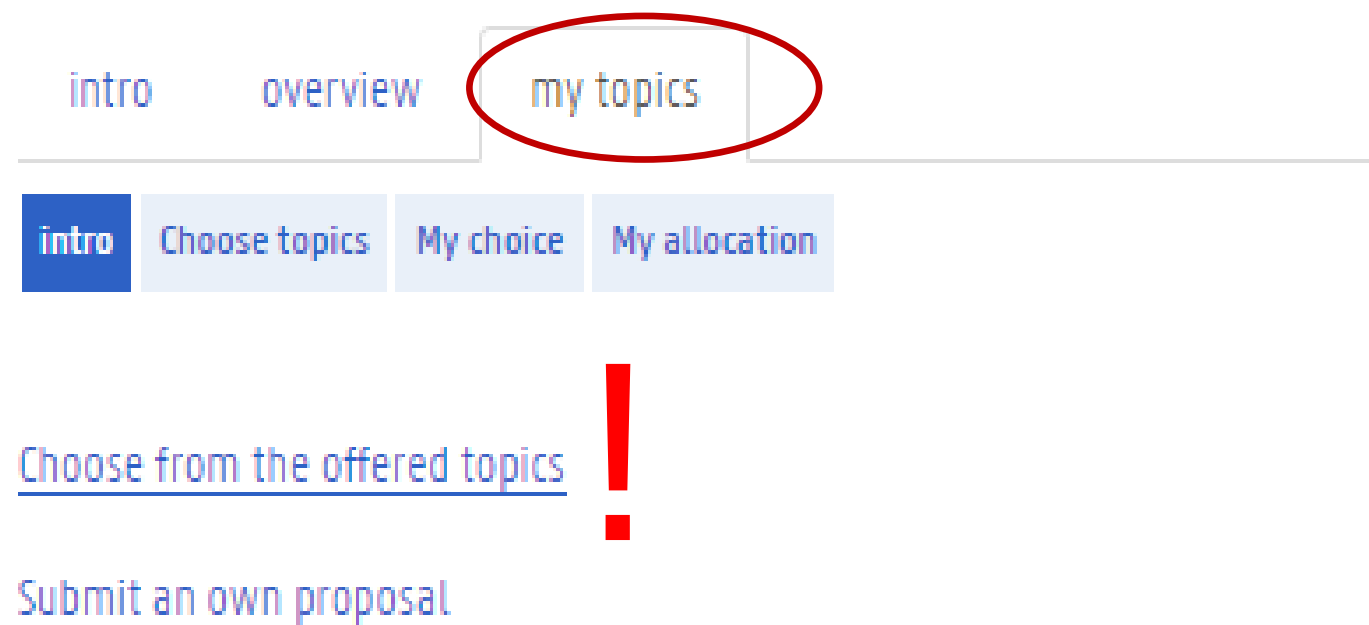


students
choose the subjects

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
- Mail to masterdissertation.fbw@ugent.be
- Screening by OC
- Release by FSA

ENTRY SCREEN 3 CHOICES

introoverviewmy topics

introChoose topicsMy choiceMy 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

introoverviewmy topics

introChoose topicsMy choiceMy allocation

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

Language

Dutch

Title

Description

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[? About text formats](#)

