

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN STUDY AND CAREER



# **PREMIUM 2023-2024**

## **COACH AND MENTOR**

### **HANDBOOK »**





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# THE MIGHTY PREMIUM CHECKLIST

Below, we provide you with the overall checklist that our students ought to follow for every task they need to complete, to successfully complete PREMIUM. It will provide you with more direction into when your own deadlines are as well.

## Ready? Set? Go!

### 1) Team charter: Before and during the first team meeting, complete the team charter

(Deadline: **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Schedule your first team meeting to complete the team charter.
- ☐ Complete the *individual section* of the [team charter](#) and bring it to the team meeting.
- ☐ Attend the team meeting.
- ☐ Complete the *team section* of the team charter together.
- ☐ Send the completed team charter to your mentor and coach.
- ☐ Reflect on the team charter in your [PDP](#).

### 2) The teambuilding assignment (Deadline: **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Pick up the assignment at EDLAB (please inform us when you are planning to come). Alternatively, request the materials for an online teambuilding assignment via [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl).
- ☐ Complete the assignment.
- ☐ Hand in the assignment at EDLAB and take a look at the solution, or request the solution via [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl).
- ☐ Reflect on the assignment in your PDP.

### 3) Budget (Deadline: **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Set up a preliminary budget describing the costs you expect to make throughout the project (see Appendix II, or the [online Documents page](#)).
- ☐ Send a copy of your preliminary budget to your project mentor (and client in case of travelling costs) for approval.
- ☐ Assign one team member to email the approved preliminary budget to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl), with your mentor in the CC.

### 4) Set up the Instagram Page (Deadline: **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Read the section on Instagram in your student handbook (Chapter 4.6).
- ☐ Set up a private Instagram profile for your PREMIUM student team.
- ☐ Send the link to your Instagram page to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl).
- ☐ Follow the other PREMIUM teams as soon as you receive their profiles.

### 5) Workshop 'Discover your Competences' (Deadline: **Friday February 9<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Sign up for the workshop.
- ☐ Complete the mandatory homework assignments.
- ☐ Attend the workshop and bring the homework assignments with you.
- ☐ [Evaluate](#) the workshop.

### 6) First Instagram post: share on your team's Instagram page the following, in order to inform your fellow colleagues about your PREMIUM team's journey ahead. (Deadline: **Monday February 19<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Introduce your team members;
- ☐ Introduce your client;
- ☐ Introduce your project (the scope, relevance of the project, and what is asked of you).



**7) Online tests:** gain insight into your competences to define a good starting point!

The online tests can be found [here](#). (Deadline: **Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup>**)

- ☐ Complete the Belbin Team Roles Test.
- ☐ Complete the Big Five Personality Test.
- ☐ Complete the DISC Personality Test.
- ☐ Reflect on your test results in your PDP.

**Into the first stages of project execution...**

**8) First meeting with Competence Coach** (Deadline: **Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup>**)

- ☐ Schedule your first meeting with your coach.
- ☐ Attend the meeting and bring all recently made entries to your PDP with you, including: 1) the results of your online tests, 2) your individual team charter and final team charter.
- ☐ Reflect on your first meeting in your PDP.

**9) Attend mandatory workshops** (Deadline: **Wednesday February 28<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Attend the workshop 'Teamwork'.
- ☐ Complete the [workshop evaluation form](#).
- ☐ Attend the workshop 'Introduction to Project-Based Working'.
- ☐ Complete the [workshop evaluation form](#).

**10) Second Instagram post:** share on your team's Instagram page the preliminary timeline for your project.

(Deadline: **Friday March 1<sup>st</sup>**)

- ☐ Explain what is your first approach to the issue at hand;
- ☐ Present the main steps that you are planning to follow in tackling the problem;
- ☐ Present your preliminary methodology.

**11) First Peer Evaluation** (Deadline: **Friday March 1<sup>st</sup>**)

- ☐ Read the instruction on peer evaluations in your handbook (Handbook section 4.5.4 and Appendix V), and download the peer evaluation form on the [documents page](#).
- ☐ Fill out the peer evaluation rubric per team member, and for yourself.
- ☐ Answer the open questions of part 2 of the form, for every team member.
- ☐ Submit one form for each person in your team, including yourself, with your name and the assessed person's name on each form, to both your PREMIUM project mentor and competence coach

**12) Third Instagram post:** share on your team's Instagram page your progress so far and relevant updates regarding your project. This will be the main point of reference for the teams providing you feedback during the Midterm Presentations. (Deadline: **Friday March 15<sup>th</sup>**)

**Halfway there...**

**13) Midterm Presentations** (Deadline: **Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00hrs.**)

- ☐ Read the section on Midterm Presentations in the (online) student handbook.
- ☐ Send in your [PowerPoint](#) presentation before the deadline.
- ☐ Attend the Midterm Presentation session your team is assigned to (March 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>).
- ☐ Complete the [Midterm Presentations evaluation](#).

**14) Second meeting with Competence Coach** (Deadline: **Friday April 12<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Schedule your second meeting with your coach.
- ☐ Attend the meeting and bring all completed components of your PDP with you.
- ☐ Reflect on the meeting in your PDP.



**15) Reflective Practitioner Meeting with mentor** (Deadline: **Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Schedule your reflective practitioner meeting with your mentor (preferably after your team's midterm presentations).
- ☐ Fill out the [Gibb's reflective practitioner form](#) and send it to your mentor before the meeting.
- ☐ Fill out the [Peer Evaluation](#) rubric per team member, and for yourself.
- ☐ Answer the open questions of part 2 of the Peer Evaluation form, for every team member.
- ☐ Submit one Peer Evaluation form for each person in your team, including yourself, with your name and the assessed person's name on each form, to both your mentor and competence coach.
- ☐ Attend the meeting.

**16) Team Dynamics Meeting** (Deadline: **Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Together with your team mates and coach, schedule the meeting.
- ☐ Attend the meeting and reflect on the meeting in your PDP.

**17) Attend three more workshops of your choosing** (Deadline: **Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Attend three of the elective workshops and complete the [workshop evaluations](#).

**18) Third meeting with Competence Coach** (Deadline: **Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Schedule your third (and final) meeting with your coach.
- ☐ Attend the meeting and bring all completed components of your PDP with you.
- ☐ Reflect on the meeting in your PDP.

**19) Final Peer Evaluation** (Deadline: **Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Fill out the [Peer evaluation](#) rubric per team member, and for yourself.
- ☐ Answer the open questions of part 2 of the form, for every team member.
- ☐ Submit one form for each person in your team, including yourself, with your name and the assessed person's name on each form, to both your PREMIUM project mentor and competence coach

<b>Wrap it up!</b>
--------------------

**20) Closing session with the client and mentor**

- ☐ Schedule and prepare a closing session with the client together with your project mentor.
- ☐ Fill out the [reflective practitioner self-assessment form](#) concerning the second half of your project, and send it to your mentor prior to this event.

**21) PREMIUM Closing Event** (Deadline: **Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>, 09:00 hrs.**)

- ☐ Read the section on the Closing Event in the online student handbook.
- ☐ Email your final report, product, or other form of project outcomes to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl) and to your project mentor, before the Closing Event.
- ☐ One member of the student team emails the digital file of the video [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl) and to your project mentor.
- ☐ Attend the Closing Event on May 30<sup>th</sup> and answer questions from the audience and jury.
- ☐ Complete the [Closing Event evaluation](#).

**22) PREMIUM Evaluation** (Deadline: **Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**)

- ☐ Complete the [PREMIUM overall programme evaluation](#).
- ☐ Sign up for any of the PREMIUM focus groups to give us your personal views on PREMIUM and its added value for future generations of students (you will receive an invitation via email).

**23) Finalized budget** as part of the reimbursement process (Deadline: **Friday June 28<sup>th</sup>**)

- ☐ Together with your team, set up the finalized budget that describes expenses your team made throughout PREMIUM. Notify your mentor and client and ask them to approve the budget.
- ☐ Hand in reimbursement forms and receipts to the PREMIUM Central Management Team.



Dear PREMIUM Project Mentor or Competence Coach,

Thank you for joining the PREMIUM community (once again) this year. We are very excited to be organizing the PREMIUM programme this year for the 13<sup>th</sup> time and look forward to a successful, educational and fun PREMIUM season together with you.

PREMIUM is an honours programme for Maastricht University's excellent master's students. This extracurricular programme provides an extra challenge for talented students and prepares them for the labour market, aiming to effectively bridge the gap between study and career.

PREMIUM students work on a project for an external client under the guidance of a project mentor and participate in master classes and workshops. Another important element of the programme is the competence coaching. All students work and reflect on the development of their competences of choice, with their personal coach.

This handbook provides useful information about PREMIUM for all project mentors and competence coaches.

- The first part includes information about learning objectives, programme elements, and student assessment.
- The second part of this handbook contains information regarding your involvement as a project mentor or competence coach in PREMIUM.

We hope it will assist you in successfully guiding the students through their PREMIUM experience. We wish you an inspiring PREMIUM experience!

More information about PREMIUM can also be found on [www.edlab.nl/premium](http://www.edlab.nl/premium), or just ask us via [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

Warm regards,

The PREMIUM Central Management Team

Fabienne Crombach & Tania Topa





## **CHAPTER 1: IMPORTANT PROGRAMME INFORMATION**

PREMIUM is Maastricht University's interdisciplinary Honours programme for high-performing, motivated master's students. Once selected, students are grouped together in interdisciplinary teams and given an assignment to complete for a client from the (local) business or government sector under the guidance of a project mentor. Alongside their project, students receive individual coaching focused on personal competence development. Lastly, they attend several workshops and masterclasses to help cultivate valuable skills and knowledge to prepare them for the job market.

### **1.1 THE PREMIUM STUDENT PROFILE**

PREMIUM is a programme for highly motivated, enthusiastic and talented students who wish to work in an interdisciplinary team in addition to their study programme.

- 1) **A PREMIUM student is competent and proficient:** is highly capable, as evident in:
  - a. their GPA (a 7,0 Bachelor GPA, or higher, is required);
  - b. their academic history (e.g. skipping grades, double degrees).
- 2) **A PREMIUM student has an intrinsic drive to prosper:** goes the extra mile and makes use of opportunities to learn and expand their horizon. This should be evident in:
  - a. the student's work/internship/volunteering history;
  - b. involvement in extracurricular or community activities;
  - c. an enthusiastic, ambitious, motivated, and curious attitude indicating a clear eagerness to learn;
  - d. a wide and varied area of (academic) interests.
- 3) **A PREMIUM student is a true team player:** recognizes the value of teamwork and is serious about partaking in it, as evident in:
  - a. a reliable, flexible, and dependable work ethic;
  - b. a social and communicative disposition;
  - c. an ability to reflect, and provide and receive feedback;
  - d. evidence of team spirit.
- 4) **A PREMIUM student is dedicated:** takes their role and tasks seriously and acts accordingly, as evident in:
  - a. an overall confident and professional approach and attitude;
  - b. a preference for adequate, creative, and innovative solutions when faced with a challenge;
  - c. a critical and conscientious mind-set.

### **1.2 LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Working on a team assignment for an external client in an interdisciplinary setting will help to prepare students for the labour market. In addition to master classes and workshops, they will receive intensive competence coaching on both their team performance and their core skills and competences.

Specifically, PREMIUM's learning objectives enable students to:

- gain insight into their strengths and areas for development;
- improve their performance and competences;
- learn how to work as part of a team of different disciplines;
- learn how to work to a tight schedule, and managing a large variety of tasks;
- learn how to manage a client's expectations.

In addition, PREMIUM provides students with advice and tips on how to succeed in the job market.



### 1.3 STUDENT TIME INVESTMENT PREMIUM

PREMIUM is a demanding extracurricular programme. This means that participating in PREMIUM will require students to invest time alongside the time they invest in their master's programme. Dedication and commitment are required to succeed in PREMIUM. Over the course of the five months of PREMIUM, the total workload is approximately 250 hours. This is broken down into:

- 150 hours for the project;
- 75 hours competence coaching and the student's Personal Development Plan;
- 15 hours for workshops and masterclasses;
- 10 hours for attending Central Events.

Upon successful completion of the programme, they will receive a PREMIUM certificate.

### 1.4 MANDATORY CHARACTER OF THE PROGRAMME

Participating in PREMIUM is not without obligation. Whereas students are entirely free to plan team meetings when they best suit them and their teammates, there are several programme components that require their mandatory attendance. Some of these programme components are more flexible than others are.

For example, students are required to attend a minimum of 6 workshops. These workshops are offered several times on different dates and times to ensure that every student is likely able to attend at least one of the options. Their attendance is also mandatory at the PREMIUM Central Events. These events are organized on set dates.

#### 1.4.1 EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Students are expected to always be able to schedule their meetings with the coach or mentor.

In case a student is unable to 1) attend the required number of workshops, or 2) attend a Central Event due to a serious personal situation or highly important prior engagement, they may make up for missing a workshop by submitting a substitute assignment. In that case, the student's attendance requirement is fulfilled if they attended 5 workshops and submitted 1 substitute assignment evaluated as satisfactory.

Students should email the PREMIUM Central Management Team in case exceptional circumstances apply. Upon evaluation of their request, they may receive a substitute assignment.

→ **Timeliness:** in any case, students are advised to contact the PREMIUM Central Management Team whenever private, personal circumstances (threaten to) get in the way of their participation in PREMIUM. We understand life can throw a roadblock and we are always willing to look for a solution together if a student informs us in a timely manner.



## 1.5 ASSESSMENT

Assessment occurs based on:

- 1) The **project mentor's evaluation** of the students and the team (both procedural as in individual performance as a team player and the quality of the end product);
- 2) The **competence coach's evaluation** of the time and effort put into the coaching component of PREMIUM;
- 3) A set of formal requirements, assessed by the PREMIUM Central Management team.

Please note that your specific role in the assessment process will be explained more clearly when the time comes to assess the students.

After fulfilling all mandatory programme components successfully, students will receive an official PREMIUM certificate. This certificate is proof of their excellent capabilities at Maastricht University. The certificate will be awarded to them at the certificate ceremony at the Closing Event in May.

### 1.5.1 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

In order to successfully complete PREMIUM and receive their certificate, students must fulfil the following requirements. Please note that the assessment of some of these requirements lies entirely with the project mentor or competence coach.

The student or the student team:

- Student: attended 3 mandatory workshops and at least 3 of the elective workshops.
- Student: attended all mandatory Central Events: the Mix & Match, Midterm Presentations, and Closing Event;
- Student: attended at least three separate coaching sessions, (taking place preferably before set deadlines), as confirmed by the coach and has shown a genuine effort in (further) developing a competence;
- Student: completed a Personal Development Plan together with and graded as satisfactory by their coach;
- Student team: presented their project progress during the Midterm Presentations event, and a video during the Closing Event;
- Student team: documented their project progress by means of an Instagram page;
- Student team: submitted (a representation of) the final product/deliverable or end result to PREMIUM and the project mentor;
- Overall, the student received a positive evaluation from 1) the project mentor, 2) the competence coach, and 3) their team mates.

## 1.6 CENTRAL EVENTS

Over the course of the programme, PREMIUM organizes several central activities for all PREMIUM students, mentors, coaches, and clients. All events contain educational and/or assessment elements and offer opportunities for students, UM employees, and clients to meet, connect and network. At all central events, attendance is mandatory for all students. The attendance of coaches and mentors is highly appreciated.

*!! A photographer will take pictures during most of our events. These pictures will be used for promotional purposes. In case you do not wish us to use your picture, please send an email to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl).*



### 1.6.1 THE MIX & MATCH KICK-OFF EVENT

The PREMIUM programme is officially opened with a festive kick off opening event: “the Mix & Match”.

After getting through the PREMIUM selection procedure we want to officially welcome our students to PREMIUM, and kick-off the programme together with a bang!

Additionally, the Mix & Match is a networking event aimed at guiding team formation. By the end of this event, we receive the students’ and the clients’ team preferences, after which Central Management will form the final project teams. At the event, students will get an opportunity to first meet and get to know each other.

We also invite the project mentors and competence coaches to this event. For the mentors, this is a unique first opportunity to meet their client, and assist in the team formation. For coaches, it is also an opportunity to meet the mentor and client, and encourage and support students during this networking event.

**The PREMIUM Mix & Match Event will take place  
on Thursday January 10<sup>th</sup>, after 17:00 hrs.**  
*(Please check your email for further instructions and the exact itinerary)*

### 1.6.2 MIDTERM PRESENTATIONS

Halfway during the programme, each PREMIUM student project team will have to pitch their project and progress, during the PREMIUM Midterm Presentations event.

#### PITCH & SINEK’S GOLDEN CIRCLE

A pitch is a quick and well-designed speech designed to sell a product, idea or yourself, in a very short time frame. It is designed as an answer to one essential question: why is your team spending their time on this project? Or in your future career: why are you spending time to apply for this job and why should you be considered as a candidate?

