



How the library can help during your master degree

Andri Spilker
University of Oslo library

Autumn 2026

Informatics people at the library



Andri Spilker

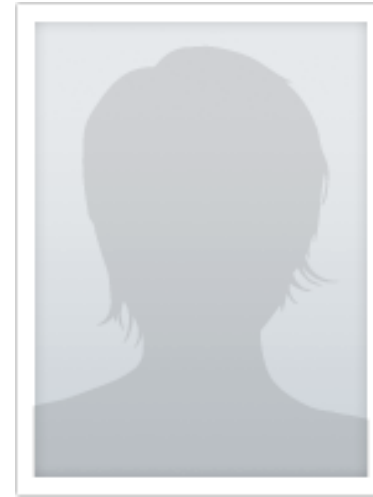
- PhD in Astrophysics
- Student support & teaching
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Matthew Good

- PhD in Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Leader of Digital Scholarship Centre
- Research support



Erik Winge

- MSc in Computer Science
- Student support, teaching & AI

Outline for today

- Intro to library and master seminars
- How to choose courses, master projects & supervisors
 - What are you interested in & what's available
 - Get to know supervisors
 - Get to know a topic: use the library

University library

Humsam library
@ Georg Sverdrups hus



Science library
@ Vilhelm Bjerknes hus



Informatics library
@ Ole Johan Dahls hus



Informatics library



Open & staffed: 10 - 14 weekdays

With card & code: 5 - 24 all days

- Study areas & group rooms (also outside opening hours)
- Computers (PC & Linux), screens, printer, equipment
- Small kitchen (bring your own coffee)
- Events and exhibitions
- Help and guidance

Using the library

- Student card is also your library card
- Loans are automatically renewed (if no waiting list)
- Rooms for group work (book via TP)
- [See the Informatics Library web pages](#)



Curriculum books

Other cool informatics books

Popular science (more @ Science library)

Science fiction (more @ Science library)

Fiction, history, social science ++ @ HumSam library

The invisible net

- Large book collection
- Enormous digital collection
- UiO pays to give you access

Access provided by Universitetet i Oslo



Welcome to the University Library



New to the library?

Here you can find everything you need to know about using the library while studying.



Help and guidance

Ask us about everything from how to find reading lists, book loans and renewals, to academic writing, reference management and literature search. Book an appointment, or just drop by.



Our libraries

Opening hours and information about what you can do in our 12 different libraries.

ub.uio.no

Find books, articles, journals etc.

Books, journals, articles etc. - print & electronic



[Oria help](#)

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→ Get access to online resources when you are off campus



University of Oslo Library ▾

Search Oria



Advanced Search →



All



Books



Book chapters



Articles



Journals



Dissertations

What is Oria?

Oria is the library's main search tool. Here you can search our catalogue plus billions of citations from other sources. In Oria you'll find all of UiO's printed and electronic resources — books, articles, journals, databases and much more.

[Guidance and help for Oria](#)

Get started

In the search box dropdown menu choose:

[University of Oslo Library] to search the collections of all UiO libraries and our electronic resources.

Request and renew

If you sign in to Oria you can request books and articles and renew your loans. You can also save searches and results and receive notifications.

Access to e-resources

You get automatic access to e-resources when you are on the UiO or OUS network. Outside the networks you will be asked to sign in with your UiO account.

The university library: much more than books and study spaces!



Image generated using ChatGPT by OpenAI

We can help you with:

- Finding and getting books and articles
- Literature searching
- Reference management
- Data management
- Open access publishing
- Academic writing
- Outreach and science communication: stages and podcasts
- Research ethics, AI and plagiarism
- Visualisation
- 3D-printing
- Different tools: LaTeX, Zotero, EndNote, R, UnixShell, Nvivo....

The main thing for you:
We are here to help you through your master thesis!

Department of Informatics

[← Studies](#) [← Information to master students](#)[Start of studies](#)[First semester](#)[The master's thesis](#)[Finishing the
programme](#)[Additional
information](#)**[Master seminars](#)**[Project description](#)

Master seminars

Welcome to the master seminars! These seminars are open for all master students at the Department of Informatics, and are organised in cooperation with the University library.



Foto: UiO/Anders Lien

Master seminars to help you through your masters

Essay writing seminar

Spring 2027

- Academic writing
- Structure and readers
- Writing as a process
- Finding papers
- Correct citations
- AI in writing

Master thesis seminar

Fall final year

- How to write the thesis
- Finding and reading scientific literature
- Referencing & copyright
- Data management
- Planning your master project

Final master seminar

Spring final year

- How is your masters grade set?
- Final writing tips
- Ultimate checklist for delivering your master
- Presenting your master: how to give a great scientific presentation

You can influence what happens in upcoming seminars!

