

## **Guidelines (and suggestions) for a research module**

**Time:** the equivalent of 15 CP are approximately  $15 \times 30 = 450$  hours according to the workload of ca. 30 hours per 1 CP. 450 hours result in a total of approx. 3 months (half of a semester matching also the 30 CP per full semester).

For laboratory, experimental work, at least 2 weeks should be reserved for writing up the report. This might include the evaluation, but it is good advice to start with the evaluation and data analysis earlier, best after an experiment is finished.

There is no formal deadline for submission of the report, but the student might agree with the supervisor of an “informal” deadline to keep the process going and to prevent unnecessary delays.

Attendance of regular lab seminars is expected or, depending on the research group, mandatory. At least one presentation of the results and conclusions is mandatory, best at the end of the module. Shorter presentations during the time, when the lab work is performed are welcome.

On mutual agreement the module can be handled in a flexible manner. For example, working hours per week might be more or less depending on the requirements of the project. So the total time in the lab can be adjusted. However, to prevent any conflict, it is good advice to keep the calculation of CP and workload in mind. It is not acceptable to demand from the student a total workload (s. above) that exceeds the equivalent of 15 CP. The student is free to extend this workload on her/his own will.

**Content:** The research module should address a research topic or research question. Normally, the topic is planned with the supervisor and originates (in most cases) from the current research activities of the research group. A good research module would include a variety of methods. Performing an external research module is possible, but the student needs a local supervisor from the University of Oldenburg (UOL), who will evaluate the report and will give the final marks. When the student and the supervisor from the external institution agree on a research project, the supervisor from UOL makes sure that the project can count as a research project.

Prof. Karl-W. Koch