Pitching is a tool organizations use more and more as part of their recruitment and selection procedures. Even your motivational letter can be perceived as a personal pitch. Even more reason we feel it is important to provide our students with some practical pitching experience in PREMIUM.

During the PREMIUM Midterm Presentation, we therefore request that each team gives a 5-minute pitch about their project progress and outcome thus far/up to the moment of the Midterm Presentations. They will do so, structured and based on [Sinek’s Golden Circle](#).

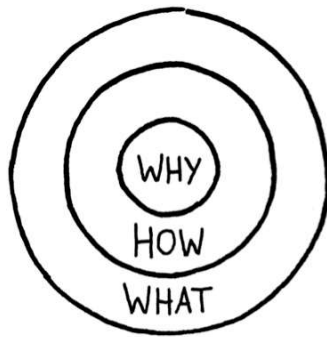
*Why — Your project’s PURPOSE: The “why” is the core motivation, vision, or “itch to scratch” for doing your project. It is the vision that motivates the entire project. It is the core upon which strategies are built.*

*How — Your project’s PROCESS: The “how” describes the things that you want to accomplish to achieve the “why”, any specific actions you have taken as a team during your project.*

*What — your project’s RESULT (so far): What do you do? The things you do to implement your strategy for your project: plan, goals, and tactics.*



# The Golden Circle



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## What

Every organization on the planet knows WHAT they do. These are products they sell or the services they offer.

## How

Some organizations know HOW they do it. These are the things that make them special or set them apart from their competition.

## Why

Very few organizations know WHY they do what they do. WHY is not about making money. That's a result. It's a purpose, cause or belief. It's the very reason your organization exists.

## PROGRAMME OF THE EVENING

Each team has 5 minutes to pitch their project progress. After each pitch, time is scheduled for one team to give positive feedback, after which a second team will provide a point for improvement in a constructive manner, after which a third and final team will be invited to ask an in-depth question concerning the project.

The total time for each team comes out of approximately 15 minutes. Teams will present in rounds of 4-5 consecutive presentations, with a 30-minute break in between the rounds, during which drinks and snacks will be provided. At the end of the evening, we will have an informal get together to exchange experiences and socially interact.

Two Midterm Presentation evenings are organized, as there are too many teams to plan all in one evening. A schedule will be drawn up for each team when to do their presentation, and to give feedback or ask questions. You are only required to attend the evening your team is scheduled to deliver their pitch, although you are more than welcome to join the other evening too.

## ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR THE MIDTERM PRESENTATIONS PITCH

- Your PowerPoint presentation is structured according to Sinek's Golden Circle, and clearly indicates the WHY, WHAT and HOW of your project.
- One member of the student team emails their PowerPoint file to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl), before the deadline **Monday, March 18**.
- The pitch has a duration of max. 5 minutes, no more, no less.
- You can use picture, images, entire posts or screen shots. Feel free to be as creative as you want to. As long as it helps getting your message across and is relevant to the story.

**The PREMIUM Midterm Presentations sessions will take place  
on March 20th and March 21st, after 17:00 hrs.**

*(Please check your email for further instructions and the exact itinerary)*



### 1.6.3 THE PREMIUM CLOSING EVENT

The PREMIUM programme ends with a very festive Closing Event for all students, project mentors, competence coaches, and clients. This festive Closing Event aims to provide students with an opportunity to share their projects' results with the community, and to festively close PREMIUM.

Finally, all students who have met the programme requirements receive their PREMIUM certificate and the day is concluded in a festive manner with drinks, food, and entertainment.

#### PREMIUM VIDEO PITCHES

During the PREMIUM Closing Event, each student team needs to translate their project process and outcome into a **2-minute video pitch**, to play during the PREMIUM Closing Event. Hereby aiming at teaching our students how to present their results to non-expert audiences and peers, but also providing them with the opportunity of seeing everyone's results highlighted.

We are using video pitches as tool to present the project outcome, because videos are being used more and more to pitch new products to clients or customers in the world of consultancy. Since our students have been functioning as consultants to their PREMIUM clients, it is only fitting that they wrap up their project as such.

To facilitate this, we will host two rounds of video presentations, so to say. After every video, there is time for the audience to ask questions to the team showcasing their project results by means of the video.

A jury will also be amongst the guests, asking questions, and a special prize will be awarded to the team whose video shows that they have used PREMIUM the most to go the extra mile in their project.

Please note that we also expect our students to schedule a closing session with their client, mentor (and coach) to present the final deliverable to the client and discuss the process of the project.

#### CRITERIA FOR THE VIDEO:

- a) Your video should not be longer than max. 2 minutes.
- b) The format of the video includes again the concept of Sinek's Golden Circle (the WHY, WHAT and HOW of your project)
- c) Suggestion: think about answering these questions:
  - a. Someone says, "So, tell me about your project." What do you say? What would you tell them about your project in 2 minutes?
  - b. What was your outcome and how did you achieve it?
  - c. What have you learnt from working on the project with your team?
  - d. What challenges did you overcome, what successes did you celebrate?
- d) One member of the student team emails the digital file of the video to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl) and the Project Mentor, before the deadline **(Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 16:00hrs)**



#### GENERAL GUIDELINES AND TIPS FOR THE VIDEO:

- PREMIUM can give you access to Powtoon. If you would like that, please send a message to [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl).
- Voice over is possible, but not required if your video is self-explanatory.
- Be mindful of copyrighted music or sound effects.
- Hook the viewer. Viewer attention is very limited. In this case, the audience will have to watch between 15-20 videos, and you want them to be on the edge of their seats for those 2 minutes that your video is showing.
- The structure of the video is important, remember to have a start, middle and end to your pitch and take your audience on a journey if you can. A great narrative structure will reinforce your message and leave the audience with a sense they really understand what your project was about and what you have accomplished.
- Surprise with creativity, your audience will watch many pitch videos and you want them to remember you. Being structured with your messaging does not have to mean you cannot be creative in the way you deliver the information. Adding elements of surprise, delight or creativity will make your pitch stand out from the rest.
- Avoid using jargon, acronyms, or unusual abbreviations.

#### PREMIUM INSTAGRAM AWARD

During the PREMIUM Closing Event, we are also handing out a special prize to the student team that has put most effort in their Instagram page.

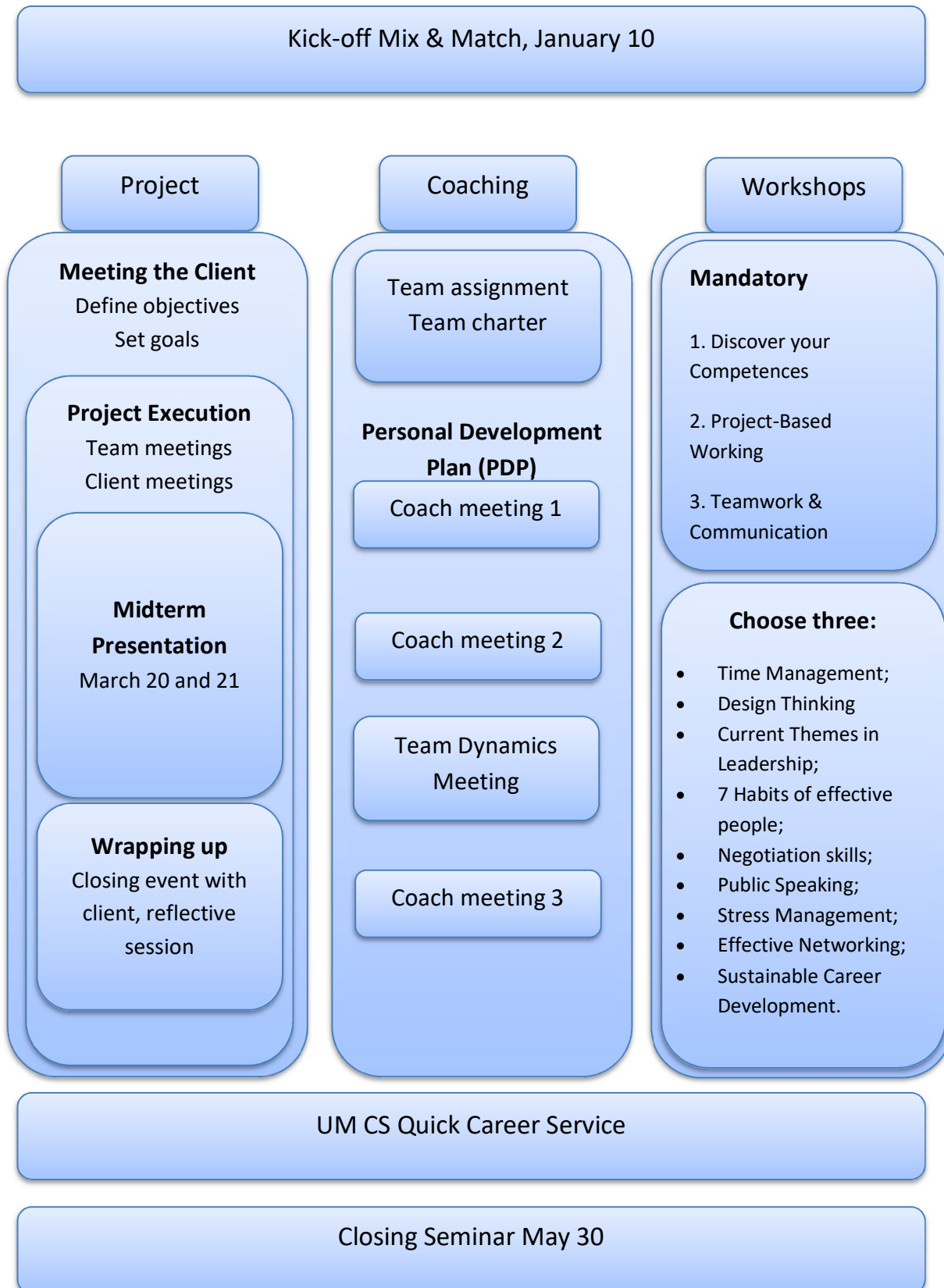
The PREMIUM Central Management will select 3 nominees, after which the entire community will be asked to vote during the Closing Event for the team YOU believe has the best Instagram page.

When selecting the nominees, we take into consideration the following aspects: usage of creative skills, consistency, show of teamwork, ability to get the message across.

**The PREMIUM Closing Event will take place  
on May 30th, after 14:00 hrs.**  
*(Please check your email for further instructions and the exact itinerary)*



## 1.7 PROGRAMME OVERVIEW





## CHAPTER 2: THE ROLE OF THE PROJECT MENTOR

Throughout PREMIUM, the project mentor will support the team in planning, developing, communicating with the client, and completing the assignment. The project mentor is responsible for the content part of the project and the process, whilst the competence coach is responsible for the team dynamics and the (inter)personal skills of the students.

- a. In order to guarantee a safe learning environment and (often) a first experience for students in tackling interdisciplinary project based working for a professional client, **the main concern of the PREMIUM project mentor should be the student's learning experience**, whereas the client's main concern and interest lies with the project.
- b. The team will decide on group leadership. Together with the group leader, the project mentor takes the role of **steering and guiding the group to the agreed upon assignment**. Please note that the project mentor should not take over the role of the project leader in the team, since the learning experience for the team would then be less effective.
- c. The team is not only responsible for finishing the project on time and meeting the expectations of both the client and project mentor, but also for delivering the required results. The project mentor however, **helps the team draw up an action plan, set a timeline, milestones and define the final product**.
- d. The project mentor can and should **function as an intermediate between client and students when the scope of the project requires re-definition and can provide support to the students in negotiation processes with the client**.
- e. PREMIUM is first and foremost a learning experience for the students. The client offers the students a learning environment to experiment with new behaviour. The project mentor **assists the students in their communication with the client (expectation management) and, at the end of the project, asks the client for feedback on the team performance**.
- f. The project mentor also **initiates and chairs the team's kick-off meeting and midterm reflective practitioner meeting, as well as the closing reflective meeting at the end of the programme**.

Due to the variety of projects, no generic guidelines are given for the final product/result of the assignment. This will be done in close interaction between the mentor, the client, and the team itself. In an early stage of the project, you will have to define the criteria, scope and the type of the final product/result together.

At the end of PREMIUM the project mentor will grade and assess individual and team performance based on at least the following and more criteria:

- Participation (effort, time and energy put into project execution and teamwork);
- Courage to experiment with new ideas and behaviour;
- Reflective determination to improve the team process;
- Professional behaviour.

**Tip!!** Contact the coach of your team on a regular basis to align the process with the interventions (if needed).



## 2.1 TEAM MEETINGS

Throughout the programme, students are required to meet regularly (online or offline) to work on their project, often including their mentor and/or client. The initiative of planning meetings with fellow teammates and client lies with the PREMIUM students. Since it is an excellent way to practice organization and time management skills, it can be advisable to assign one member to be in charge of this specific task.

By the end of the programme, students also schedule a closing session with the mentor, client and potentially coach to present the final outcome of the project.

The only meetings that are not initiated by the students, but by the project mentor, are the **Team Kick-Off Meeting** and the two **Reflective Practitioner Meetings** (as described below).

### 2.1.1. TEAM KICK OFF MEETING

The actual project starts with a kick off meeting with the entire PREMIUM team (mentor, coach, and students) and the client. During this meeting, you do not only get to know your team, but you will also discuss issues such as:

- Expectations: what do you expect from your PREMIUM students, what can they expect from you and what does the coach expect?
- Establish and clarify roles: assign roles within the team, such as the team leader, the one responsible for scheduling and a member responsible for communication. The team might also decide on rotating roles to practice with different tasks and responsibilities.
- Set agreements for communication, behaviour and cooperation: this is a unique moment to discuss and agree on how you will work together during the PREMIUM project. This can vary from practical issues (use of email, phones, dates of meetings, etc.) to the way you will interact (how will you give each other feedback, how will you deal with conflicts, etc.)
- Include some time for coach and team, even if only 30 minutes.

*A checklist was drawn up in order to facilitate this meeting, and to use to support the project mentor and the team. You can find the checklist in the Appendices and on the website <https://edlab.nl/excellence/premium/> (current student section, under "documents").*

**Tip!!** Please discuss the issue of "freeriding" in an early stage of the project.

Students complete a team charter before and during the first team meeting, describing how they will work as a team.

This is also the perfect time to make arrangements concerning the upcoming team meetings (and their frequency) you will have with your students. After this kick off meeting, you can plan a meeting with the client during which the project scope will be discussed.

Please note: If necessary, students can use EDLAB's facilities for meetings/group work. For more information, please contact the PREMIUM Central Management Team.



### 2.1.2 REFLECTIVE PRACTITIONING AND PEER EVALUATIONS

In PREMIUM, we use reflective practice as a method of assessing one's own thoughts and actions, for the purpose of personal learning and development. For many people, this is a natural and instinctive activity. Reflective Practice can be used for our own development and/or to help others develop. We aim to support PREMIUM students develop their reflective practitioner skills along the way and lead them towards more practice-based learning.

The project mentor assesses the students' reflective determination to improve the team's process and learning experience during project execution, and we have facilitated this process further, by means of 2 reflective meetings (midterm reflective practitioner meeting, and a reflective closing session at the end of the programme), in which students have prepared a **Gibb's reflective practitioner form**.

There are also 3 moments scheduled in which students are requested to evaluate their own performance in the team, and anonymously the contribution of every team member, the so-called peer evaluations. They do so by filling out a 2-step **Peer Evaluation form**, and send these forms back to both mentor and coach.

These peer evaluations may reveal participation issues, but also personal achievements of individual group members, that the coach or mentor might not otherwise know about. Completing peer evaluations allows groups to assess how they can improve and develop during their time in their PREMIUM team. It can also provide a starting point for constructive discussions and reflections on how the group is functioning in general, and how every individual is contributing to and benefitting from the team process. This system of peer evaluations encourages thus as well teamwork, positive interdependence, and individual accountability, whilst giving the mentor an insight into the individual performance and development of each individual team member.

#### TIMELINE

- **1<sup>st</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 01.03.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed in a regular team meeting with the mentor present
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 19.04.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed, together with the Gibb's self-assessment form during the reflective practitioner meeting with the mentor and/or the Team Dynamics session with the coach.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 17.05.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed together with the Gibb's self-assessment form during the closing session with the team and mentor and/or coach.