Today: Get started thinking about your thesis

Next steps to choose courses, topic & supervisor

- What are you interested in learning?
- Get to know researchers and supervisors
- Find relevant literature and read (use the library)

What are you interested in learning?

Discussion

1. Which study program are you from?

2. Why are you doing a masters degree?

3. What would you like to learn/study in your thesis?



← Studier

Master's theses

Master's theses

<https://www.mn.uio.no/ifi/studier/masteroppgaver/>

- Computational Science
- Digitalization in the Health Sector
- Entrepreneurship
- High-Performance Computing
- Informatics: Design, Use and Interaction
- Informatics: Digital Economics and Leadership
- Informatics: Information Security

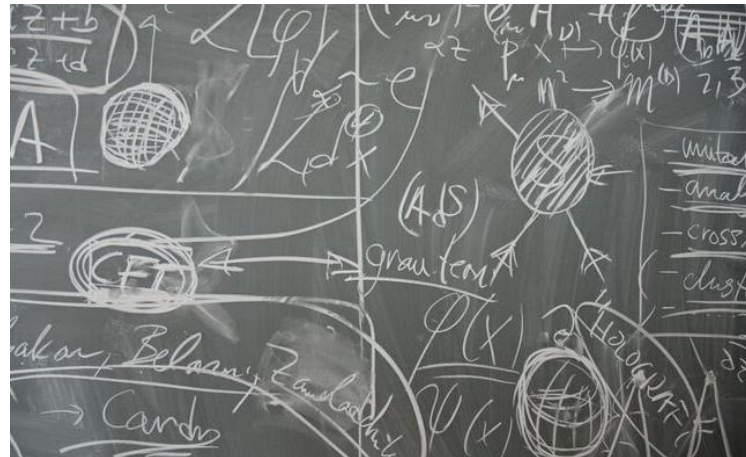
<u>Sidetittel</u>	<u>Publisert</u>	<u>Veileder(e)</u>
<u>Platform dependencies, digital sovereignty, and open source in the public sector</u>	1. juli 2026	▪ <u>Alexander Moltubakk Kempton</u>
<u>Digitalization from an infrastructure perspective</u>	1. juli 2026	▪ <u>Alexander Moltubakk Kempton</u>
<u>Ekstern:Inventas</u>	23. juni 2026	▪ <u>Yngve Hafting,</u> ▪ <u>Marius Elvegård</u>
<u>Generativ AI - måling av gevinst hos Gj</u>		
<u>Fast and slow decision making on a FP</u>		
<u>Sustainability attacks on blockchain platforms</u>	6 apr 2026	▪ <u>Audun Jøsang</u>

You do not have to pick from this list!

If you have a topic/field/method you are interested in, ask potential supervisors about options in that direction!

Evaluating a project

- What is the topic? Does it excite you?
- What are the methods (computation, modelling, lab, data analysis)? Do you want to learn these skills?
- What are the learning outcomes? Are they realistic? How do they meet your objectives for after the master's degree?
- Is it part of a bigger project? Do you want to get involved in it further?



Get to know researchers & supervisors

A good place to start: the supervisor's UiO website

UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO

The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Department of Informatics

← People ← Academic staff

Henrik Skaug Sætra

Associate Professor - Technology and Sustainable Futures



Email henrsae@ifi.uio.no
Room 7461
Username henrsae

Visiting address	Postal address
Gaustadalléen 23B	Postboks 1080
0373 Oslo	Blindern
	0316 Oslo

[Download business card](#)

Henrik Skaug Sætra is a researcher in the field of the philosophy and ethics of technology. He focuses specifically on artificial intelligence and social robots, and much of his research entails interrogating the various linkages between technology and the three dimensions of sustainable development. This includes environmental, social, and economic issues.

Sætra is the leader of the research group Technology and Sustainable Futures.

