

# MAPiNFO: MAP-i 2010-11 News

## MAPiNFO 2

December, 17th 2010

**Note:**

*This MAPiNFO intends to disseminate useful information about MAP-i 2010-11 academic activities among students and staff. Further information is available, and regularly updated, at*

[www.map.edu.pt/i](http://www.map.edu.pt/i)

### 2010-11 - End of First Semester

First Semester Classes end on the week starting at 17th January (there will be normal lectures in that week). There is one exception, however: the *Seminar* course will end only on Wednesday, 26th January. The reason for this exception is the opportunity for a specific Seminar on Advanced Computing, as detailed below. On the other hand, as most *Seminar* slots lasted only half a day, this extra week is fully covered by the number of ECTS credits assigned to the course.

Exams will occur between 7 and 17 February. A final schedule will be published in the MAP-i web site in January.

### Winter Advanced Computing Seminar

As part of the collaboration between MAP-i and the University of Texas in Austin, under the COLAB protocol, there will be a **Winter Advanced Computing Seminar** running on Wednesday, January, 12th, at DI-A2 room, Minho University. The schedule is as follows:

10.00 - 13.00	<i>State of the Art in Parallel Languages</i>	by Calvin Lin (University of Texas in Austin)
14.00 - 15.30	<i>GPU programming, as a co-processor device</i>	by Martin Burtscher (University of Texas in Austin)
15.30 - 17.00	<i>Towards a science of parallel programming</i>	by Keshav Pingali (University of Texas in Austin)

This seminar, run by leading researchers on Advanced Computing, is designed to give an overall picture of the area to Computer Science PhD students. Its relevance justifies a small re-scheduling of MAP-i activities. Therefore,

- the regular *Seminar* course slot scheduled for January, 12th, is taken by this Seminar;
- an extra week is assigned to the *Seminar* course whose last session becomes scheduled for January, 26th, as announced in the course webpage.

## 2010-11 - Second Semester

According to the MAP-i Plan of Studies (available at [www.map.edu.pt/i/program-structure/first-year-of-studies](http://www.map.edu.pt/i/program-structure/first-year-of-studies)) the Second Semester is mainly devoted to thesis planning so that students can prepare and defend a pre-thesis in the MAP-i Doctoral Symposium, scheduled for 12 to 15 September 2011.

In brief, the course structure is as follows:

- *Thesis Planning*: contents, schedule and organization coordinated by the student's supervisor.
- *Free Option*: contents, schedule and organization coordinated by the student's supervisor to provide background training required for the thesis.
- *Cultural Option*: a non Computer Science course, freely chosen by students in any of the three MAP universities.
- *Thematic Seminar*: the only course common to all students (please note attendance is mandatory!); it will run at DI-A2 room, Minho University, every Wednesday afternoon. More information will be available in January.

Second Semester will start with a general students' meeting and a first session of the *Thematic Seminar* course on **Monday, 21st February** (at DI-A2 room, Minho University). This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss issues related to the Programme organization and, in particular, thesis planning.

## PhD project: selection and acceptance

A number of PhD proposals are published in [www.map.edu.pt/i/2010/thesis](http://www.map.edu.pt/i/2010/thesis). Each proposal includes a brief abstract and an indication of supervisor and supporting research unit. It is now time for students to go through this set of proposals and make their choices, so that effective work on the thesis planning can start from the outset of the Second Semester.

The schedule for this *Thesis Selection and Acceptance* process is as follows. It should be emphasized that students are expected to **act pro-actively** in this matter.

- 15/12/2010: Thesis proposals published

- **10/01/2010**

Strict deadline for the end of the selection process. Until this date each student is supposed to

1. Select a thesis proposal from the list in [www.map.edu.pt/i/2010/thesis](http://www.map.edu.pt/i/2010/thesis) (please keep and use the proposal number for future reference and communication with the MAP-i Scientific Board)
2. Contact the proponent, who will act as the thesis supervisor.
3. Submit by email to the MAP-i Scientific Board until 01/01/2010 the following documents, prepared jointly by the student and her/his supervisor:
  - (a) Supervisor acceptance declaration.
  - (b) Student acceptance declaration.
  - (c) Detailed plan for the *Thesis Planning* course.
  - (d) Detailed plan for the *Free Option* course.
  - (e) A suggestion of researcher external to the MAP universities to be invited for the *PhD tutoring team* for this student. The group also includes the supervisor and a representative of the MAP-i Scientific Board.

All of these documents **must** be sent by email to `ccmapi@map.edu.pt` until 10/01/2010, all in pdf format and in a single zip or tgz file. Each student takes responsibility for submitting this information by the deadline.

- **31/1/2011:** Formal approval, for each student, of the submitted PhD proposal and the corresponding tutoring team.

<b>February Pre-thesis assessment (for 2nd, 3rd year students only)</b>
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As planned there will be a special period for *Pre-thesis assessment*, for 2nd or 3rd year students who by some reason were unable to defend their pre-thesis in the last MAP-i Doctoral Symposium. This is scheduled for February, 14th to 18th.

Please note there is a strict deadline for pre-thesis submission: January, 21st.