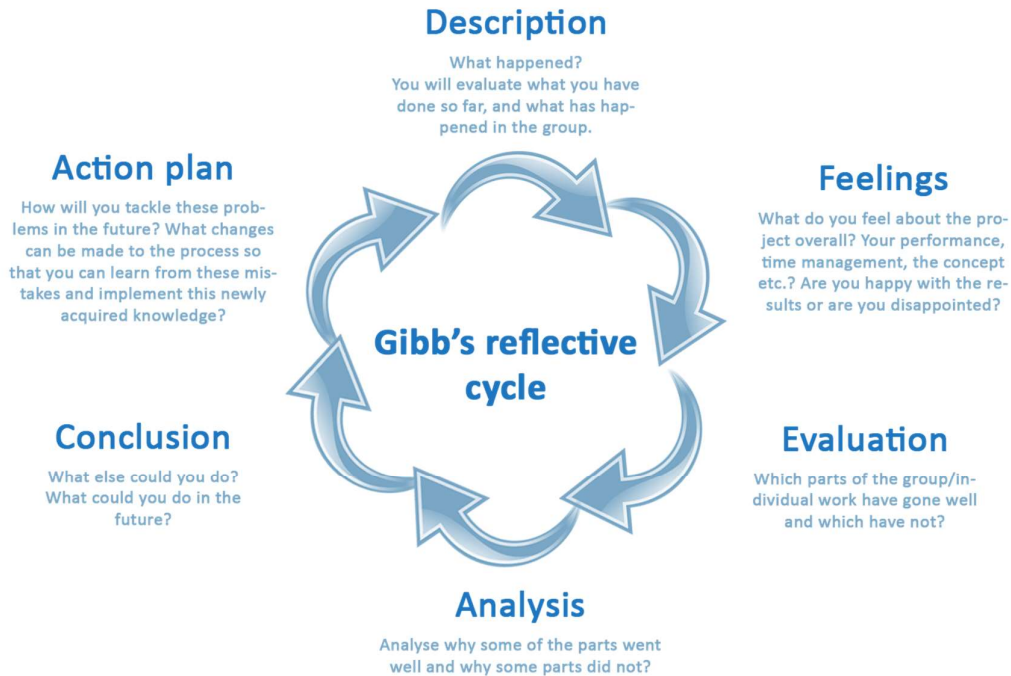
#### HOW TO PROCEED?

The project mentor guides the students through the process of reflection and facilitates their practices during the midterm and closing reflective evaluation meetings:

- The project mentor schedules a midterm reflective practitioner meeting with the students.  
**The competence coach can join if the mentor and coach wish to (taking place preferably after the Midterm Presentations, but before April 19th)**;
- Students will have prepared and sent their self-assessment forms (based on Gibbs reflective cycle, see below) to the project mentor, before the actual session;
- During the midterm reflective evaluation session, the project mentor discusses with the students the self-assessment forms on reflective practices in order to improve the process and content of the second part of the project;
- The project mentor schedules a closing reflective evaluation session with the students by the end of the programme (often on the same day as the closing session/project outcome presentation for the client);
- Students will have prepared and sent their self-assessment forms to the project mentor, before the actual session;
- During the closing (reflective evaluation) session, the project mentor discusses the reflective practitioner forms and the achieved results.



- Students are also required to send their Peer Evaluation forms to the project mentor according to the timeline stated above. The project mentor structures Part 2 of these forms (the open questions section) in one document per student, and sends them back to each individual team member. **Please, keep in mind that the feedback is anonymous and should be kept that way.** The filled out rubrics are for the mentor and coach to form an opinion of each individual team member's progress and contribution.



## 2.2 VIRTUAL TEAMWORK

Effective teamwork has never been more important than it is today. Teamwork remains a key tool to face these challenges head-on, since working in teams — especially those with different skillsets and backgrounds — sparks innovation, enables agility, and leads to better outcomes, now and in the future. However, when it comes to working in a team that is not able or allowed to always come together physically, there are some things to take extra care of to ensure efficient and effective team functioning.

- Different time zones:** Some students might not be in Maastricht, which means that team members might be working from different parts of the world. Be aware of each other's time differences, and plan your meetings on moments that accommodate different time zones.
- Communication tools:** When it comes to tips for managing remote teams, nothing beats efficient communication. Virtual team communication can best be handled with the right communication tools, and it is vital that you discuss early on in your group work which tools to use.
  - Chat tools: for asking quick questions and clarifying matters about your work.
  - Skype or Zoom: for carrying out video meetings/brainstorm sessions with your team.
  - Email: for the more official correspondence, like arranging the time for group reports and one-on-one meetings, or reporting to mentor, coach and client or communication with PREMIUM Central Management.
- Management tools:** There are plenty of free tools for managing your remote teamwork. Such tools will greatly facilitate your project/challenge, task, and team management – as well as ensure you save time by working in one document at the same time. *Some free examples are Slack, Clockify and Trello.*



- **Virtual team culture:** Virtual team culture is just as important as a standard team culture – the group of people within a virtual team will still have to form some kind of understanding, as well as build mutual trust.
  - Try to establish (virtual) friendships – if you all live in the same country, you can organize get-together every couple of months. Organize a team dinner, grab a movie together, and get to know each other beyond your PREMIUM experience. If meeting in person is not possible, try to arrange a virtual team dinner, join a virtual Pubquiz or other teambuilding activities.
  - Establish some ground rules for your virtual meetings. Basic things such as, turn your camera on so that genuine interaction with your team members is possible, take care to be appropriately dressed, do sufficient beforehand preparation of the meeting, be punctual, pay attention to others when speaking and make sure to look at your camera. If it is improper for a face-to-face meeting, then it does not work for video either. To avoid too many people talking over each other, it can be helpful to establish a host/chair for online meetings, and another team member to take notes.

## 2.3 PROJECT-RELATED TEAM TASKS

Throughout the PREMIUM programme, students will complete various tasks that we either expect project mentors to assess in or at least be aware of. Especially in the beginning and end of the programme, the student team is required to complete essential programme elements. Please refer to the PREMIUM student checklist to get a clear idea of what the students are expected to do when, and how.

- Students complete a team charter before and during the first team meeting, describing how they will work as a team.
- Students will complete a teambuilding assignment that will be provided by EDLAB.
- Students are required to set up a preliminary budget describing the costs they expect to make throughout the project at the beginning of PREMIUM. The project mentor (and client in case of traveling costs) is/are meant to sign off on that budget.
- Students have to prepare a pitch style presentation for the Midterm Presentation session.
- Students attend a team dynamics meeting with their competence coach.
- Students maintain an Instagram page to document their project progress. This is a platform for the mentor to monitor as well in order to stay updated on a regular basis.
- Students prepare a video pitch to present their project outcome during the PREMIUM Closing Event.
- Students schedule and prepare a closing session with the client, together with the project mentor.
- Students send in a finalized budget and reimbursement forms if they made any project-related costs. Mentors should assist students in the reimbursement application process (see the Appendix for more information on the reimbursement process).

## 2.4 PROJECT BUDGET

Project execution might require your team to spend some money. The team might benefit from a teambuilding activity, or perhaps project execution requires them to purchase specific materials, or pay for a service.

All PREMIUM teams can be reimbursed by EDLAB, for up to a maximum of **€ 150 project-related costs** after the programme (transportation costs not included). We request that the mentor keeps an eye on these costs, and sees that the budget is spent sensibly and just. Not solely on cocktails etc. for example.

Should a client request students to travel, they are requested to take charge of these costs and reimburse the students through PREMIUM. It is therefore important that the client agrees to the budget as well, where transportation costs are involved. At the end of PREMIUM, each team needs to hand in the reimbursement form to PREMIUM, to have their (transportation) fees reimbursed. PREMIUM will then send an invoice to the respective client for the transportation part of the fees.



## 2.5 CHALLENGES A PROJECT MENTOR WILL COME ACROSS

Being a PREMIUM project mentor will most often be a pleasant experience, seeing students expanding their horizon and skill-set under your guidance. However, there will also be challenges when working with such diverse teams that you need to be wary of.

- a. Excellence students are extremely motivated, which quite often results in their dedication to many diverse activities to build up their curriculum. This might also lead to stress and too much pressure for some students that a mentor will be faced with. We provide a workshop on Time Management within PREMIUM that we recommend to these students. We also can offer some students an additional workshop on stress management.
- b. Trying to schedule team meetings with students from 6 different faculties is a challenge in itself. While it is an excellent planning exercise for students, the reality is that many teams will find the planning aspect one of the greatest challenges in the programme.
- c. Team members may have different disciplinary backgrounds, different motivations and aspirations, and different cultural backgrounds. Effective collaboration relies in large part on interdisciplinary communication. Communication across disciplines is not easy. For example, implicit misunderstandings may arise concerning what is deemed a valuable question, what are valid data, what kind of result should emerge from the project and so on (Menken & Keestra, 2016). When performing under pressure, these differences might be a cause for friction within the team.
- d. Students' participation during the programme may vary from time to time. Some are very active, while others are silent (Roehling et al., 2010). We encourage project mentors to use various techniques to encourage student communication, of which 3 examples are listed below:
  - Connect: Bring students together through their experiences or answers. For instance: 'Maria, your idea of interdisciplinarity sounds as though it resembles what Oliver just called "integrative bridging", do you recognise that? Oliver, what do you think?' By building a connection between students, you forge links between their ideas and give them a platform to discuss similarities or discrepancies (Greef, Post, Vink, Wenting, 2017).
  - Add: By expanding on a student's input, you allow other students to join in the discussion as well: 'Alice, your experience with this issue is something that maybe some of us recognise. Who shares this experience; can I see a show of hands?' You could then ask one or more students to share their experiences, thereby including elements identified by other students. This technique works best when students have different experiences and insights that are potentially complementary (Greef, Post, Vink, Wenting, 2017).
  - Adjust: This technique involves redefining or altering the way a concept is employed by the students in order to come to a commonly agreed meaning. This is helpful when students appear to be disagreeing because they are using the same concept in different ways. When a biology and a psychology student are discussing the concept of 'system thinking' and the latter starts to get irritated that the biology student does not grasp the definition of system thinking, you can pose the following question: 'Maybe in biology, system thinking has a different meaning than in psychology?' To the biology student you can ask: 'Can you explain what is meant by "system thinking" in biology?' And to the other student: 'Can you do the same for your discipline? And where are differences?' By letting students redefine certain concepts, you forge links between their ideas and stories, allowing them a platform to discuss similarities and discrepancies (Greef, Post, Vink, Wenting, 2017).



- e. Over time, team members' roles may change from being core (fully dedicated to the research goal) to peripheral (committed to this project, but also working in one or more other teams), and vice-versa. This may cause extra stress on students that stay fully committed. With PREMIUM it cannot be stressed enough that free-riding is unacceptable and will affect the student's assessment. In the paragraph below, you can find more information on motivation, and how to stimulate/influence motivation levels.
- f. On a regular basis, we get remarks from mentors that students experience some sort of midterm drop of energy right after the Midterm Presentations. The initial phase of the project, a hectic phase has ended, and in some teams, students almost tend to get too comfortable and lenient with their project demands. It might prove challenging for even the most experienced project mentors to get such a team back in a higher energy modus. Some techniques that might help you are:
  - Remove barriers – What gets in the way of a team performing their tasks? Communicate about any personal or team blockers that might prevent the work from even getting started.
  - Reward team behaviour – Support individual performance and overall team performance, especially when they are collaborating to get the job done. Teams work well, when they are supported and praised as a team. It might be the perfect time to schedule a team activity.
  - Most importantly, set specific dates/milestones and follow-up – do not just “set it and forget it” with your team. Let them know that you are there for them, not by micro managing, but by following up to see how they are doing. Do they need support to get their tasks done on time? Are they being blocked? You will not know unless you follow up.
  - Clarify expectations – Make sure to communicate all the expectations for individuals and the whole team. Efficiency is not achieved in isolation. Make it clear to the entire team that they are to support each other as a team, in order for the entire project to succeed. And this starts with you as a vital member of the team.

***If at any point you need support or advice on how to deal with a certain issue, please inform the PREMIUM Central Management Team at [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl). We will gladly provide advice, intervene if necessary or connect you with other mentors who may be able to help you.***

## 2.6 SELF-DETERMINATION THEORY; ENHANCING OR UNDERMINING MOTIVATION

PREMIUM students, as any human being, can be proactive and engaged or, alternatively, passive and alienated, largely as a function of the social conditions in which they develop and function.

Accordingly, research guided by self-determination theory has focused on the social-contextual conditions that facilitate versus forestall the natural processes of self-motivation and healthy psychological development. Specifically, factors have been examined that enhance versus undermine intrinsic motivation, self-regulation, and well-being. The findings have led to the postulate of three innate psychological needs--competence, autonomy, and relatedness, which when satisfied yield enhanced self-motivation and mental health and when thwarted lead to diminished motivation and well-being. (Ryan, Deci 2000)

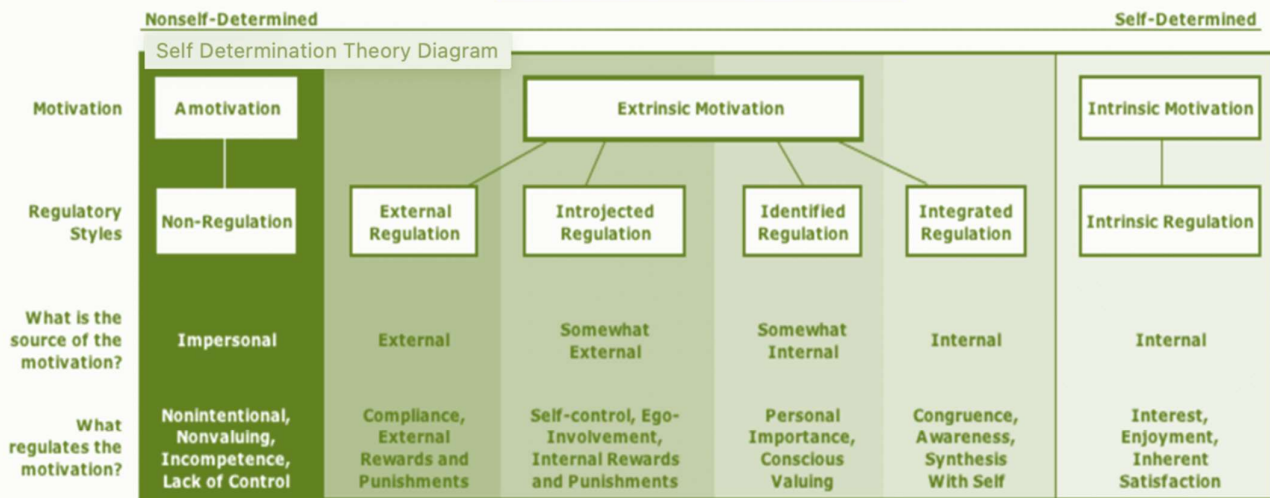
[https://selfdeterminationtheory.org/SDT/documents/2000\\_RyanDeci\\_SDT.pdf](https://selfdeterminationtheory.org/SDT/documents/2000_RyanDeci_SDT.pdf)

The figures below shows the types of motivation that you might potentially encounter in PREMIUM students somewhere during the programme. Initially, when selecting PREMIUM students, we aim to filter out only those students that are intrinsically motivated, but a student's motivation may shift along the spectrum over the course of PREMIUM due to various reasons.

This Self Determination Theory is a tool to help you in signaling issues related to motivation, and to influence motivation in team members.

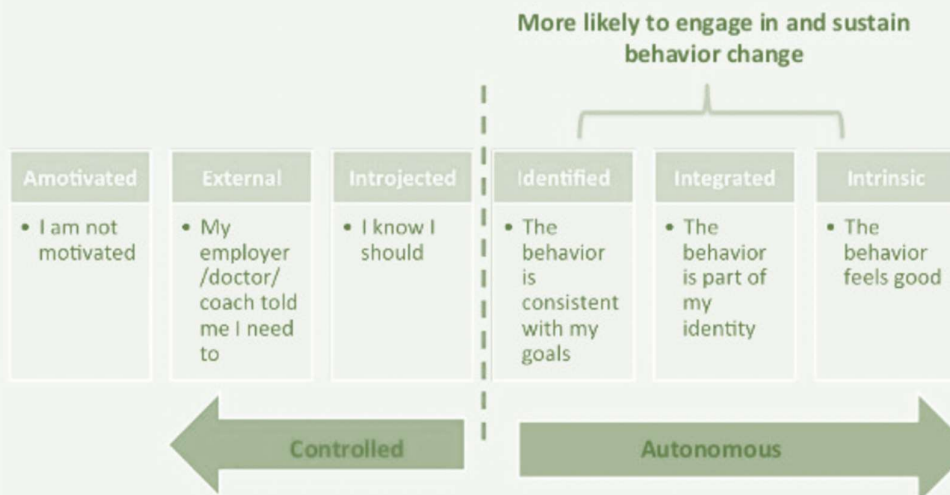


## The Self-Determination Continuum



(Based on Ryan, R.M. & Deci, E.L. (2000). Self-Determination Theory and the Facilitation of Intrinsic Motivation, Social Development, and Well-Being. *American Psychologist*. 55(1), 68-78.)