Tags: [Artificial intelligence](#), [AI ethics](#), [social robots](#), [philosophy of technology](#), [ethics of technology](#), [sustainable development](#), [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)

Publications

Scientific articles and book chapters

Books

Other

Sætra, Henrik Skaug (2025). The rise of the research automaton: science as process or product in the era of generative AI? *AI & Society: Knowledge, Culture and Communication*. ISSN 0951-5666. doi: [10.1007/s00146-025-02557-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-025-02557-7). [Full text in Research Archive](#)

+ [Show summary](#)

Sætra, Henrik Skaug (2025). To Post or Not to Post: AI Ethics in the Age of Big Tech. *Communications of the ACM*. ISSN 0001-0782. 68(8), p. 38–49. doi: [10.1145/3708339](https://doi.org/10.1145/3708339). [Full text in Research Archive](#)

+ [Show summary](#)

Mills, Stuart & Sætra, Henrik Skaug (2025). Algorithms in the room: AI, representation, and decisions about sustainable futures. *Technovation*. ISSN 0166-4972. 147. doi: [10.1016/j.technovation.2025.103304](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.technovation.2025.103304). [Full text in Research Archive](#)

+ [Show summary](#)

Stokseth, Øyvind; Borgebund, Harald & Sætra, Henrik Skaug (2025). For us, by us? In Zaidan, Esmat; Ibrahim, Imad Antoine & Azar, Elie (Ed.), *Smart Cities to Smart Societies: Moving Beyond Technology*. Routledge. ISSN 9781003439325. p. 11–28. doi: [10.4324/9781003439325-3](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003439325-3). [Full text in Research Archive](#)

+ [Show summary](#)

You will meet supervisors and hear about projects later in the semester 😊

Annual Calendar

1st semester

Deadlines and to-do's during the first semester

- **August:** Start of study- with academic and social program
- **September-October:** Presentations of available master's thesis topics
- **November:** Information meetings about the master's plan agreement
- **December 1st:** Deadline for submission of the master's plan agreement



D

Get an overview of a topic:
find literature & read



E



Where to start reading

- The supervisor's articles
- Review articles
- The most cited in the field
- Find the key references in the introductions
 - “Snowball” on to other relevant papers
 - Look for the papers that cite the papers you read

Follow the “paper trail”



Generated with MS Copilot

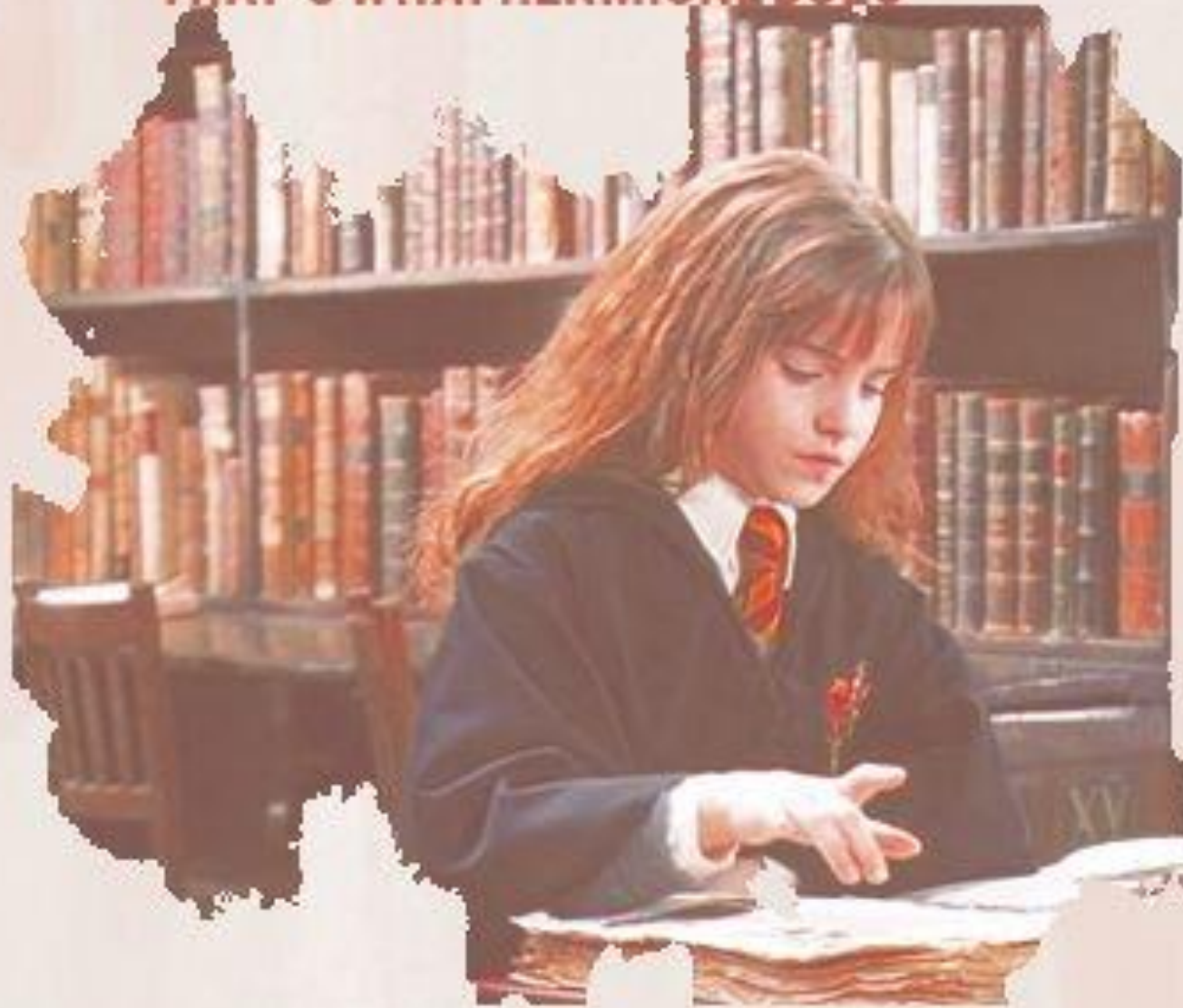
Finding and reading scientific literature

