



Call for Student Science pilot project application

The office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs calls upon all lecturers teaching undergraduate (UG) courses, to apply for becoming part of a Student Science pilot project. Ten applications will be selected for the following:

Conducting research with UG students as part of a UG course

Steps

1. Select a UG course you can offer (academic year 2024/2025), and a research topic that fits within the course description.
2. Design a plan on how students can conduct research tasks (plan, data collection, analysis) within that course.
3. Find a mentor: a senior colleague that is willing to supervise you regarding scientific research aspects.

Example of a UG course / research integration

50% of the course Air and Noise Pollution (Faculty of Water Supply and Environmental Engineering) was turned into a practical research project: students created measurement plans, collected and analysed data, and presented findings, regarding air pollution on campus and in Arba Minch town. Some of the research topics were 'Air pollution in campus kitchens', 'Concentrations inside student dormitories', 'Concentrations at different traffic hotspots in Arba Minch town'. Data collected by these students has been used in three publications (see <https://doi.org/10.21601/aquademia/11828>, <https://doi.org/10.17159/caj/2022/32/2.13470> and <https://doi.org/10.59122/15519k8>).

Submission guidelines

Submit a one-page plan by mail to johannesdirk.dingemanse@amu.edu.et containing the following information:

1) Personal information (name, department)	2) Course information (name, expected number of students, semester, short description)	3) Research topic
4) Student activities (including data collection methods)		5) Suggested mentor
Notes: - The plan can concern one or multiple staff members (for example, submit a plan with two persons who can give the course and conduct the project together) - Make a plan without budget: data collection methods should use facilities and materials available within the university. <i>Petty expenses such as travel costs related to data collection can be refunded.</i>		

Benefits

For participating staff - Supervision and research training - Gaining research experience without usual paperwork load - Certificate upon completion - Publication opportunity	For mentors (senior staff) - Gaining supervision experience - Publication opportunity
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Selection criteria

Ten plans will be selected; staff of these plans will receive additional training and supervision, and can execute their plan during academic year 2024/2025. Plans will be selected according to:

- **Curriculum match:** a clear link between the research topic and the course content
- **Student tasks:** the extent to which students can conduct the research tasks
- **Likelihood of success:** the planned student tasks are likely to result in data related to the selected research topic
- **Junior staff:** preference for staff not involved in other research work

Important dates

1. Submission of plan deadline: **June 30, 2024**
2. Selection of ten plans: July 1-7, 2024
3. Training and preparation: July - Sept. 2024
4. Plan execution: Oct. 2024- June 2025

Contact persons

Dr. Alemayehu Chufamo V/P of Academic Affairs Office hosting the pilot project +251 9 3595 6420 alemayehuc@gmail.com	Dr. Tesfaye Habtemariam Executive Director for Research Supporting selection and execution of pilot project plans +251 9 2052 6541 tesfaye.habtemariam@amu.edu.et	Mr. Johannes Dirk Dingemanse Lecturer F/WSEE, AWTI Main coordinator pilot project +251-9-55946026 johannesdirk.dingemanse@amu.edu.et
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