## Types of Motivation: Self Determination Theory



Adapted from Segar & Hall (2011)

Amy Bucher, Ph.D. (amy.bucher@gmail.com)

Source: Ryan & Deci (2000)

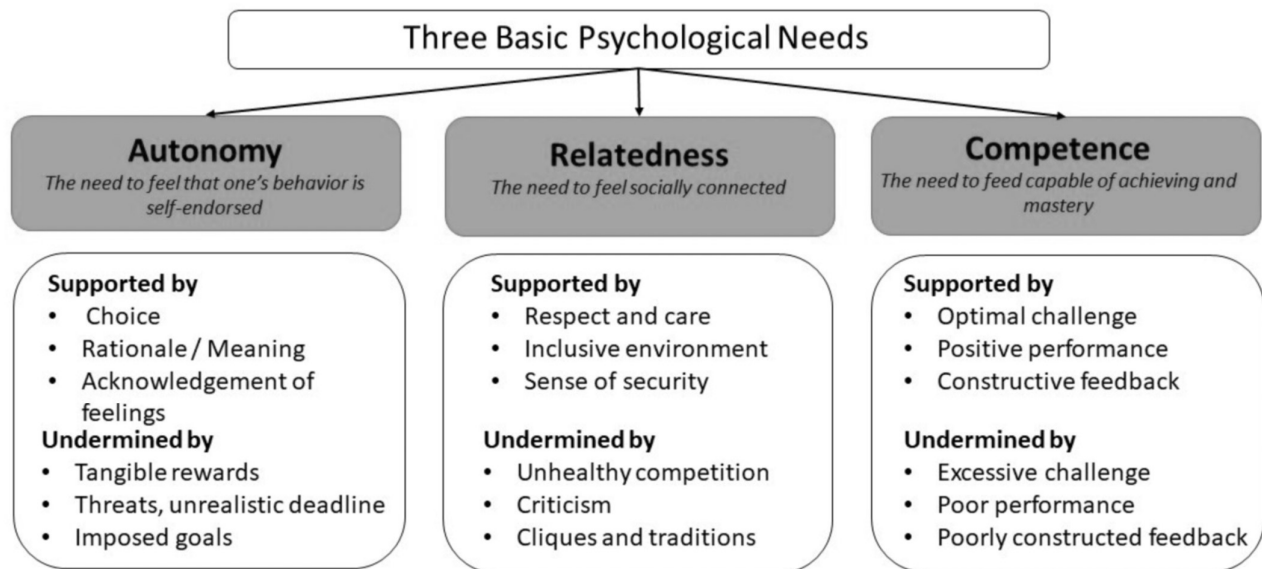


At the far left of the self-determination continuum is amotivation, the state of lacking the intention to act. When amotivated, people either do not act at all or act without intent--they just go through the motions. Amotivation results from not valuing an activity (Ryan, 1995), not feeling competent to do it (Bandura, 1986), or not expecting it to yield a desired outcome (Seligman, 1975).

To the right of amotivation in the figure below are five classifications of motivated behavior. Although many theorists have treated motivation as a unitary concept, each of the categories identified describes theoretically, experientially, and functionally distinct types of motivation.

At the far right of the continuum is the classic state of intrinsic motivation, the doing of an activity for its inherent satisfactions. It is highly autonomous and represents the prototypic instance of self-determination (Ryan, Deci 2000).

Motivation can be stimulated by fulfilling three basic psychological needs.



## 2.7 LENCIONI'S THE FIVE DYSFUNCTIONS OF A TEAM

The [Five Dysfunctions of a Team](#) is a business book by consultant and speaker Patrick Lencioni first published in 2002. It describes the many pitfalls that teams face as they seek to "grow together". This book explores the fundamental causes of organizational politics and team failure, and might give practical guidelines on how to steer the process within your PREMIUM team by enhancing trust in your team.



# The FIVE Dysfunctions of a Team *by Patrick Lencioni*

Members of dysfunctional teams ...	Dysfunctions and ways to Overcome each one	Members of trusting teams ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stagnates/fails to grow</li> <li>Rarely defeats competitors</li> <li>Loses achievement-oriented employees</li> <li>Encourages team members to focus on their own careers and individual goals</li> <li>Is easily distracted</li> </ul>	<b>Inattention to <u>Results</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Public declaration of results</li> <li>✓ Results-Based rewards</li> <li>✓ Setting the tone for a focus on results from the leader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains achievement-oriented employees</li> <li>Minimizes individualistic behavior</li> <li>Enjoys success and suffers failure acutely</li> <li>Benefits from individuals who subjugate their own goals/interests for the good of the team</li> <li>Avoids distractions</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates resentment among team members who have different standards of performance</li> <li>Encourages mediocrity</li> <li>Misses deadlines and key deliverables</li> <li>Places an undue burden on the team leader as the sole source of discipline</li> </ul>	<b>Avoidance of <u>Accountability</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Publication of goals and standards</li> <li>✓ Simple and regular progress reviews</li> <li>✓ Team rewards</li> <li>✓ Ability of leader to allow the team to serve as the first and primary accountability mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensures that poor performers feel pressure to improve</li> <li>Identifies potential problems quickly by questioning one another's approaches without hesitation</li> <li>Establishes respect among team members who are held to the same high standards</li> <li>Avoids excessive bureaucracy around performance management and corrective action</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates ambiguity among the team about direction and priorities</li> <li>Watches windows of opportunity close due to excessive analysis and unnecessary delay</li> <li>Breeds lack of confidence and fear of failure</li> <li>Revisits discussions and decisions again and again</li> <li>Encourages second-guessing among team members</li> </ul>	<b>Lack of <u>Commitment</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cascading Messaging</li> <li>✓ Deadlines</li> <li>✓ Contingency and Worst-case scenario analysis</li> <li>✓ Low-risk exposure therapy</li> <li>✓ Ability of leader to not place too high of a premium on consensus or certainty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates clarity around direction and priorities</li> <li>Aligns the entire team around common objectives</li> <li>Develops an ability to learn from mistakes</li> <li>Takes advantage of opportunities before competitors do</li> <li>Moves forward without hesitation</li> <li>Changes direction without hesitation or guilt</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have boring meetings</li> <li>Create environments where back-channel politics and personal attacks thrive</li> <li>Ignore controversial topics that are critical to team success</li> <li>Fail to tap into all the opinions and perspectives of team members</li> <li>Waste time and energy with posturing and interpersonal risk management</li> </ul>	<b>Fear of <u>Conflict</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mining for conflict</li> <li>✓ Real-Time Permission</li> <li>✓ Personality style and Behavioral Preference tools</li> <li>✓ Demonstration of restraint by leader when people engage in conflict</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have lively, interesting meetings</li> <li>Extract and exploit the ideas of all team members</li> <li>Solve real problems quickly</li> <li>Minimize politics</li> <li>Put critical topics on the table for discussion</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conceal their weaknesses and mistakes from one another</li> <li>Hesitate to ask for help or provide constructive feedback</li> <li>Hesitate to offer help outside their own areas of responsibility</li> <li>Jump to conclusions about the intentions and aptitudes of others without attempting to clarify them</li> <li>Fail to recognize and tap into one another's skills and experiences</li> <li>Waste time and energy managing their behaviors for effect</li> <li>Hold grudges</li> <li>Dread meetings and find reasons to avoid spending time together</li> </ul>	<b>Absence of <u>Trust</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Personal Histories Exercise</li> <li>✓ Team Effectiveness Exercise</li> <li>✓ Personality and Behavioral Preference Profiles</li> <li>✓ 360-Degree Feedback</li> <li>✓ Experiential Team Exercises</li> <li>✓ Demonstration of vulnerability first by leader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Admit weaknesses and mistakes</li> <li>Ask for help</li> <li>Accept questions and input about their areas of responsibility</li> <li>Give one another the benefit of the doubt before arriving at a negative conclusion</li> <li>Take risks in offering feedback and assistance</li> <li>Appreciate and tap into one another's skills and experiences</li> <li>Focus time and energy on important issues, not politics</li> <li>Offer and accept apologies without hesitation</li> <li>Look forward to meetings and other opportunities to work as a group</li> </ul>

## 2.8 TOOLS AND GAMES AVAILABLE AT EDLAB

Always try to prevent any issues from escalating within the team. Give each other constructive feedback and respect each other's (cultural) differences. This goes for the students, but also for example for your client. Most issues arise when there is no clear communication and a good conversation and clear agreements more often than not will help to clear the air.

Sometimes a proper feedback session is needed to get the team back on track, clear the air, or just to see where you all stand as a team. Making time for such a session shows reflective skills and professionalism in teamwork.

In order to facilitate such a session, EDLAB has a large variety of tools, games and instruments available that you may use or borrow for a session. Below two examples, but we have many more!

- [Feedback<sup>3</sup>](#) is a set of 7 cubes that will help make your feedback session easier, more natural and fun! Each of the cubes addresses a topic that should be addressed when talking about the team process, ensuring that all of the important issues will be discussed. The actual 7 cubes, and a booklet that provides you with the rules and guidelines for this session, can be found on the PREMIUM website (current student section under "Documents").
- [Beeld & Box](#): Each image card contains a photo that evokes associations and thoughts. The strength of this tool lies in its many application possibilities. Working with the image cards is recommended for anyone looking for a way to visualize thoughts and processes and share them with others.



## CHAPTER 3: ROLE OF THE COMPETENCE COACH

The PREMIUM competence coach is responsible for the coaching of students in the development of a specific competency that was chosen by the students themselves (e.g. leadership, communication, stress management, time management, assertiveness, or networking). The coach is also going to work with the students on the team dynamics of the whole group. Whilst the project mentor is responsible for the content part of the project and the process, the competence coach is responsible for the team dynamics and the (inter)personal skills of the students.

Your responsibility as a competence coach lies in coaching your students during the PREMIUM project, to help identify the competency they like to work on, to invite them to reflect on their current way of going about this competency, and to invite and encourage them to experiment with new behaviour, attributes, skills, and knowledge. This process between student and coach is strictly confidential and you are kindly asked to make this explicit in the first meeting.

Finally – you are expected to give an overall evaluation of your findings with regard to the students’ process to the student in the last meeting.

At the end of PREMIUM, the competence coach will grade and assess the individual performance of each student in the coaching process based on at least the following and more criteria:

- participation (effort, time and energy put into coaching);
- courage to experiment with new ideas and behaviour;
- reflective determination to grow and expand self-knowledge;
- the quality of student’s PDP;
- professional behaviour.

During PREMIUM, you will have the following meetings with your students:

- Three individual coaching sessions (60 minutes per student, including your preparation and follow up)
  - Students are instructed to schedule:
    - Meeting 1** (to take place before Friday, February 23rd): In this meeting, you will discuss your working relationship, the competence the student wishes to address during coaching and the student’s goals concerning the development of that competence. The basis of the meeting will be the components of the PDP the student has completed before the meeting.
    - Meeting 2** (to take place before Friday, April 12th): In this meeting, you will discuss developments with regards to the chosen competence. The basis of the meeting will again be the PDP components completed by the student before the meeting.
    - Meeting 3:** (to take place before Friday, May 17th): Your last meeting is used to reflect on the student’s competence development during PREMIUM. After the last meeting, the student will be able to complete their PDP.
- One intermission meeting on team dynamics with all students in the project team together, taking place around the time of the Midterm Presentations (preferably after the Reflective Practitioner team meeting with the mentor). In this meeting, the coach will guide the team in a reflection on team performance, roles, communication, and if necessary, conflict resolution. You may use the students’ peer evaluations as input for this session.



### 3.1 THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (PDP)

Students are required to complete a Personal Development Plan. The PDP is meant to support the learning process of the student in the context of PREMIUM and serves as a guideline through the coaching process. Upon completion, the PDP will be a journal to chronicle their professional development in PREMIUM. They may then use their PDP as a guideline for a UM Quick Career Services meeting.

The PDP format can be downloaded from the [www.edlab.nl/premium](http://www.edlab.nl/premium) website. The format gives students the possibility to reflect on their personal development and invites competence coaches to also reflect in their part.

***Please note that this format is a mere guideline,  
not every section may apply to your student, although the first components are required to get  
you off to a good start of coaching.***

*Each student's PDP document should be e-mailed back and forth between the coach and student.  
It is up to the student and coach to assure the student stays on track in completing the PDP.*

***The student's PDP is for the student's and coach's eyes only. The PREMIUM Central  
Management Team does not expect to receive this document at any point.***

### 3.2 INDIVIDUAL COACHING SESSIONS

After the kick off meeting, students will make an appointment with you for their first individual coaching session. They have to finish a part of their Personal Development Plan before the first coaching session.

**Tip!!** If your agenda is full, give the students a limited number of dates they can choose from.

#### 3.2.1 FIRST INDIVIDUAL COACHING SESSION

- **Collaboration**

Start your coaching process by making clear agreements with the students about mutual expectations and your working relationship; also mention issues of confidentiality, the scheduling of the meetings, and your and the student's tasks and responsibilities can be discussed.

- **Development competence**

Students you are coaching want to develop certain competences during the PREMIUM programme. As part of their PDP, they have completed a few online tests including Career Anchors, the Big Five and Core Competences, and are asked to reflect upon various dimensions of their life. Additionally, they may have attended the "Discover your Competences" workshop hosted by UM Career Services. The results of the workshop provide important information about competences that are relevant for the student. During the first meeting, the coach and student reflect on the start-up phase of PREMIUM and choose the competence or skills (or a selection of it, as often they relate) the student wants to work on.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A competency is usually made up of skills, knowledge and attribute. A **skill** is about doing something well – your ability to choose and perform the right technique at the right time. It is usually developed through training and practice. For example, you could become a skilled writer by practicing writing in a particular style. You can become skilled at being safe in the workplace by practicing techniques during classroom exercises or labs.

**Knowledge** is the information that you know, including theories, facts and procedures, and the ability to apply this information in different situations. For example, you could have knowledge about different communication styles. You may know the key steps to plan a program or project and be well versed in strategies for evaluating success. Putting these together takes knowledge. An **attribute** is an inherent characteristic or quality and is often expressed through what you think, do and feel. For example, you could be known for staying positive and calm in challenging situations. You may also bring a 'can-do' attitude to your work - able to try new things, ask for new assignments and demonstrate initiative. Together, these three elements make up a competency. For example, a student could develop competency regarding communication by practicing her writing and listening skills, acquiring knowledge about different communication styles and learning techniques that help her keep calm under pressure.



- **Setting goals**

During this first session, you will make concrete agreements on what the student will do to develop their chosen competency. As homework, students complete the section of their PDP that follows the first coaching session.

### **3.2.2 SECOND INDIVIDUAL COACHING SESSION**

During the second meeting, you ask what the student has done to further develop the competence(s). Dependent on the student's need, you continue with the further development (deepening, practicing) of this competency, or you can start with the development of a second competency. As homework, students complete the section of their PDP that follows the second coaching session.

### **3.2.3 THIRD INDIVIDUAL COACHING SESSION**

The third and last individual coaching session will be used to reflect on the student's competency development during the project. What went well? What did the student learn? You can also use this opportunity to ask for feedback on your performance as a coach: coaching is also a learning process. After your last session, students complete the section of their PDP that follows the last coaching session.

## **3.3 INTERMISSION ON TEAM DYNAMICS**

In addition to the three individual sessions with your students, you will have one intermission on team dynamics together with all students of the project team. During this session, you and the students reflect on the team process and the roles of all team members. The purpose of the session is to help the team reflect on its performance and, if necessary, offer support in making new agreements. Please see the Appendix for tools and tips.

### **PEER EVALUATION AS INPUT FOR TEAM DYNAMICS**

Around the time of this session on Team Dynamics, students have been requested to send both the coach and the mentor already twice their filled out peer evaluation forms.

These Peer Evaluation forms are to be filled out anonymously on three different moments throughout PREMIUM by each student on the team. By filling them out, students evaluate their own performance in the team, and the contribution of every team member. These peer evaluations may reveal participation issues, but also personal achievements of individual group members, that the coach or mentor might not otherwise know about.

Completing peer evaluations allows groups to assess how they can improve and develop during their time in their PREMIUM team. It can also provide a starting point for constructive discussions and reflections on how the group is functioning in general, and how every individual is contributing to and benefitting from the team process. This system of peer evaluations encourages thus as well teamwork, positive interdependence, and individual accountability, whilst giving the mentor an insight into the individual performance and development of each individual team member.

Where it is up to the mentor to collect the individual feedback and make sure every student receives anonymously an overview of the feedback from their peers, the coach may definitely use the provided feedback as a means to open up conversations about team dynamics, individual performance and development, and in the end assess the individual student's performance.



## TIMELINE

- **1<sup>st</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 01.03.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed in a regular team meeting with the mentor present
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 19.04.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed, together with the Gibb's self-assessment form during the reflective practitioner meeting with the mentor and/or the Team Dynamics session with the coach.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Peer evaluation:** Deadline to send in the Peer Evaluation form: **Friday 17.05.2024, 23:59 hrs.**
  - to be discussed together with the Gibb's self-assessment form during the closing session with the team and mentor and/or coach.

## PROPOSED WORKSHOP STRUCTURE "TEAM DYNAMICS"

Please see the Appendix for the questionnaire and additional tools.

