



- You may also use another/your own platform. Consider, however, that another group is going to review and run pilot tests with your questionnaire.
- The closer the version now created is to the final version, the more helpful are the results of the pilot tests!

**Send your questionnaire** in a generally readable form (URL to the web form or as PDF/HTML file) by **Monday, 14.06.2010, 9:00 am** to **karl.beecher@fu-berlin.de**.

Within your email (not in a document attached) you need to provide the **following additional information**:

- d. Complete names of all of your team members.
- e. Topic area of the survey (*overall goal*).
- f. Research question (clearly formulated in one to two sentences).
- g. Roughly the group of participants to be addressed.

Throughout this course, **whenever you send email, carbon-copy your team members**, so that all of you will receive a possible answer.

- The attachment needs to be named in the following way:  
**group<group n°>\_ue4.<extension>** (e.g. group02\_ue4.pdf)
- The email needs to have the following subject (RE):  
**[Empir] group <group n°>**

### Some advice

Here you find some advice concerning possible topic areas, conduct, and effort.

#### Topic areas

Possible areas for survey topics have already been presented. These are:

- Consequences of the change to the Bachelor/Master system for the studies of computer science (lecture's organisation).
- Contents of Informatics courses of study.
- Preconceptions of computer science (in cooperation with working group Didaktik der Informatik, Prof. Carsten Schulte).
- Software engineering: theory and reality of different activities or problem areas.
- Security-awareness of suppliers of web applications.

You can also pick your topic from a different Informatics-related area.

#### Further course of events in the project

A short overview of the remaining weeks:

##### **CW 22: Design the questionnaire (this practice sheet)**

You determine the concrete aim and focus of your survey (concrete research question(s)), design an adequate catalogue of questions, develop the concrete questionnaire and implement it as a web form.

##### **CW 22/23: Validate and improve the questionnaire**

You hand your questionnaire to another team and receive theirs in return. You review it, run a pilot test, and give helpful feedback. In the pilot test, three to five suitable participants fill in the questionnaire while under observation (but without receiving help)

and document its strengths and weaknesses. After receiving the results, you improve your questionnaire by stressing its strengths and reducing or avoiding its weaknesses.

**CW 24: Recruit participants**

You look for and choose forums in which to present your survey and ask for participation. Possible sources for participants are university lectures (via the lecturers), relevant mailing lists and possibly others. You formulate a suitable recruitment letter.

**CW 25/26: Conduct the survey (with interim report)**

You send off your recruitment letter; the survey starts. Duration: 2 weeks. Before the end of the first week you prepare an interim report: How many questionnaires have been completed? How complete? Who are the participants?

**CW 26/27: Evaluate the survey's results**

You compile the answers from all questionnaires in machine-readable form. You evaluate them: characterization of the respondent's population; global overview of the results; analysis of the correlations between answers and respondent/domain/etc.

**CW 28: Present the results**

You prepare a results report which critically discusses the result's credibility and relevance. You summarize the most interesting results on slides to present them within 5 minutes.

**Total effort**

This course supplies 5 credit points. One credit point is worth 30 hours of work (2 full hours per week). The total effort (including lecture, tutorial, and exam) therefore sums up to 10 hours per week.

*Per week (and person) you need to invest about 5 hours of work for the tutorial apart from being present. Conducting the survey will require less, designing it will require more time.*

Split the work sensibly within your group.

Work as a team (that is, help each other).

Start early enough.