The description can contain max. 2000 characters

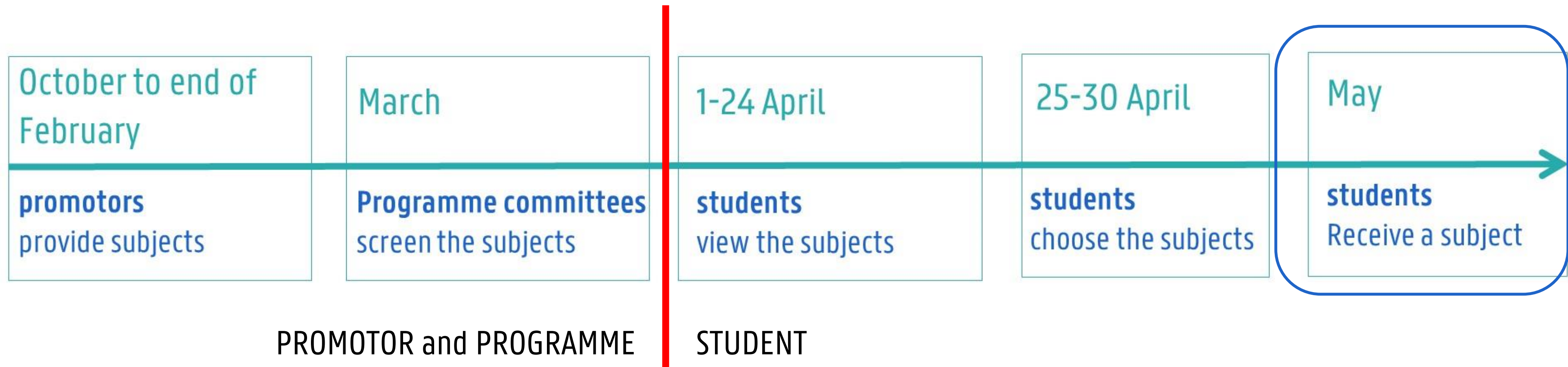
Keywords

Confidential

☒ No

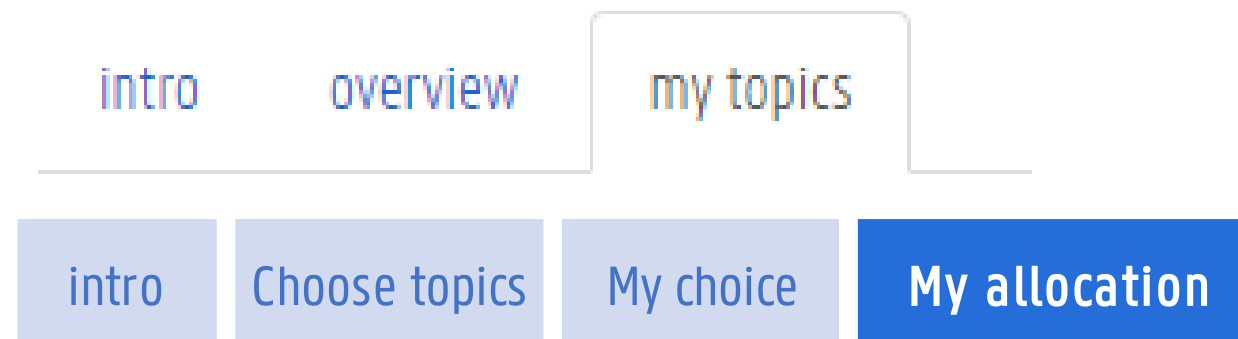
☐ Yes

TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT



→ Promotor assigns the subject!