15 min	Introduction/structure Explanation of workshop procedure Appointment of process and time facilitator Explanation of feedback rules
15 min	Distribution of questionnaire (see appendix) <i>Each student is to fill out the questionnaire individually.</i>
10 min	Inventory of pluses and minuses with regard to agreements made at start of team project
40 min	What is going well? What needs improvement? What new agreements are needed? <i>During this discussion, the coach will reflect on the process and provide the team with feedback.</i>
30 min	Formulation of one or two new agreements: Who? What? When?
10 min	Evaluation Reflection on learning points New agreements on paper, additional tips and values

Suggestions for use of flipchart

- Inventory of pluses and minuses for questions 1 to 4
- Inventory of what is going well (keywords)
- Points of improvement (keywords)



### 3.4 KICK-OFF WITH PROJECT TEAM

In the first week(s) of PREMIUM, your team will come together (mentor, students, client and competence coach) for an official kick off where you will discuss the following issues:

- Expectations: what do you expect from your students, what can they expect from you, what does the project mentor expect?
- Different roles: clarify the difference between the role of the project mentor (the mentor focuses on the content of the assignment and the team's process) and your role as a competence coach (you focus on the personal development of the team and the individual student).
- Set agreements for communication, behaviour and cooperation: this is a unique moment to agree on how you work together during the PREMIUM project. This can vary from practical issues (use of email, phones, dates of meetings, etc.) to the way you will interact (how will you give each other feedback, how will you deal with conflicts, etc.).
- Include some time for coach and team even if only 30 minutes.
- This is also the perfect time to make arrangements concerning the individual and team meetings you will have with the students.

### 3.5 COACHING-RELATED PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

Throughout the PREMIUM programme, students will complete various tasks that we either expect competence coaches to assess in, or at least be aware of. Especially in the beginning and end of the programme, the student team is required to complete some essential programme elements.

Please refer to the PREMIUM student checklist to get a clear idea of what the students are expected to do, when, and how.

- Students complete a team charter before and during the first team meeting, describing how they will work as a team. The team charter can potentially be used in the team dynamics session.
- Students will complete a teambuilding assignment that will be provided at EDLAB.
- Students complete several online tests as part of their PDP assignment and coaching component.
- Students attend the mandatory workshop "Discover your Competences".
- Throughout PREMIUM, students attend 2 more mandatory workshops and 3 more elective workshops of their choice. The workshops may provide learning experiences or new developments relevant to the coaching process.
- Students fill out peer evaluations, on 3 different occasions, to be used by the coach as input for individual reflections, or the team dynamics meeting with the coach (or an intervention meeting with the mentor involved).
- Students plan a team dynamics meeting with their competence coach. The results of the reflective practitioner meeting that students by then ought to have had with their mentor, can be used during the team dynamics meeting.

### 3.6 CHALLENGES A COMPETENCE COACH WILL COME ACROSS

Being a PREMIUM competence coach will most often be a pleasant experience, seeing students expanding their horizon and working on their personal development under your guidance. However, there will also be challenges when working with such diverse teams and students that you need to be wary of.

- a. Excellence students are extremely motivated, which quite often results in their dedication to many diverse activities to build up their curriculum. This might also lead to stress and too much pressure for some students that a mentor will be faced with. We provide a workshop on Time Management within



PREMIUM that we recommend to these students. We also can offer some students an additional workshop on stress management.

- b. Trying to schedule (team) meetings with students from different faculties is a challenge in itself. While it is an excellent planning exercise for students, the reality is that many will find the planning aspect one of the greatest challenges in the programme.
- c. Team members may have different disciplinary backgrounds, different motivations and aspirations, and different cultural backgrounds. Effective collaboration relies in large part on interdisciplinary communication. Communication across disciplines is not easy. For example, implicit misunderstandings may arise concerning what is deemed a valuable question, what are valid data, what kind of result should emerge from the project and so on (Menken & Kestra, 2016). When performing under pressure, these differences might be a cause for friction within the team.
- d. Over time, team members' roles may change from being core (fully dedicated to the research goal) to peripheral (committed to this project, but also working in one or more other teams), and vice-versa. This may cause extra stress on students that stay fully committed. With PREMIUM it cannot be stressed enough that free-riding is unacceptable and will affect the student's assessment. Please be weary of such issues during the Team Dynamics meeting.
- e. Some students might show a level of resistance when it comes to coaching. The student may be passive, putting off your meetings or acting as if they are open to coaching but never actually changing their behaviour. Or they might be direct, making it clear they do not want your help. While this may be frustrating, you should not feel discouraged by this. Here are some techniques to use:
  - Understand the resistance: It's easy to assume the resistor is simply irrational or difficult, but there is typically a logical, perfectly reasonable explanation for how the person is behaving. Perhaps, the student does not trust you well enough yet. Also, coaching can sometimes be experienced as "not being good enough".
  - Be curious: Asking questions is also relevant. "How can we solve this problem together?" or "What do you feel is holding you back at this moment?" You can mention the resistant behaviour you have been observing so long as it is in a non-critical way that sparks candid discussion. For example, you could say: "I noticed that you rescheduled our meeting several times. I'd really like to work with you on this so what can I do to help you make this a priority or make you more comfortable tackling this issue?"
  - Show appreciation and build trust: To accept coaching is to make oneself vulnerable, so you need to show this particular student that you are worthy of trust. First, acknowledge the person's contributions, emphasize confidentiality and keep your word. Also, make sure you stay committed throughout the coaching process. Another way to build trust is to show that you will accept reasonable mistakes. Allow the student to analyse setbacks and failures and learn from them.

***If at any point you need support or advice on how to deal with a certain issue, please inform the PREMIUM Central Management Team at [premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl). We will gladly provide advice, intervene if necessary or connect you with other mentors who may be able to help you.***

### **3.7 A PREMIUM COACH'S ATTITUDE**

Your coaching role begins with your basic attitude; the attitude you have when you are working as a coach. No matter how you are going to coach – what methods and techniques you are going to apply – effective coaches always have a certain basic attitude. What do you need in order to be an effective coach?



### **1. Attention: pay attention and be there**

This is one of the main requirements for having a successful coaching meeting: you have to pay full attention and be there for the other person for the full 100%. 'Being there' means you have to clear your head and put your own worries, emotions, uncompleted tasks and conversations you have to hold neatly away in the drawer of your brain; you must only open the drawer of the other person. This also means that you should be in the 'here and now': you focus your attention on what *is*. If you feel you cannot fully be there for the other person, it is best to not have the coaching meeting at all.

### **2. Acceptance without judging**

To be there for someone else also means you accept the other person as they are without any judgment. You as coach may be aware of your own reactions and preconceptions but you will just have to park them and clear your head. Don't judge. Accepting the other person as s/he is and trying to understand their thinking and emotions is what makes a coaching meeting stand out from daily conversations, because true attention is rare. Your attitude communicates to the other person: 'I am trying to understand you.' Acceptance also means you have to accept yourself. You can only give something to someone else if you have it yourself. It is not until you can let go of your own judgments (and your own fear of failure) that you can be there for the other person. Acceptance does *not* mean that you do not make a judgment about what you hear, nor does it mean that you do not have an opinion of your own or that you do not interpret it in your own way. You must however be aware of the fact that the only important thing is the meaning the other person gives it.

### **3. Association with the story of the other person**

A coach needs to accept the other person as s/he is in order to be able to associate or identify with the subjective experience and way of thinking of the other person. Only then will a coach be able to do identify with them. Someone who has only just started coaching others often asks many questions at the beginning of the meeting, which turns the meeting into an interrogation and forces the student to follow you rather than the other way around. Following the other person in their story gives them the chance to tell their story in their own way, which will provide you with more information. It will also give you more time to observe their body language. Please note: Stopping the student if you no longer see the connection or if you feel that they are talking about distracting details is also a form of association (!)

### **4. Authenticity, realness**

Act as yourself, be yourself (there are plenty of others). Be aware of your own qualities, pitfalls and learning objectives. Do not play a role because you will not be able to keep that up. Know and acknowledge your own limitations. For example: *'I notice you continuously give evasive answers and I feel I'm getting annoyed by this.'* And you don't have to know everything. A coach doesn't need to have answers readily available, because a coach helps the other person with finding their answers.

## **3.8 SELF-DETERMINATION THEORY; ENHANCING OR UNDERMINING MOTIVATION**

PREMIUM students, as any human being, can be proactive and engaged or, alternatively, passive and alienated, largely as a function of the social conditions in which they develop and function.

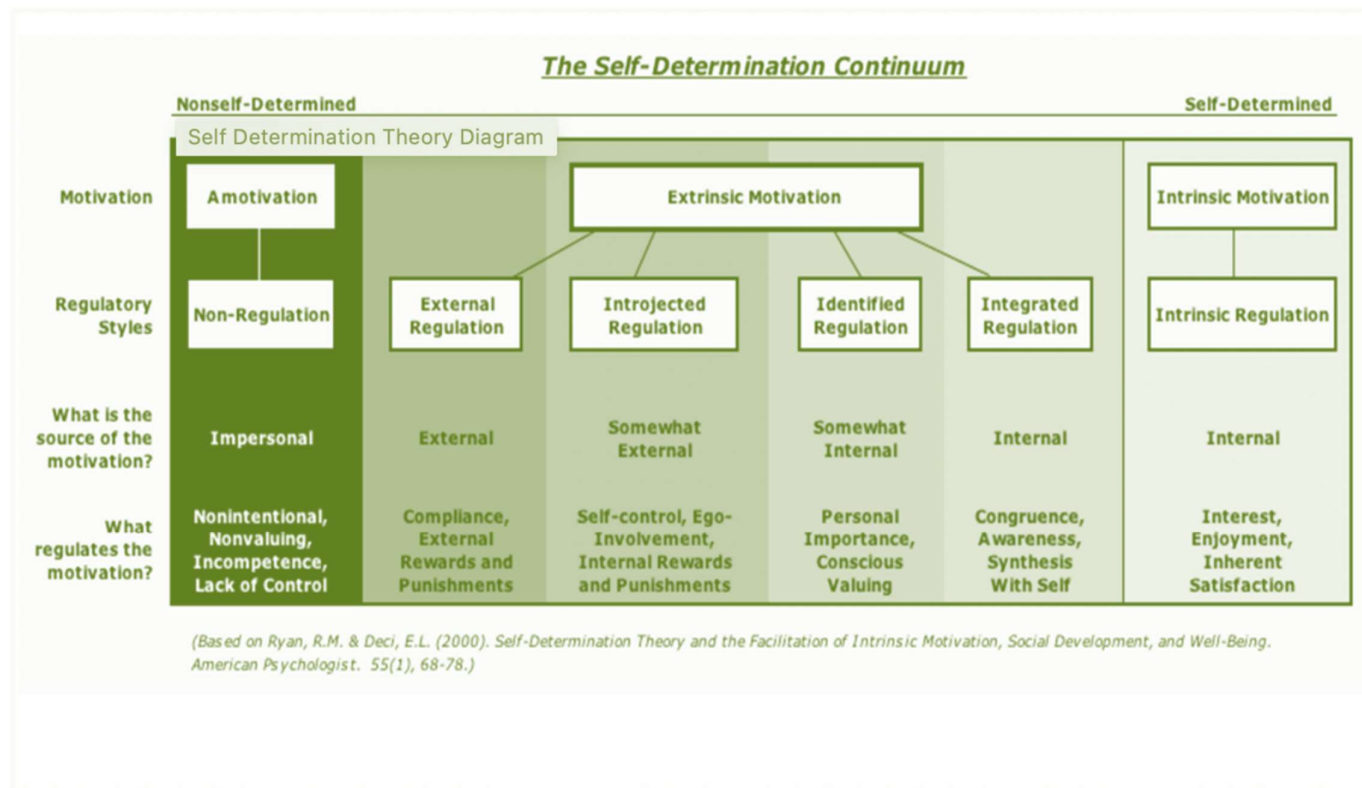
Accordingly, research guided by self-determination theory has focused on the social-contextual conditions that facilitate versus forestall the natural processes of self-motivation and healthy psychological development. Specifically, factors have been examined that enhance versus undermine intrinsic motivation, self-regulation, and well-being. The findings have led to the postulate of three innate psychological needs--competence, autonomy, and relatedness, which when satisfied yield enhanced self-motivation and mental health and when thwarted lead to diminished motivation and well-being. (Ryan, Deci 2000)

[https://selfdeterminationtheory.org/SDT/documents/2000\\_RyanDeci\\_SDT.pdf](https://selfdeterminationtheory.org/SDT/documents/2000_RyanDeci_SDT.pdf)



The figures below shows the types of motivation that you might potentially encounter in PREMIUM students somewhere during the programme. Initially, when selecting PREMIUM students, we aim to filter out only those students that are intrinsically motivated, but a student’s motivation may shift along the spectrum over the course of PREMIUM due to various reasons.

This Self Determination Theory is a tool to help you in signaling issues related to motivation, and to influence motivation in team members.

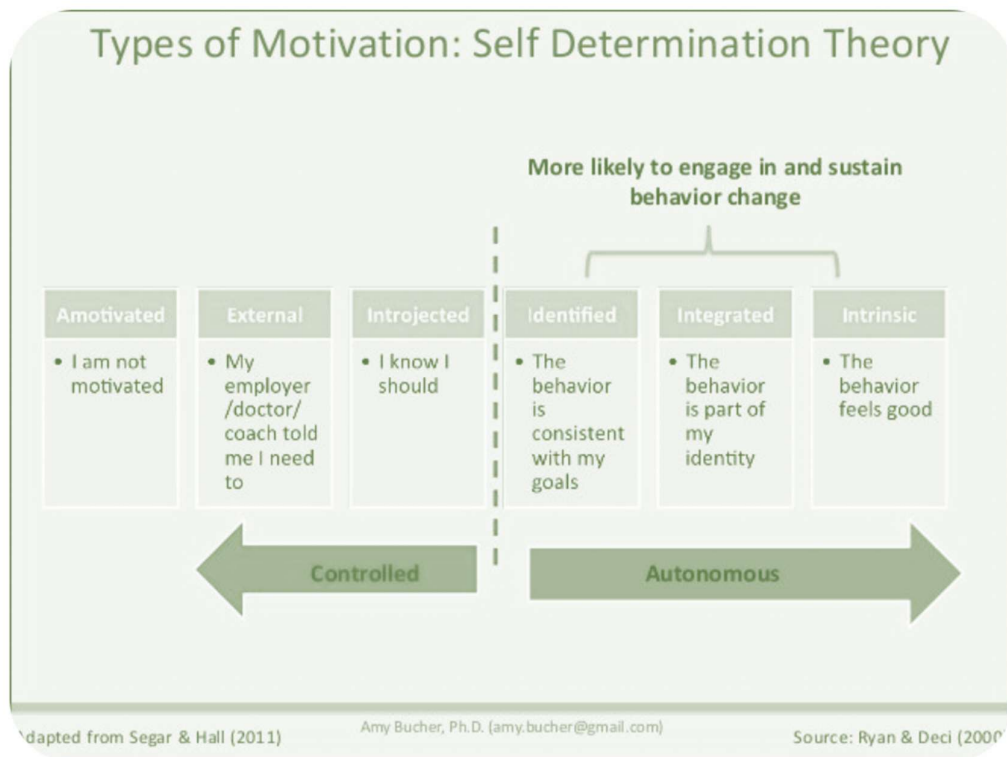


At the far left of the self-determination continuum is amotivation, the state of lacking the intention to act. When amotivated, people either do not act at all or act without intent--they just go through the motions. Amotivation results from not valuing an activity (Ryan, 1995), not feeling competent to do it (Bandura, 1986), or not expecting it to yield a desired outcome (Seligman, 1975).

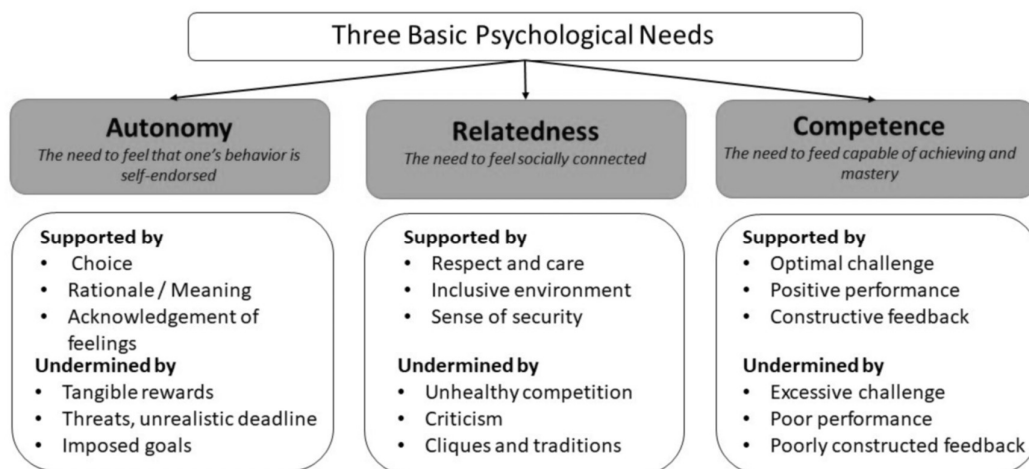
To the right of amotivation in the figure below are five classifications of motivated behavior. Although many theorists have treated motivation as a unitary concept, each of the categories identified describes theoretically, experientially, and functionally distinct types of motivation.