- Have you read any scientific papers?
- How did you find them?
- How do you know if you can trust them?



<https://www.menti.com/alobjb4z8qdzt>

THAT'S WHAT HERMIONE DOES



WHEN IN DOUBT, GO TO THE LIBRARY

[← Subjects](#)

Subject page for informatics

Search Oria – the library catalogue

 [Help](#) [Go to Oria](#) [Access from home](#)

Contact



Andri Spilker

Subject librarian informatics
[Informatics Library](#)



Matthew Good

Leading development of the
[Digital Scholarship Centre](#)

Databases and other sources

Fulltext resources

- [ACM Digital Library](#) (subscription with fulltext)
- [IEEE Xplore](#) (subscription with fulltext)
- [MathSciNet](#) (subscription, mathematics from 1800 and on)
- [Computing Research Repository \(CoRR\)](#) (Search, browse and download papers through its online repository)
- [Collection of Computer Science Bibliographies](#) (Archived)

Get an overview

Search in multiple resources at once

- [Scopus](#)
- [Web of Science](#)

Springer

- [Monographs in Theoretical Computer Science](#) (book series)
- [Lecture Notes in Computer Science \(LNCS - book series\)](#)
inkluderer *Lecture Notes in Bioinformatics* og *Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence*
- [IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology](#)
(book series)
- [Studies in Big Data](#) (book series)
- [the above and more from Springer](#) (more science and other disciplines)

Other e-books

- Check [IEEE Xplore](#)

Web of Science
Scopus



Interdisciplinary
citation databases

- Strict criteria for what is included
- Transparent criteria
- Very good level of metadata
- Good for navigating between related papers with topic search words
- Controlled by: libraries, scientific community

ACM digital library
IEEE Xplore



Subject databases

- Exist for different fields
- Find what is used in YOUR field!
- Controlled by: scientific community

Google Scholar

Not a database

- Quick and easy
- Not transparent
- Not easy to reproduce search results
- Controlled by: Google

Getting started with your masters

Choose courses, topic & supervisor

- Get to know researchers and supervisors
- Find relevant literature and read (use the library)
- Attend meetings and presentations
- Take notes of literature, open questions and ideas
 - keep them somewhere you can come back to them!
- Plan your project
- Plan AI use

UiOs official guidelines on AI use

The rules for using AI will vary between courses and assignments. Always ask your lecturer if you are uncertain about what is permitted.

Guidelines for using AI

- Use AI **as a support**, not as a replacement for your own work.
- Clearly indicate **when and how** you have utilised AI.
- AI can be a supplement for understanding topics, curriculum, and terminology, but always **verify the information** against reliable sources.
- **Avoid sharing sensitive information and copyrighted material** in AI tools without approval.

You (and your advisor) are responsible for making your own assessment on what is sensible AI-use!