→ Announcement via UFORA → application



TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT

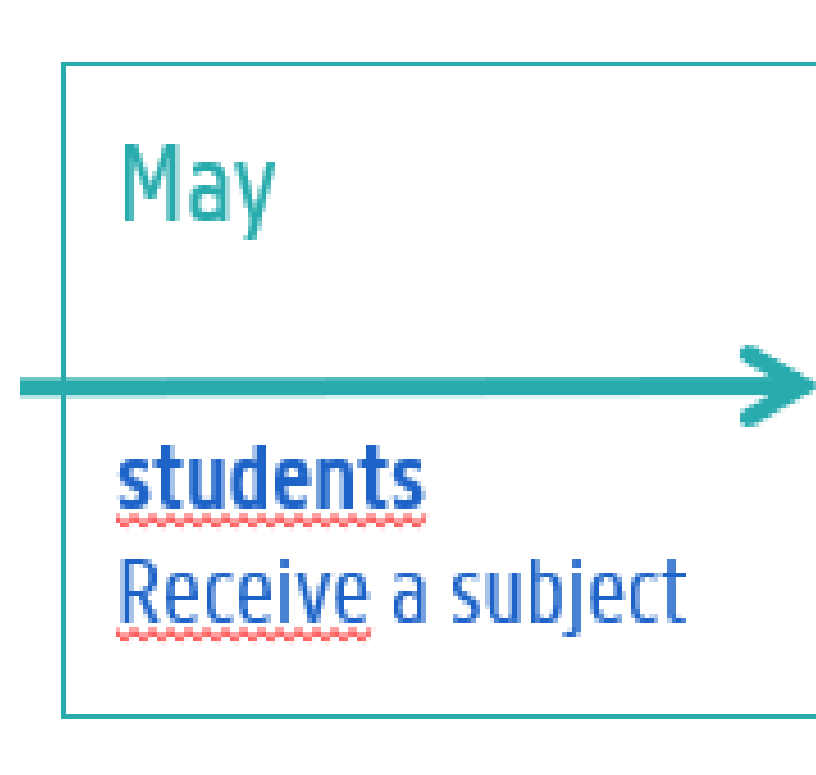
May

students
Receive a subject



ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN PROMOTOR AND STUDENT

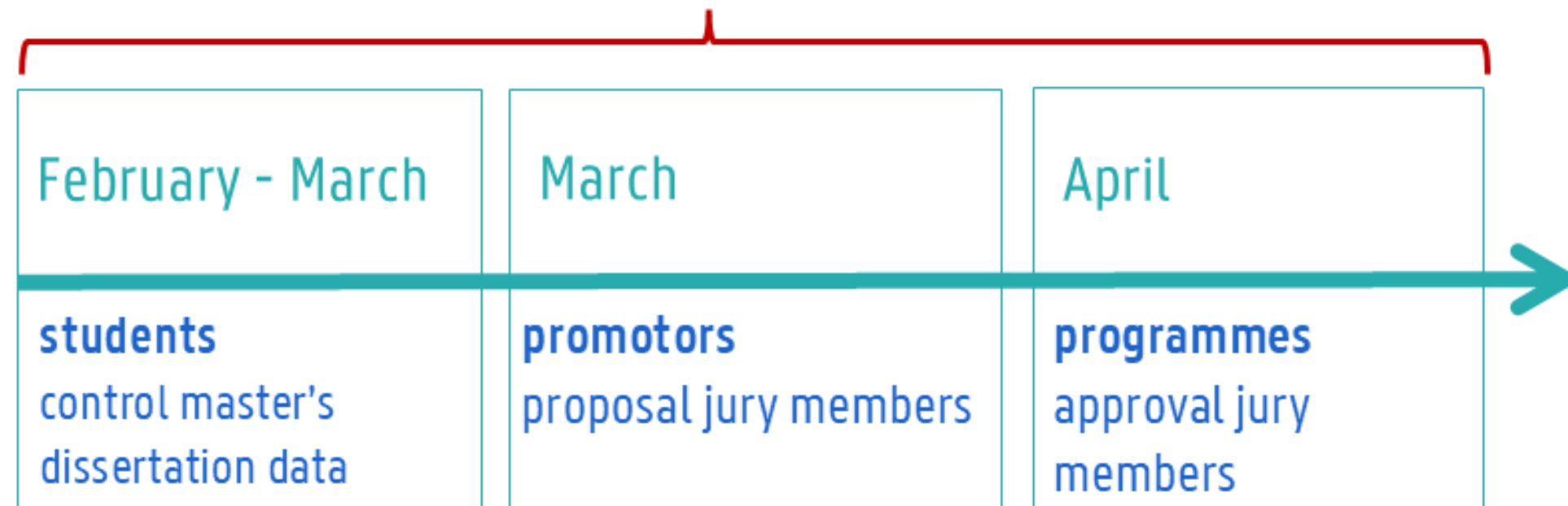
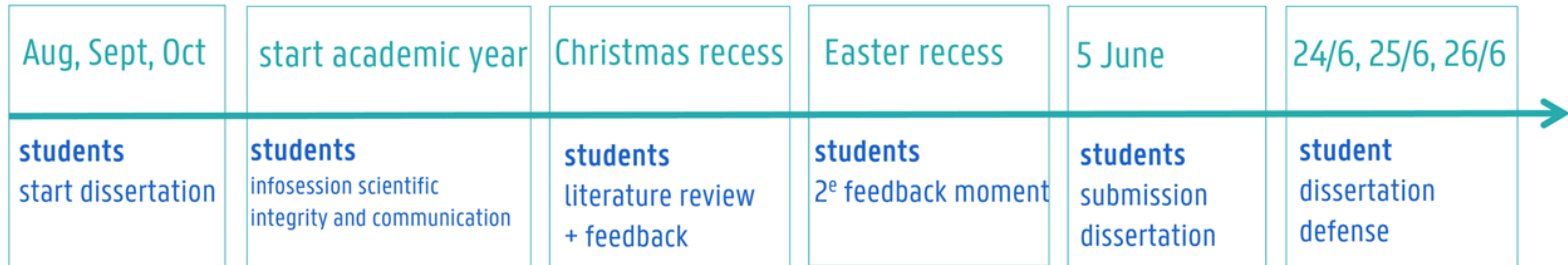
TIMELINE: SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SUBJECT



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

Quantitatively in case of non bio-engineer programmes



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

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

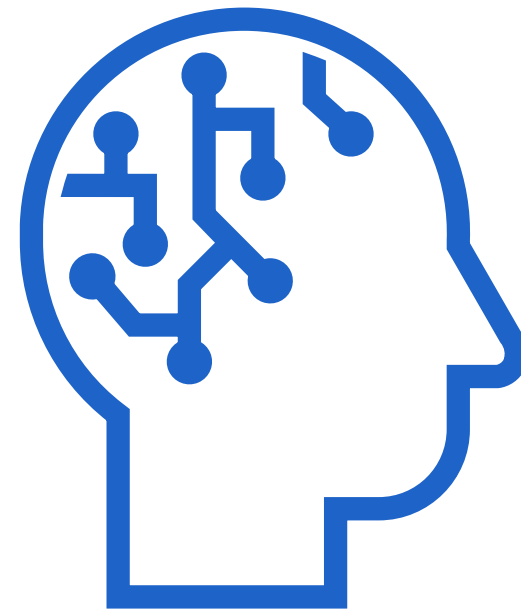
- Follow information and communication: [faculty website](#) / [UFORA](#)
- Respect the agreements made in the lab/company
- Respect agreements with promotor/tutor → Record them!
- Use [Galileo](#)
- Act with (scientific) integrity
- You do the work
- Ask for help