At the far right of the continuum is the classic state of intrinsic motivation, the doing of an activity for its inherent satisfactions. It is highly autonomous and represents the prototypic instance of self-determination (Ryan, Deci 2000).





Motivation can be stimulated by fulfilling three basic psychological needs.



### 3.9 LENCIONI'S THE FIVE DYSFUNCTIONS OF A TEAM

The [Five Dysfunctions of a Team](#) is a business book by consultant and speaker Patrick Lencioni first published in 2002. It describes the many pitfalls that teams face as they seek to "grow together". This book explores the fundamental causes of organizational politics and team failure, and might give practical guidelines on how to steer the process within your PREMIUM team by enhancing trust in your team.



# The FIVE Dysfunctions of a Team *by Patrick Lencioni*

Members of dysfunctional teams ...	Dysfunctions and ways to Overcome each one	Members of trusting teams ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stagnates/fails to grow</li> <li>Rarely defeats competitors</li> <li>Loses achievement-oriented employees</li> <li>Encourages team members to focus on their own careers and individual goals</li> <li>Is easily distracted</li> </ul>	<b>Inattention to <u>Results</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Public declaration of results</li> <li>✓ Results-Based rewards</li> <li>✓ Setting the tone for a focus on results from the leader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retains achievement-oriented employees</li> <li>Minimizes individualistic behavior</li> <li>Enjoys success and suffers failure acutely</li> <li>Benefits from individuals who subjugate their own goals/interests for the good of the team</li> <li>Avoids distractions</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates resentment among team members who have different standards of performance</li> <li>Encourages mediocrity</li> <li>Misses deadlines and key deliverables</li> <li>Places an undue burden on the team leader as the sole source of discipline</li> </ul>	<b>Avoidance of <u>Accountability</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Publication of goals and standards</li> <li>✓ Simple and regular progress reviews</li> <li>✓ Team rewards</li> <li>✓ Ability of leader to allow the team to serve as the first and primary accountability mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensures that poor performers feel pressure to improve</li> <li>Identifies potential problems quickly by questioning one another's approaches without hesitation</li> <li>Establishes respect among team members who are held to the same high standards</li> <li>Avoids excessive bureaucracy around performance management and corrective action</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates ambiguity among the team about direction and priorities</li> <li>Watches windows of opportunity close due to excessive analysis and unnecessary delay</li> <li>Breeds lack of confidence and fear of failure</li> <li>Revisits discussions and decisions again and again</li> <li>Encourages second-guessing among team members</li> </ul>	<b>Lack of <u>Commitment</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cascading Messaging</li> <li>✓ Deadlines</li> <li>✓ Contingency and Worst-case scenario analysis</li> <li>✓ Low-risk exposure therapy</li> <li>✓ Ability of leader to not place too high of a premium on consensus or certainty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates clarity around direction and priorities</li> <li>Aligns the entire team around common objectives</li> <li>Develops an ability to learn from mistakes</li> <li>Takes advantage of opportunities before competitors do</li> <li>Moves forward without hesitation</li> <li>Changes direction without hesitation or guilt</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have boring meetings</li> <li>Create environments where back-channel politics and personal attacks thrive</li> <li>Ignore controversial topics that are critical to team success</li> <li>Fail to tap into all the opinions and perspectives of team members</li> <li>Waste time and energy with posturing and interpersonal risk management</li> </ul>	<b>Fear of <u>Conflict</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mining for conflict</li> <li>✓ Real-Time Permission</li> <li>✓ Personality style and Behavioral Preference tools</li> <li>✓ Demonstration of restraint by leader when people engage in conflict</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have lively, interesting meetings</li> <li>Extract and exploit the ideas of all team members</li> <li>Solve real problems quickly</li> <li>Minimize politics</li> <li>Put critical topics on the table for discussion</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conceal their weaknesses and mistakes from one another</li> <li>Hesitate to ask for help or provide constructive feedback</li> <li>Hesitate to offer help outside their own areas of responsibility</li> <li>Jump to conclusions about the intentions and aptitudes of others without attempting to clarify them.</li> <li>Fail to recognize and tap into one another's skills and experiences.</li> <li>Waste time and energy managing their behaviors for effect</li> <li>Hold grudges</li> <li>Dread meetings and find reasons to avoid spending time together</li> </ul>	<b>Absence of <u>Trust</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Personal Histories Exercise</li> <li>✓ Team Effectiveness Exercise</li> <li>✓ Personality and Behavioral Preference Profiles</li> <li>✓ 360-Degree Feedback</li> <li>✓ Experiential Team Exercises</li> <li>✓ Demonstration of vulnerability first by leader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Admit weaknesses and mistakes</li> <li>Ask for help</li> <li>Accept questions and input about their areas of responsibility</li> <li>Give one another the benefit of the doubt before arriving at a negative conclusion.</li> <li>Take risks in offering feedback and assistance</li> <li>Appreciate and tap into one another's skills and experiences</li> <li>Focus time and energy on important issues, not politics</li> <li>Offer and accept apologies without hesitation</li> <li>Look forward to meetings and other opportunities to work as a group</li> </ul>

## 3.10 TOOLS AND GAMES AVAILABLE AT EDLAB

Always try to prevent any issues from escalating within the team. Give each other constructive feedback and respect each other's (cultural) differences. This goes for the students, but also for example for your client. Most issues arise when there is no clear communication and a good conversation and clear agreements more often than not will help to clear the air.

Sometimes a proper feedback session is needed to get the team back on track, clear the air, or just to see where you all stand as a team. Making time for such a session shows reflective skills and professionalism in teamwork.

In order to facilitate such a session, EDLAB has a large variety of tools, games and instruments available that you may use or borrow for a session. Below two examples, but we have many more!

- [Feedback<sup>3</sup>](#) is a set of 7 cubes that will help make your feedback session easier, more natural and fun! Each of the cubes addresses a topic that should be addressed when talking about the team process, ensuring that all of the important issues will be discussed. The actual 7 cubes, and a booklet that provides you with the rules and guidelines for this session, can be found on the PREMIUM website (current student section under "Documents").

[Beeld & Box](#): Each image card contains a photo that evokes associations and thoughts. The strength of this tool lies in its many application possibilities. Working with the image cards is recommended for anyone looking for a way to visualize thoughts and processes and share them with others.



## CHAPTER 4: COACH AND MENTOR TRAINING PROGRAMME

PREMIUM organizes a yearly series of professional workshops and supporting activities for competence coaches and project mentors, with the following objectives in mind:

- Establishing uniformity in coaching approaches and techniques for the students (minimum level of quality the students can and may expect);
- Establishing uniformity in techniques for project mentors to support the students in an appropriate manner in their project execution (minimum level of quality the students can and may expect);
- Offering a platform for exchange of experiences and best practices;
- Facilitating the drive of professionals to grow in their coaching skills;
- Facilitating the drive of professionals to grow in their role as mentor.

We believe that the knowledge, skills and techniques learned in this programme, are not only useful in the context of PREMIUM but can be transferred to a wider range of professional working environments, such as tutoring students with their thesis or supporting students in the execution of group assignments.

Therefore, this programme for competence coaches and project mentors in PREMIUM can be beneficial for more students than just those participating in PREMIUM and the organization itself.

An overview of this year's available trainings, and a registration link can be found on the PREMIUM Coaches and Mentors website: <https://edlab.nl/excellence/premium/premium-coaches-and-mentors/>

Of course, you will also be kept updated via email.

*After having participated in the required number of workshops and activities, coaches and mentors will receive an **official certificate** signed by UM's rector, stating they have been active as a PREMIUM coach or mentor and participated in the training programme described in this document. Besides that, these trainings may **count towards your CPD**, depending on your personal development goals, in discussion with your supervisor or manager.*



## **CHAPTER 5: COMPENSATION**

Competence coaches and project mentors receive compensation in hours for their participation in PREMIUM.

- Competence coaches receive 4 hours per student they coach and 2 hours for a workshop with the project team (just the students) on team dynamics. With an average of 4 students per competence coach, the coach receives 18 hours compensation in total.
- Project mentors receive 30 hours per project team.

The standardized and maximized compensation fee is € 75 per hour.

We need to follow your faculty regulations in this (transferring the compensation either to the faculty appointed budget number or to a personal budget number, or solver hours/BROS).


We require an honours mentality of our students, and needless to say, we ask the involved project mentors and competence coaches to display exemplary behaviour. Meaning that you partake in the training programme elements, guide the students to your best knowledge and communicate regularly with the PREMIUM Central Management Team.



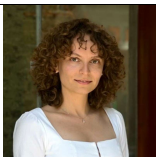




## **CHAPTER 6: CONTACT INFORMATION**

For information that cannot be found in this handbook, please contact the PREMIUM Central Management Team or the PREMIUM Coordinator at your faculty.

### **PREMIUM Central Management Team**

EDLAB		043 388 41 73	Fabienne Crombach, Senior Coordinator  premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl
EDLAB			Tania Topa, Coordinator  premium@maastrichtuniversity.nl

### **PREMIUM Faculty Coordinators**

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FPN		Sanne ten Oever sanne.tenoever@maastrichtuniversity.nl
FASOS		Ike Kamphof i.kamphof@maastrichtuniversity.nl
FHML		Jascha de Nooijer j.denooijer@maastrichtuniversity.nl



## APPENDIX I: TEAM KICK-OFF MEETING CHECKLIST

Description	Done!	Remarks
<b>Mentor introduction:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide some information on your personal background (e.g. where you grew up, hobbies, personality traits).</li> <li>• Provide some information on your academic background;</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Coach introduction:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide some information on your personal background (e.g. where you grew up, hobbies, personality traits).</li> <li>• Provide some information on your academic background;</li> </ul>		
<b>Students' introduction:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide some information on your personal background (e.g. where you grew up, hobbies, personality traits).</li> <li>• Provide some information on your academic background;</li> <li>• What would you like to learn/improve?</li> <li>• What strengths do you have that can contribute to the functioning of your PREMIUM team?</li> <li>• What do you believe to be your added value to the team and project?</li> <li>• What do you need from your team members/mentor/client in order to thrive in this team?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Expectations:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does the mentor expect from the students?</li> <li>• What does the competence coach expect from the students?</li> <li>• What do the students expect from this project and programme and the Mentor?</li> <li>• What do the students expect from the competence coach?</li> <li>• What do you all consider to be the criteria/elements of a perfect team?</li> <li>• What does every individual need from the team to improve/optimize their individual contribution?</li> <li>• Set basic rules for behaviour within the team;</li> <li>• How to proceed if someone last-minute cannot attend a scheduled meeting;</li> <li>• How will you all ensure an equal division of tasks?</li> <li>• How will the team ensure expected contributions and performance levels?</li> <li>• How will the team deal with free-riders?</li> <li>• How will the team deal with members who perform poorly?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Team:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dividing of roles among the team members. Who will be responsible for what activities (e.g. responsibilities of the discussion leader, presenter, scribe and other team members; backup roles, etc.)?</li> <li>• What are your preferred working styles, particularly in relation to teamwork? An example of working styles is listed below as a guideline (Belbin 1996): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Leader</i>: clarifies goals, coordinates resources.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Completer/Finisher</i>: searches out errors, keeps a feeling of urgency in the team, and delivers on time.</li> <li>○ <i>Implementer</i>: translates concepts into practical plans.</li> <li>○ <i>Monitor/Evaluator</i>: sees all options, evaluates ideas, judges correctly.</li> <li>○ <i>Plant</i>: proposes new ideas, solves difficult problems.</li> <li>○ <i>Resource investigator</i>: explores opportunities, handles external contact.</li> <li>○ <i>Shaper</i>: gives coherence to team work, overcomes obstacles.</li> <li>○ <i>Specialist</i>: provides scarce knowledge and skills.</li> <li>○ <i>Team worker</i>: builds bridges, fosters team spirit, and calms rough waters.</li> <li>• Discussion of the potential schedule for the meetings and planning.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Communication:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of the ways of communication with each other and the mentor, coach and client;</li> <li>• The frequency of communication;</li> <li>• Provision of feedback (how to do it).</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



## APPENDIX II: GUIDELINE FOR SETTING UP A BUDGET

### (Preliminary) Budget

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Team:		
<b><u>Expense:</u></b>	<b><u>€</u></b>	<b><u>Remarks:</u></b>
Team building	....	Costs for activity (dinner with team)
Printing	....	Poster for end presentation
Catering	....	Providing catering for client meeting
Unforeseen	....	
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>€ 150,00</b>	

Date:.....

Approved by project mentor:

.....

<b><u>Transportation Expense:</u></b>	<b><u>€</u></b>	<b><u>Remarks:</u></b>
Travel expenses client	....	Meeting client, forth and back x 2
Travel expenses other	....	
<b>Total Budget:</b>	<b>€ .....</b>	

Date:.....

Approved by client:

.....



## APPENDIX III: TEAM CHARTER

Research on team performance shows that high-quality team charters (written plans for how the team will manage its activities) are positively related to team performance.<sup>2</sup>

Drafting a team charter increases team members' knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses within the team, helps to create shared expectations, and facilitates the establishment of effective group practices for dealing with high and poor performance.

A team charter is a strategic framework that helps team members to kick off projects and align on common vision. It is made to smoothly start collective projects, let people learn about each other and accumulate enough momentum to get going.

### The PREMIUM team charter has two parts

- **Part 1: The individual charter**

In the individual part you answer a number of questions about yourself and your expectations with respect to the performance of your PREMIUM team. Part 1 is to be filled out by each team member individually prior to the first team meeting.

- **Part 2: The team charter**

In the team part, you discuss together your team roles, expectations and processes. You fill out the team charter as a group during your first team meeting, and **submit it to your competence coach and project mentor directly after the meeting.**

- *Note: we advise you to refer back to your initially made agreements throughout the course of your project, to see if you are still as a group adhering to these agreements and values.*

### Suggestion for setup of team session to fill out the team component

- Duration: 30-45 minutes
- Materials:
  - Download a Team Canvas<sup>3</sup> via the [PREMIUM documents page](#), and project it on a (online) whiteboard or print it on a big enough piece of paper.
  - Blocks of sticky notes, one for each participant, different colours;
  - Sharpies or markers to write on stickies (use thick enough pens so everyone can see the writing);
  - A device with a timer function.

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<sup>2</sup> Mathieu, J. E., & Rapp, T. L. (2009). Laying the foundation for successful team performance trajectories: The roles of team charters and performance strategies. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 94(1), 90-103. doi:10.1037/a0013257

<sup>3</sup> <https://theteamcanvas.com/learn/>



- Go through each step with the team, making sure you ask the questions for each segment. Encourage people to write their answers on stickies and talk about them with the team. Make sure to agree on all fields. Your individual answers will provide input for these answers.
- Use timer for each step (max 10 minutes per step) to apply some time pressure so the team really focuses on getting to the point in each section discussion. If some conversations take rather long time or seem to touch upon bigger issues, consider parking those questions, and plan a separate meeting to address them specifically.
- Once you have agreed on every component, fill out the team component of the charter.
- Wrap up (5 minutes): talk about one single most important insight that each team member gained during this activity. Afterwards you will need to reflect on this in your Personal Development Plan (PDP) as well.
- **IMPORTANT:** there are no good or wrong answers here. Everyone's opinion is equally valuable and justified, and necessary to lay the foundation of good team functioning. Try to be supportive, have an open mind, but also do not be afraid to ask (critical) questions.

## Part 1: Individual preparation

Please fill out this part of the team charter **individually, before meeting with your team.**

During the first team meeting, you will share your answers with the group, and they form the basis of the team component.

<i>Your individual profile</i>	
1. <b>People &amp; Roles:</b> Please provide some information on your personal background (e.g. where you grew up, what courses you have followed, hobbies, personality traits).	
2. <b>People &amp; Roles:</b> What are your preferred working styles, particularly in relation to teamwork? Please refer to the Belbin team roles.	
3. <b>Goals:</b> What do you consider the criteria/elements of a perfect team?	
4. <b>Personal Goals:</b> What aspect of your personal agenda would you like to open up? (examples: availability conflict during certain period, motive for joining PREMIUM etc)	
5. <b>Purpose:</b> Why did you prefer this particular project? What expertise and knowledge can you see that might be of use here?	
6. <b>Strengths &amp; Assets:</b> What strengths do you have that can contribute to the functioning of your PREMIUM project group?	



7. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b> What do you need from the team to improve/optimize your individual contribution?
8. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Development areas:</b> What aspect of personal and/or professional development would you like to work on during PREMIUM?
9. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Development areas:</b> What do you feel your team members, coach or mentor should know about you?
<i>Your expectations regarding the team</i>
1. <b>Goals:</b> What would you ideally like to achieve as a team in this project?
2. <b>Values:</b> What are values that you would like to be at the core of your team? (examples: honesty, relationships, teamwork, profitability, and passion)
3. <b>Purpose:</b> What do you feel is the purpose and relevance of your team in this project?
4. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b> What would make this team successful? How is that measured?
5. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b> What would you expect from your team member's work ethic? For example, showing up on time, turning off mobile phones, indicating when members will miss a meeting, equal contribution.
6. <b>Rules &amp; Action points:</b> What rules would you introduce as standard in your team with respect to accountability? (examples: how do we address free-riding, what is considered free-riding, how do we hold each other accountable)
7. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> How do you prefer to make decisions in your team, even when working under stress?
8. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> How do you prefer to communicate in a team and ensure all stakeholders and team members are updated?
9. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Developments areas:</b> What obstacles for your team do you believe your team might likely come to face?



## Part 2: Team roles, expectations and processes

In Part 1, each student answered the questions individually. During the team meeting, the idea is to come up with collective answers/decisions for all questions/themes.

<i>Team performance</i>	
1. <b>People &amp; Roles:</b>	Team name
2. <b>People &amp; Roles:</b>	Roles we have in the team
3. <b>Purpose:</b>	Why are we doing what we are doing in the first place?
4. <b>Goals:</b>	What do we want to achieve as a group?
5. <b>Goals:</b>	What are our key goals that are feasible, measurable and time-bounded?
6. <b>Personal Goals:</b>	What are our individual personal goals?
7. <b>Personal Goals:</b>	Are there personal agendas that we want to open up?
8. <b>Values:</b>	What do we stand for, what are our guiding principles?
9. <b>Values:</b>	What are our common values that we want to be at the core of our team?
10. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b>	What does each of us needs to be successful in this team?
11. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b>	What are our personal needs towards the team to be at our best?
12. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b>	What work ethic do we expect from each other?
13. <b>Needs &amp; Expectations:</b>	How do we ensure our team is a safe space for all team members? How do we build trust? How do we go about holding each other accountable without compromising the safe space?



14. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> What are the exact rules we want to introduce after doing this session?
15. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> How do we communicate and keep everyone up to date?
16. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> How do we make decisions?
17. <b>Rules &amp; Action Points:</b> How do we execute and evaluate what we do? Think of celebrating achievements, overcoming setbacks. What is considered a success, a setback etc?
18. <b>Strengths &amp; Assets:</b> What are the skills we have in our team that will help us achieve our goals?
19. <b>Strengths &amp; Assets:</b> What are interpersonal/soft skills we have?
20. <b>Strengths &amp; Assets:</b> What are we good at, individually and as a team?
21. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Development Areas:</b> What are the weaknesses we have?
22. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Development Areas:</b> What should our team members, client, coach or mentor know about us?
23. <b>Weaknesses &amp; Development Areas:</b> What are some obstacles we see ahead of us that we are likely to face, and how do we propose to overcome them?



# The Team Canvas

Version 1.0 | English | [theteamcanvas.com](http://theteamcanvas.com)

Most important things to talk about in the team to make sure your work as a group is productive, happy and stress-free

TEAM NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PEOPLE &amp; ROLES</b> What are our names and the roles we have in the team?	<b>GOALS</b> What we want to achieve as a group? What are our key goals that are feasible, measurable and time-bounded?	<b>VALUES</b> What do we stand for? What are guiding principles? What are our common values that we want to be at the core of our team?	<b>RULES &amp; ACTION POINTS</b> What are the rules we want to introduce after doing this session? How do we communicate and keep everyone up to date? How do we make decisions? How do we execute and evaluate what we do?
<b>PURPOSE</b> Why are we doing what we are doing in the first place?			
<b>PERSONAL GOALS</b> What are our individual personal goals? Are there personal agendas that we want to open up?		<b>NEEDS &amp; EXPECTATIONS</b> What each one of us needs to be successful? What are our personal needs towards the team to be at our best?	
<b>STRENGTHS &amp; ASSETS</b> What are the skills we have in the team that will help us achieve our goals? What are interpersonal/soft skills that we have? What are we good at, individually and as a team?	<b>WEAKNESSES &amp; DEVELOPMENT AREAS</b> What are the weaknesses we have, individually and as a team? What our teammates should know about us? What are some obstacles we see ahead us that we are likely to face?		



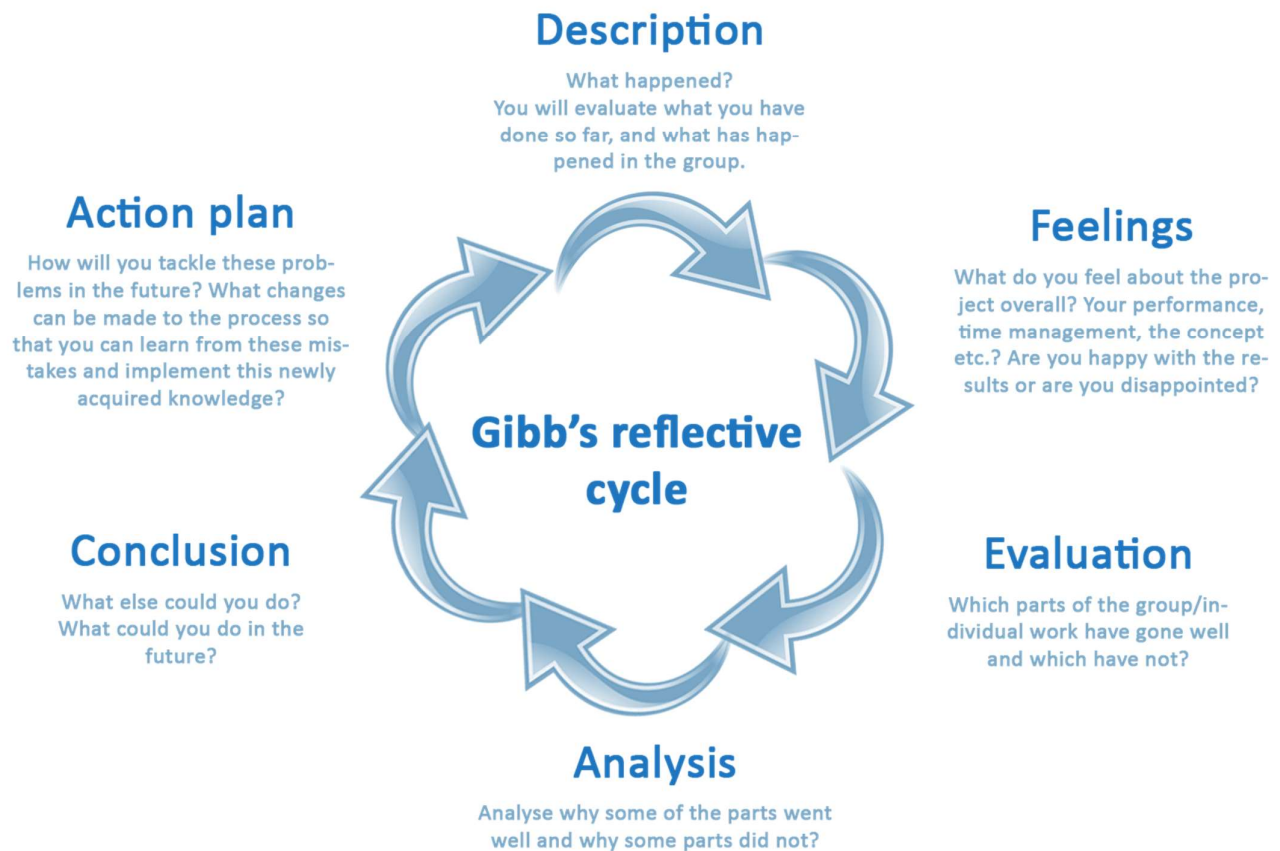
## APPENDIX IV: GIBB'S SELF-ASSESSMENT FORM ON REFLECTIVE PRACTICES

Please, fill out this form individually and send it to your project mentor before the midterm and closing evaluations meeting. Do not forget to reflect on your process of reflection in the PDP.

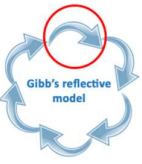

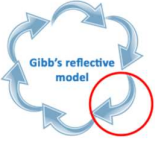
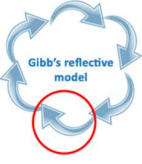
Note: this reflection form is focused on your work on the content of the project and the process of completing your project.

You can also voluntarily use the reflection form as a basis during Team Dynamics meeting with your coach, or your personal competence coaching aspect of the programme.

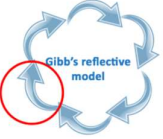
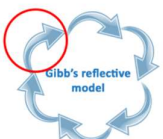
This form is based on Gibb's reflective cycle to help you explore and analyse the practices you perform:





	Individual part	Team part
<b>Description</b>  	<b>Midterm Reflective Practitioner Meeting:</b> What have you done so far? What happened with your project within the first half of the programme?	
	<b>Closing Meeting:</b> What has your added value been to the project? What happened with your project during the second half of the programme? What happened with your action plan as defined in the previous meeting?	
<b>Feelings</b>  	How do you feel about the project overall? About your performance, contribution to the project etc.?	How do you feel about the team performance and the development of the project from the team's perspective?
<b>Evaluation</b>  	Which parts of the individual work have gone well and which have not? If everything went well, evaluate what factors contributed to this success.	Which parts of the group work have gone well and which have not? If everything went well, evaluate what factors contributed to this success.
<b>Analysis</b>  	What analysis have you done based on your evaluation? Which parts went well, which parts didn't and why?	What analysis have you done based on your evaluation? Which parts went well, which parts didn't and why?



<b>Conclusion</b>  	What could you have done in order to prevent certain matters?  What qualities do you appreciate in your team members and what can you learn from them?	What could have been done by your team in order to prevent certain matters?  What qualities do you appreciate in your team members and what can you learn from them post-PREMIUM?
<b>Action plan</b>  	<u>Midterm Meeting:</u> What are you going to do next? How will you tackle these problems in the future?  How will you take into account the feedback you received during your Midterm presentation?  <u>Closing Meeting:</u> How will you tackle these problems in the future?	<u>Midterm Meeting:</u> What is your team going to do next? How will you tackle these problems in the future with your team?  How will you take into account the feedback you received during your Midterm presentation?  <u>Closing Meeting:</u> How will you tackle these problems in the future within a team setting?



## APPENDIX V: PEER EVALUATIONS

In PREMIUM, we try to provide students with an individual learning process aimed towards growth and development. Both the project mentor and competence coach assess students as individuals on not just the outcome of the project, but even more so on the process. However, since students work in teams on their project, it may result difficult for a mentor or a coach to get a clear insight into the individual performance and development of each individual team member within a team.

Therefore, in PREMIUM, we request students to participate in peer evaluations on set moments.

These peer evaluations may reveal participation issues, but also personal achievements of individual group members, that the coach or mentor might not otherwise know about. Completing peer evaluations allows groups to assess how they can improve and develop during their time in their PREMIUM team. It can also provide a starting point for constructive discussions and reflections on how the group is functioning in general, and how every individual is contributing to and benefitting from the team process. This system of peer evaluations encourages thus as well teamwork, positive interdependence, and individual accountability.

Below we have formulated a rubric to allow for such a moment of peer evaluations. Filling out a rubric for each member of the group can help mentors and coaches to assess individual contributions to the group and the individual's role as a team player.

### Instructions

1. For each category of Part 1, rate each team member and yourself using the 4-point scale given. Please think hard, honest and fair about each of the categories. How did you and each group member perform? It is not necessary that everyone get the highest score on each item. Different people will have different strengths and different contributions.
2. Below the rating, there is a space for comments. Please include examples or explanations that will help the mentor or coach understand your ratings.
3. Please do your evaluations independently – do not share or discuss your scoring, nor come to a decision based on a group opinion. We want an honest opinion from each of you, based on your perceptions and experiences.
4. Answer the open questions of Part 2. Only your answers to the last three open questions are to be shared back with your team members (not the scoring), but fully anonymized. Learning how to formulate constructive feedback is also part of the learning process that is PREMIUM, so we encourage you to use this opportunity to think of how your feedback may best benefit your team member and your team's process in general. The rubric scoring is only for the mentor and the coach to get further insights into everyone's individual contribution to the team and process of development.
5. Submit one form for each person, including yourself, with your name and the assessed person's name on each form to **both your PREMIUM project mentor and competence coach**, before the stated deadlines in the handbook
6. Your mentor anonymizes each time the answers to the last three open questions, and sends them back to the corresponding team members, to reflect upon and discuss in a team meeting, the reflective practitioner meeting with the mentor, or the Team Dynamics session with the coach.

### Part 1: Fill in this rubric for each team member and yourself

Your scoring of each team member will not be shared with the team. It is only to be shared with the project mentor and competence coach.



<b>Skills</b>	<b>Score: 4</b> <b>Advanced - exceeds expectations</b>	<b>Score: 3 Competent - meets expectations</b>	<b>Score: 2</b> <b>Progressing – does not fully meet expectations</b>	<b>Score: 1</b> <b>Beginning - does not meet expectations</b>
<b>Contributions &amp; Attitude</b>	Always cooperative. Routinely offers useful ideas. Always displays positive attitude.	Usually cooperative. Usually offers useful ideas. Generally displays positive attitude.	Sometimes cooperative. Sometimes offers useful ideas. Rarely displays positive attitude.	Seldom cooperative. Rarely offers useful ideas. Is disruptive.
<b>Cooperation with Others</b>	Did more than others. Highly productive. Works extremely well with others.	Did own part of workload. Cooperative. Works well with others.	Could have shared more of the workload. Has difficulty. Requires structure, directions, and leadership.	Did not do any work. Does not contribute. Does not work well with others.
<b>Focus, Commitment</b>	Tries to keep people working together. Almost always focused on the task. Is very self-directed.	Does not cause problems in the group. Focuses on the task most of the time. Can count on this person.	Sometimes focuses on the task. Not always a good team member. Must be constantly reminded to keep on task.	Often is not a good team member. Does not focus on the task. Lets others do the work.
<b>Team Role Fulfillment</b>	Participates in all group meetings. Assumes a very constructive role in the team. Does the work that is assigned by the group.	Participates in most group meetings. Does most of the work assigned by the group.	Participates in some group meetings. Does some of the work assigned by the group.	Participates in few or no group meetings. Does little or no work assigned by the group.
<b>Ability to Communicate</b>	Always listens to, shares with, and supports the efforts of others. Provides effective feedback. Relays a lot of relevant information, builds bridges.	Usually listens to, shares with, and supports the efforts of others. Sometimes talks too much. Provides some effective feedback. Relays some basic information that relates to the topic.	Often listens to, shares with, and supports the efforts of others. Usually does most of the talking. Rarely listens to others. Provides little feedback. Relays very little information that relates to the topic.	Rarely listens to, shares with, or supports the efforts of others. Is always talking and never listens to others. Provides no feedback. Does not relay any information to teammates.
<b>Accuracy</b>	Work is complete, well organized, error-free, and done on time or early.	Work is generally complete, meets the requirements of the task, and is mostly done on time.	Work tends to be disorderly, incomplete, inaccurate, and is usually late.	Work is generally sloppy and incomplete, contains excessive errors, and is mostly late.
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>				
<b>Notes and Comments:</b>				



## Part 2: Please answer these questions for each team member

Your mentor anonymizes these answers, and sends them back to the corresponding team members, to reflect upon and discuss in a team meeting, the reflective practitioner meeting with the mentor, or the Team Dynamics session with the coach.

- 1) What action has this team member taken that was helpful for the group?
- 2) What action could this team member take to make the group more effective?
- 3) What is something I can learn from my team member?

*Gueldenzoph, L. E., & May, G. L. (2002). Collaborative peer evaluation: Best practices for group member assessments. Business Communication Quarterly, 65(1), 9-20.*

*Johnston, L., & Miles, L. (2004). Assessing contributions to group assignments. Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education, 29(6), 751-768.*

*Oakley, B., Felder, F. M., Brent, R., & Elhajj, I. (2004). Turning student groups into effective teams. Journal of Student Centered Learning, 2(1) 9-34.*



## APPENDIX VI: FROM STUDENT TO PROFESSIONAL

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In order to help you get the most out of your PREMIUM experience, we wish to provide you with guidelines and an explanation of assets we believe will enable you to go from being a student to being a professional. At PREMIUM, we believe that facilitating *a learning environment closely resembling the professional work environment* is the most effective way to get you ready for entering the job market and starting your professional career soon. However, this only works if PREMIUM students make use of this simulated environment adequately.

### THE PREMIUM STUDENT PROFILE

While PREMIUM offers you a unique development opportunity, the level at which you benefit from participating in PREMIUM relies heavily on your own input and motivation.