Something to think about:

1. Where does AI generated text come from?
2. Where does the material you enter into the AI go?

Your research data and written text is generally classified as **yellow data: unpublished research data**

Don't give them away to any AI model out there

AI services accessible via UiO login

GPT UiO – UiOs privacy friendly GPT chat
IT in research. IT in education

   Up to red data*

Autotekst – speech to text with Whisper from OpenAI
Audio and video recording. IT in education. Web publishing and search

   Up to red data*

Microsoft Copilot Chat
IT in research. IT in education. Administrative IT services

 Green data

Microsoft Foundry (previously Azure Open AI)
IT in research. IT in education. Administrative IT services

 Green data

Gemini – AI chat from Google
IT in research. IT in education. Administrative IT services

  Yellow and green data

NotebookLM
IT in research. IT in education. Administrative IT services

  Yellow and green data

Google Cloud Platform
Programs, computer and mobile. IT in research

  Yellow and green data

TSD-Autotekst – Speech-to-text in secure environments
Audio and video recording. IT in research. IT in education

    Up to black data*

Many options for AI literature search...

Advantages

- Easy to search
- Quick answers, brief summaries
- Potentially finds sources that do not appear in traditional database searches

Disadvantages

- No transparent search mechanism
→ **large risk of bias**
- Can be hard for sensors to understand how you found your sources
- Amount of results / usefulness is bound to subscription – they will often give you better results if you pay
- More energy demanding than traditional search in subject databases

You must declare & document AI use in detail

Declaration of the use of generative artificial intelligence

In this scientific work, generative artificial intelligence (AI) has been used. All data and personal information have been processed in accordance with the University of Oslo's regulations, and I, as the author of the document, take full responsibility for its content, claims, and references. An overview of the use of generative AI is provided below.

(Bullet point list of AI usage descriptions)

Recommended elements to include:

- That AI has been used
- What specific tools were used, and what they are used for
- Reflection of the risks & consequences
- Take full responsibility for the content

(Tone C. Gadmar)

For concrete examples of AI declarations, see:
[Suggestion for declaration of AI usage in assignments](#)

Vidar Skogvoll's «great learning theorem»

$$L = E \cdot t$$

Learning = Energy x time

- Learning requires energy and time → When you save energy and time you also save learning
- What you spend time and energy on, you learn
 - When you write with AI, you learn to write with AI
- If you spend the time you gain from using AI on learning something useful, it could be good

Master seminars to help you through your masters

Essay writing seminar

Spring 2027

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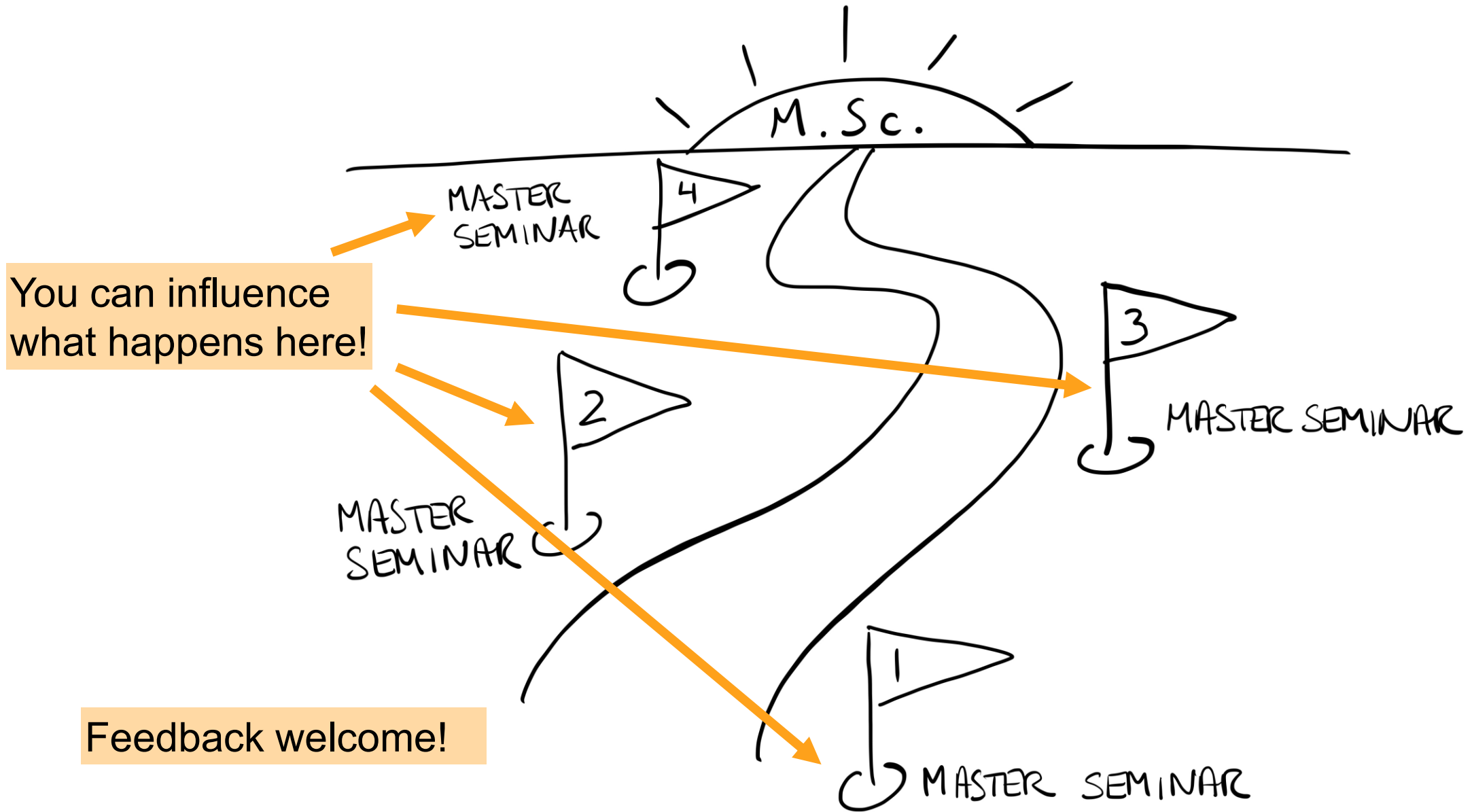
Could also have a seminar this fall?

