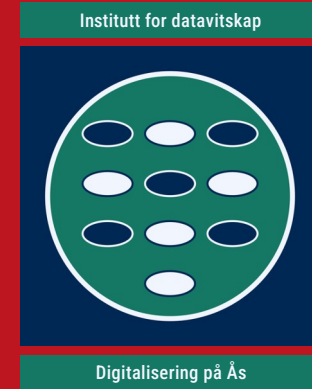


Noregs miljø- og  
biovitenskaplege  
universitet



## 4 Research impact and ethics

4.1 Plagiarism vs. copyright

**4.2 What is needed for the nearly finished report?**

4.3 Re-use of own material (so-called "self-plagiarism")

DAT390

# The nearly finished report

- The literature study report should be transformed into the Introduction and Theory and Background chapters
- The main new work for this report is the Methods chapter and (preliminary) Results and Discussion
- The Methods chapter should not contain background theory about the methods used, but focus on the specific settings that you applied (and why)
- Use figures rather than numbers to illustrate your results
- The closer you get to a finished report, the more feedback you get, and the better your report becomes
- You won't fail by submitting a short and incomplete report at this stage, but you will be more left on your own in writing the finished report

# Self-contained work

Scientific articles, theses, and also the DAT390 report must be **self-contained**.

- An average scientist from your discipline should be able to understand what it says without needing to look up references or other material.
- Define all the mathematical symbols for variables and introduce the variables. If necessary, also introduce notation that may be unfamiliar.
- Introduce all abbreviations, defining them **when they are first used**.  
Exception: Abbreviations that have become part of common language.
- Only introduce an abbreviation if it is really used again in the text.
- Check during editing that you don't define an abbreviation twice.

# How the DAT390 report will be graded

## Scheme for grading DAT390 reports

10 Literature review and disciplinary context

10 Technical grounding and theoretical insight

10 Goal description

10 Choice and justification of working methods

10 Good practice related to data

10 Preliminary results and/or feasibility demonstration

10 Analysis and discussion

10 Critical reflection and plans or suggestions for future work

10 Structure and form

10 Language

**30%**

**Introduction and theory**

**20%**

**Methods and working practice**

**30%**

**Results and discussion**

**20%**

**Form and academic writing**

A: 90 - 100 points

B: 80 - 89 points

C: 60 - 79 points

D: 50 - 59 points

E: 40 - 49 points

F: 00 - 39 points

# Cases with (only) an in-depth literature study

## Scheme for grading DAT390 reports

10 Literature review and **disciplinary**

### **context**

10 Technical grounding and theoretical insight

10 Goal description

10 Choice and justification of **working methods**

10 Good practice related to data

10 **Preliminary results and/or feasibility demonstration**

10 Analysis and discussion

10 Critical reflection and plans or suggestions for future work

10 Structure and form

10 Language

## Exception: Literature review only

10 **Disciplinary context**

10 Technical grounding and theoretical insight

10 Goal description

10 Choice and justification of **literature collection/analysis methods**

10 Good practice related to data

10 **Systematic literature collection and classification**

10 Analysis and discussion

10 Critical reflection and plans or suggestions for future work

10 Structure and form

10 Language

# Cases with (only) an in-depth literature study

- This should be done in exceptional cases only.
- Then make sure that you can deliver a strong literature review.
- Obtain a document confirming this and stating that the alternative grading scheme will be applied.
- Include that confirmation in your report as an Appendix.

## Exception: Literature review only

- 10 Disciplinary context
- 10 Technical grounding and theoretical insight
- 10 Goal description
- 10 Choice and justification of literature collection/analysis methods
- 10 Good practice related to data
- 10 Systematic literature collection and classification
- 10 Analysis and discussion
- 10 Critical reflection and plans or suggestions for future work
- 10 Structure and form
- 10 Language

# Important: Don't list anybody as co-author

Your DAT390 report must be your work – it cannot have a co-author.

- You can mention your supervisor(s) as *supervisors*, but not as authors.
- You are not required to mention your supervisor(s).
- If your report has multiple authors, you fail DAT390.

But you collaborated with your supervisor(s) and other students! What now?

- That is great! We want NMBU to be as strong in research as possible.
- Don't list them as co-authors of your DAT390 report or master thesis.
- Make anybody else's role explicit through an Appendix.
  - It is academic misbehaviour if others contributed and you don't tell.
  - You don't need such an Appendix just for your supervisors' role.

Some at REALTEK are experimenting with master theses done in teams of two people. In such exceptional cases, it can be possible to have master theses with multiple authors. That makes it more important to describe who did what.