*If not you,
who?*

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: OUTPUT

Written dissertation

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



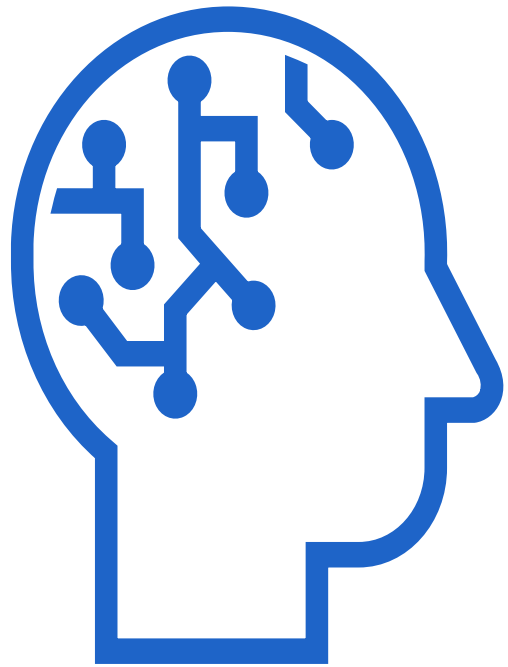
GAI?

5 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

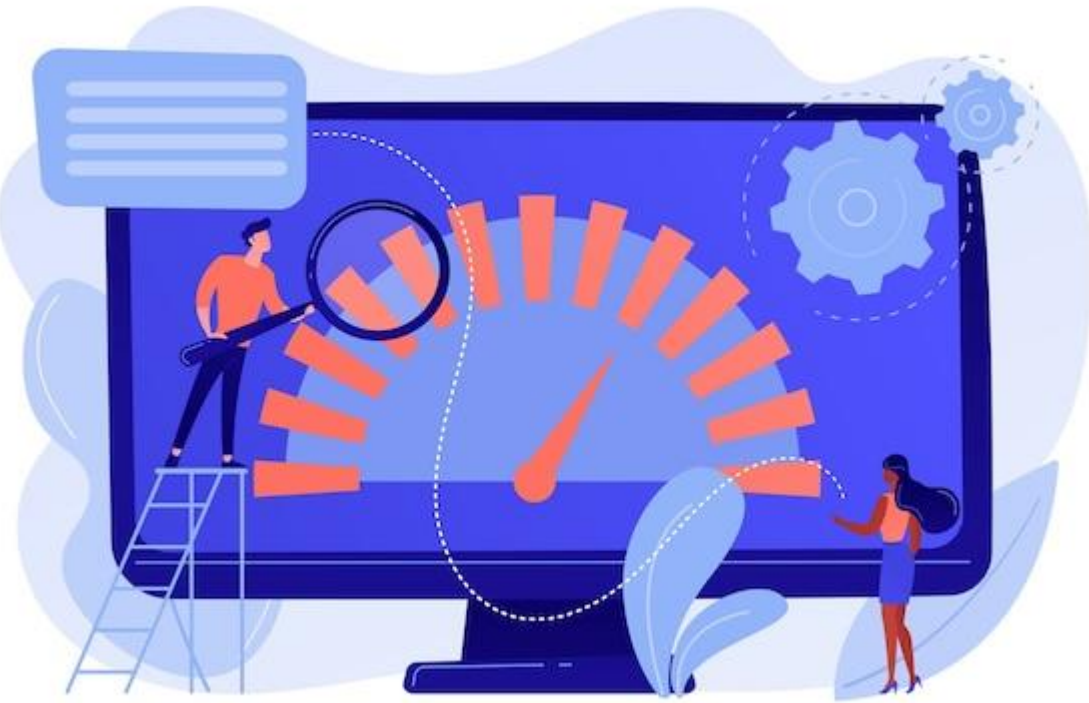
Defense

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

24/6, 25/6, 26/6

student
dissertation
defense

GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR MASTER'S DISSERTATION: ASSESSMENT



PROCESS (30%)

Promotor (with input of tutor)



REPORT (40%)

2 Reading commissioners



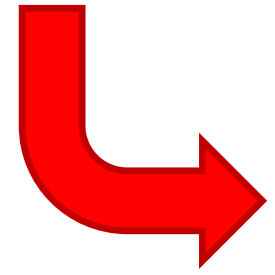
DEFENSE (30%)

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



Luc.Tirry@UGent.be

[OMBUDSPERSON](#)

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