Master start seminar

Fall 2026?

- More on finding and reading scientific papers
- More on use of AI in masters
- Planning your project
- Work on project description for deadline 1st of December

Hand up if you want that?



Courses and workshops for students, staff and PhD students

Join one of our free and open courses or workshops! They are tailored to students, staff and PhD students at UiO and OUS, but are open to all interested parties.

What would you like to learn?

Tick the boxes to find courses that suit you.

- ☒ All courses ☐ Start of studies ☐ Writing and citing ☐ Literature searching ☐ Source evaluation
- ☐ Research data ☐ Open science ☐ Analysis Tools ☐ Coding ☐ Artificial intelligence ☐ Text mining
- ☐ Science Visualization ☐ Digital Tools ☐ More options

Antall treff: 25



Academic writing

Target audience: Students, PhD students and Postdocs

Tags: Writing and citing

[Upcoming courses](#)



Carpentry: Training on foundational coding and data science skills

Target audience: Students, researchers and programmers

Tags: Coding

[Upcoming courses](#)

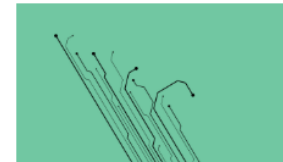


Critical appraisal of articles

Target audience: PhD students, master students and other interested in the topic

Tags: Source evaluation

[Upcoming courses](#)



EndNote reference management tool

Target audience: International researchers, staff and students

Tags: Writing and citing

[Upcoming courses](#)



Finn oppsummert kunnskap som gir deg raske svar i klinisk praksis

Target audience: Students, healthcare professionals and staff

Tags: Literature searching

[Upcoming courses \(in Norwegian\)](#)



GPT UiO AI Tool

Target audience: Administrative staff, educators, and researchers

Tags: Artificial intelligence, Digital Tools

[Upcoming courses](#)



How to find research literature: Methods and search techniques

Target audience: PhD students, master students and staff

Tags: Literature searching

[Upcoming courses](#)

← Our Libraries and Opening Hours

Academic Writing Centre

The Writing Centre is open for students and researchers who wish to improve their writing. Come and discuss your ideas, drafts and questions with one of our writing consultants.

Come for a consultation!

We offer physical consultations, and e-consultations for all our services. Consultations can be booked two weeks in advance.

Book an appointment



We are located at the [Georg Sverdrup's house](#) at Blindern, Library of the Humanities and the Social Sciences, ground floor.

Opening hours

- Monday: 10–14
- Tuesday: 10–14
- Wednesday: 14–18
- Thursday: 13–18
- Friday: 11–16

Variations may occur.

Feedback & master seminar wishes



Let me know if you have
questions or comments 😊
andri.spilker@ub.uio.no

<https://nettskjema.no/a/640013>