

Vacant master thesis

The complicated world of project risk management, and why it doesn't always work: A literature review

Motivation

Project risk management is an emerging discipline that seeks to provide an independent and objective oversight of the likely future performance of major projects for those responsible for sanctioning, financing or insuring such undertakings. The discipline has emerged in response to consistent problems in major projects and the need to provide confidence to project stakeholders of technologically advanced, high-capital or high-risk projects.

Project risk management is the identification, assessment, and prioritisation of risks followed by coordinated and economical application of resources to minimise, monitor and control the probability and/or impact of unfortunate events or to maximise opportunities.

The goal of this master thesis is to present a well-structured overview of the scientific community's findings regarding the factors that affect project risk management practices. The student should uncover the mechanisms that influence project risk management from the following two perspectives:

- Human factors, e.g. desires, needs, fears, abilities and characteristics of people involved in projects.
- Organisational structures, e.g. governance, incentive system, culture.

The student has to conduct a literature review, identify core variables and make sense of past findings. In the context of this thesis, insights from general management research, as well as from the IS literature, might be relevant.

Application

The topic is only open to master's level students. Interested students can apply for this thesis by submitting an up-to-date transcript of their records and a motivational letter to sekretariat.sitm@uni-due.de with "Project Risk Management" in the subject line until **15.10.2015**.

SITM

**Chair of Information
Systems and Strategic
IT Management**

**Prof. Dr. Frederik
Ahlemann**

Tel.: 0201 / 183 - 6790
Fax: 0201 / 183 - 6851
Frederik.Ahlemann@uni-due.de
www.sitm.wiwi.uni-due.de

Raum R09 R01 H33
Universitätsstraße 9
45141 Essen