#### **Apart from having strong academic capabilities, the ideal PREMIUM student:**

- is serious about their commitment and ready to go the extra mile;
- has impeccable time management skills or the drive to develop them;
- is able to adopt and internalize a highly professional attitude;
- is a flexible, exceptionally reliable, and people-oriented team player;
- is eager to learn, grow, and work on personal/professional development;
- sees complex problems as an exciting challenge;
- is result-oriented and able to form views, ideas, and concepts based on complex information and has the capability to construct conceptual frameworks or models;
- is able to present ideas and information concisely and convey them appropriately to the target group.

We realize this list may be somewhat daunting, but no worries! As you have been selected to participate in PREMIUM, Central Management believes you fulfil the requirements to become a PREMIUM student. To clarify, this means we either believe you possess the above mentioned qualities, or possess the drive to put effort into developing them. Perhaps the PREMIUM student profile may also inspire your goals for your competence coaching trajectory.

### PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOUR

Throughout PREMIUM, you will be meeting and working with external clients, UM employees, fellow master's students, the PREMIUM Central Management Team, and other (external) professionals. All PREMIUM students are expected to behave in a polite and professional manner towards all parties involved with PREMIUM. Think of PREMIUM as your introduction to the professional work environment and use every available opportunity to hone your professional skills. You will soon find that maintaining a courteous and professional demeanor in both concord and conflict will go a long way and always enable you to achieve the desired results.

#### **Guidelines for professional behaviour:**

- Communicate politely and respectfully with everyone at all times.
- Take your commitments seriously and be a reliable team player.
- Give and receive feedback in a strictly constructive manner.
- Always aim to resolve any sort of conflict in a fair, constructive and effective manner.
- Be honest and ethical.

#### **Examples of unprofessional behaviour:**

- Showing up late (or not at all) or unprepared at (team) meetings, or cancelling on the last minute.
- Cancelling workshops last minute without a valid reason.
- Letting conflicts escalate, get out of hand, or arguing in a disrespectful manner.
- Lying, making excuses, or talking about someone behind their back.
- Informal or rude communication.



## EMAIL ETIQUETTE

While email has most likely not been the most essential means of communicating as a student, it is very likely it will soon become very important to your daily interchanging of important information. Most jobs come with an inbox that is prone to fill up every single day. Email often simply is the easiest and most reliable way to communicate in many cases. Likewise, email is also very important in PREMIUM. You will have contact with your teammates, mentor, coach, client, and the PREMIUM Central Management Team over email. Please take the guidelines for email etiquette into account when communicating through email.

- **Check your inbox every single day.** Preferably several times a day. Often, your immediate response is appreciated or even required. Manage your time wisely by blocking specific moments in your agenda for checking your email.
- **Always address your recipient appropriately** (Dear ...). Sometimes it is good to address your recipient according to the specific role you wish to address them in. For example, when we email you, we might address you with “Dear PREMIUM student”. That way you immediately know the following message pertains to you being a PREMIUM student.
- **Be sure to finish your email with a polite and friendly sign off**, such as kind regards, sincerely, etc.
- **Always include a clearly defined subject.** For example, don’t put “question” in the subject line, but shortly describe what your question is about or other important features of your message. Your recipient should immediately get an idea of what your email is about. If a response is requested, it sometimes helps the recipient respond faster if you mention it in the subject.
- **Try not to forget to actually attach an attachment.** The operative word being “try”, because it sometimes still happens to the best of us!
- **If you are replying, write a reply.** When replying to a message that was sent to you, reply to that email in an actual reply to that email instead of a new or old email to that person. That way, it is easier for both parties to remember what was discussed or asked before and how your reply relates to it.
- **Use the CC and BCC functions, but use them appropriately.** If a message to your project mentor might be interesting to your team members add them in the CC. That way, you are all (quite literally) on the same page. That being said, be selective and try not to bother anyone with information that is not necessarily important for them. Also, be aware not to expect or ask an answer from people you added in the CC. If you do, you should send the message to them directly to avoid confusion. The BCC email function is reserved for when you wish to include someone to your recipient list but you do not want any other recipients to see the email was sent to your BCC recipient. For example, this comes in handy when emailing a large group of people.
- **Create an email signature in outlook.** In your signature, include your name, student ID, contact information, and other important information that might help the person you are emailing identify or contact you.
- **Introduce yourself.** Imagine that the person you are emailing has 100 emails coming in each day. It saves them a lot of work if you *communicate clearly*. Introducing yourself is not only important when contacting someone for the first time, but also in continued contact.

Generally, the most important piece of advice we can give you with regards to email etiquette (and other aspects of professional communication and cooperation) is to **not only refrain from causing another more work, but to spare them work if you can, especially when requesting something**. If you send somebody an email with a request, make sure they have all the information they need to fulfil your request. For example, if you email your mentor about a certain document your client provided you with, simply attach the document to the email once more so that your mentor can simply click to open it and answer your question instead of having to look up the document first. Even if the document was sent or exchanged with your mentor earlier as well, it is often considered very thoughtful to include it once more.

Another example is to suggest some date/time/place options when trying to plan a meeting with someone. That way, the other person simply has to check their availability for your suggestions. While it might not seem like a big deal to quickly look up some information in order to reply to your email, seconds spent looking things up add up quickly in the day. What is also beneficial is that the easier your question is to answer, the faster you will likely receive a reply. Lastly, your recipient will appreciate you for being concise, clear, and thoughtful, and that is always a good thing!



## APPENDIX VII: BASIC EMOTIONS

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Emotions are not only essential in life; they also give colour to it. Without them, life would be very dull. Emotions work closely together with your cognitive information processing system to steer yourself, the world and others. The five basic human emotions are fear, sadness, happiness, love and anger. Although our emotions can be tricky and inconvenient at times, they can also be our key to more insight into ourselves.

<b><u>Sadness</u></b>  <b><u>(sad, disappointed, mourning, lonely, abandoned)</u></b>	Sadness is a reaction to loss. This loss can either be great (e.g. the loss of a loved one) or small (e.g. an unkind word from a colleague). Sadness shows us the things we find important in life. After all, you only experience a sense of loss (however small) when it's something that matters to you, in whatever way.
<b><u>Fear</u></b>  <b><u>(scared, wary, tension, panic)</u></b>	Fear is a sign that there is danger. Our attention span is heightened and we are able to react quicker. Fear makes us alert. In our society, danger can also mean 'failure', 'the risk of losing something' (e.g. your job).
<b><u>Anger</u></b>  <b><u>(irritation, anger, aggression)</u></b>	As soon as someone feels anger, they know they have reached their limits. The first light irritation is a sign that someone has entered 'your territory'. Anger does not only protect us, it also gives us the strength to mark our territory. If someone crosses our boundaries, anger will give us the energy we need to 'restore order'. By not indicating our boundaries we will only bottle up our anger (which will eventually lead us to having an anger outburst).  It is also possible that someone is mad at themselves!
<b><u>Happiness</u></b>  <b><u>(pleasure, cheerful, positive energy, happy)</u></b>	Joy is a clear signal that something is happening that is important to us and gives us positive energy. A lot of people are in search of 'a more satisfying and meaningful life'. This emotion (in all its forms) gives a clear message. What makes you happy in your work? When did you have a good day; what happened? These are good questions for people who are in search of more balance and meaning in their lives.
<b><u>Love</u></b>  <b><u>(friendship, affection, connection/solidarity)</u></b>	Love connects people. It makes us feel attracted to someone (and it makes us want to reproduce, raise our children etc.). We want to feel connected, not just with our partner and children but also with our friends, colleagues and neighbours. This emotion also gives us more insight into ourselves. If you have enough love and connection in your life, you will have a positive self-image. People with low self-esteem often have more difficulty with loving and being loved than people who do appreciate themselves. It is often said that you cannot love someone else until you love yourself.



## APPENDIX VIII: THE 24/7 STUDENT OR THE PERFECT STUDENT

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### The 24/7 student:

The student works hard, is ambitious and always busy.

### The 'perfect' student:

The student that does not see any areas for personal development and improvement, they can be arrogant and a know-it-all.

### How to recognize the 24/7 student:

- Stressed
- Tense
- Task lists
- No time
- Over(re)acting
- Tired
- Well-organized
- Controlling
- Cannot prioritize
- Lack of focus
- Eating habits
- Body language
- Request to develop: time management; working more efficiently
- Worried about what others think of them
- Future oriented
- Task oriented
- Avoids feedback
- Takes control
- Grade/ result oriented
- Will not set boundaries
- Expresses self-criticism
- Experiences the feeling that 'nothing is good enough'

### Underlying motives

Fear of failure/ rejection

Low self-worth

Low self-esteem

Uncertainty

Needs to be loved

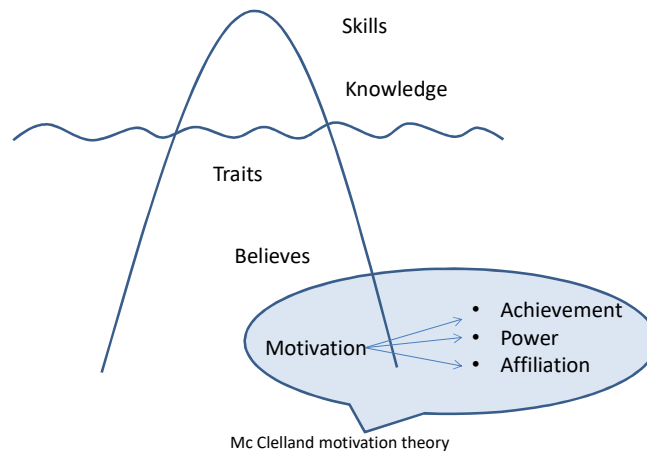
Not being good enough.

Time/money pressure

Peer pressure

Need for development/appreciation

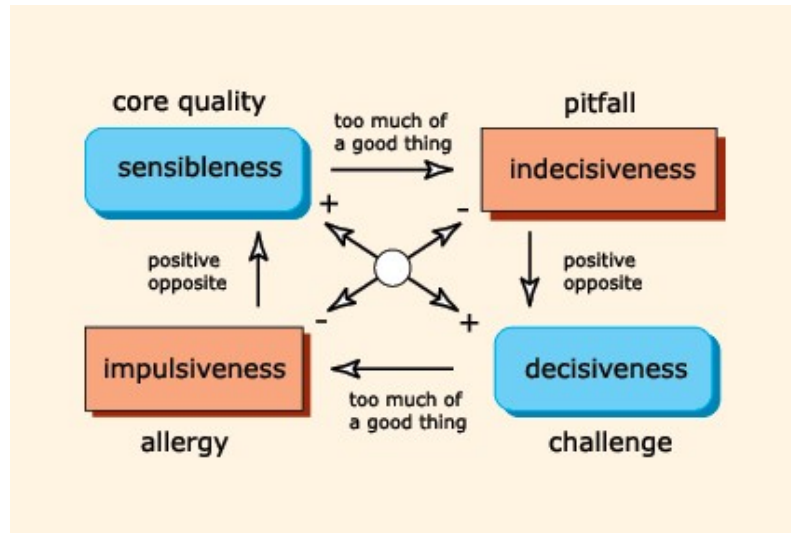
Over commitment/responsible



### How can you coach perfectionism?

There are many ways to coach a perfectionist. The choice for a certain approach will depend on the person and the circumstances. Below you will find examples of two different methods:





### Questions to ask when using Core Qualities

- What is the core quality?
- What irritates you in others?
- What information does this provide you?
- If you are overdoing something, are there many benefits to you in the end? What is then the quality of this? (this is the pitfall)
- What are the risks if the core quality is overdone? / Too much
- What is the core quality of the allergy
- What is the positive opposite of the pitfall?

### Time management

What are the three most important things to you in life?

If you focus on work; what are the three most important things to you?

How do you spend your time? Is this in line with your three most important things?

If not, what can you change?

The following is an exercise to give insight into the way we misuse time.

“Do we do the right things for ourselves?” vs “Do we do the right things for others?”

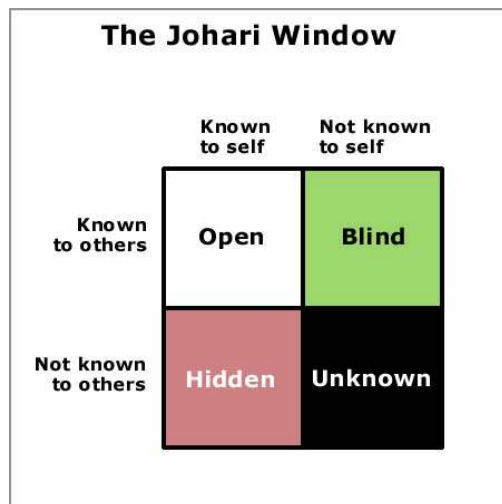
It is important to make sure that you do not forget to spend time on things that are important to you.

**Video cast:** Work – life balance: <https://mu.lms.crossknowledge.com/interfaces/login.php>, competence stress resistance, step 2

### The “perfect” student

These students often are not aware of their development possibilities.





Use 360° feedback

Use the core quality's to discover

Use STARR to reflect on a specific situation

Use openings as:

What is worrying you at night?

What are you proud of?

What is your biggest dream?

#### **Talk with self instead of mind (unorthodox method)**

Groundings exercises; walking, meditating (let them breath 3 times will also get them to relax)

Use drawing to let the subconscious rise

Use different perspectives

Use cards, there are a lot of different card-sets available; these are some examples;

*Core quality (kernkwadranten), insight, the book of answers, angel cards and many more. You will find them in reform shops like "Tuinen"; bookshops and esoteric shops,*



## APPENDIX IX: INTERMISSION ON TEAM DYNAMICS

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### QUESTIONNAIRE *INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION ON TEAM DYNAMICS*

*Each student has 15 minutes to fill out this questionnaire individually.*

<b>What were your expectations as a team regarding...</b>
1. Meeting attendance (showing up on time, turning off mobile phones, indicating when members will miss a meeting)
2. Participation quantity and quality
3. Cooperation
4. Attitudes
<b>Team performance</b>
5. What worked well within the team?
6. How did you reward team members for successes?
7. How did you ensure the expected contributions and performance levels of the team?
8. Did you have to deal with members who performed poorly? How did you do this?
9. How did you deal with free-riders, if any?
10. What aspects would you like the team to improve on?



## NEW AGREEMENTS

<b>New agreement 1 : ...</b>	
<b>Specific</b>	
<b>Measurable</b>	
<b>Acceptable</b>	
<b>Result oriented</b>	
<b>Time bound</b>	
What are the expected obstacles?	
To overcome these we will need the following:	
How will we know if we have been successful?	

<b>New agreement 2 : ...</b>	
<b>Specific</b>	
<b>Measurable</b>	
<b>Acceptable</b>	
<b>Result oriented</b>	
<b>Time bound</b>	
What are the expected obstacles?	
To overcome these we will need the following:	
How will we know if we have been successful?	



## APPENDIX X: MIRRORING

---

Mirroring is a form of summarising that we can use to examine an issue more closely.

We communicate on three levels;

- physically, i.e. body language
- tone: what tone of voice is used?
- words: what do the words express?

Mirroring is a reflection of your observations on these three levels. You put your own feelings and thoughts on the issue aside, and try to translate the other person's words, tone and body language into your own words.

### **Mirroring verbally:**

- Someone says enthusiastically: I live in a great house! Mirroring: You really enjoy living in your house!
- Someone says in a bored tone: I live in a nice house. Mirroring: You can imagine living in a nicer house.

Mirroring is a way of translating the **verbal and nonverbal** input of the other person into your own words. Thus, there is more to it than just summarising. You reflect not only the content of the conversation but also its meaning for the other person and their non-verbal communication; that is, the way they feel about this topic.

If you use this technique well, it can help the other to clarify their thoughts and feelings behind the issue and identify what is really going on, thus serving as a step forward in finding a solution.

### **Functions of mirroring:**

- to give the other person attention and understanding
- to encourage the other to provide more information
- to focus the conversation and prevent you from straying off track
- to give feedback
- to make the situation more relaxed
- to promote a problem-solving approach.

### **Nonverbal mirroring**

If the other person displays a particular attitude and you mirror this quite visibly, this can invite further dialogue and a deeper understanding of what they are feeling. By doing so, you show that you have a strong sense of what the other is communicating verbal as well as nonverbally, and you raise the other's awareness of their own (sometimes subconscious) body language.



## APPENDIX XI: REIMBURSEMENT

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Below, we provide you with the reimbursement process guidelines that are provided to students in the PREMIUM student handbook.

As explained, all PREMIUM teams can be reimbursed up to a maximum of € 150 project-related costs (excl. transportation costs) after the programme. In order to apply for reimbursement, follow the following steps.

**Please read all instructions very carefully.** If you have any questions, contact your project mentor. If they are unsure, contact the PREMIUM Central Management Team. Wrongly completed reimbursement forms will cause delays or no reimbursement at all.

- 1) You have emailed a preliminary budget, approved by your project mentor (and client) to the PREMIUM Central Management Team, before the deadline.
- 2) You have collected all original receipts over the course of PREMIUM.
- 3) Email the realized budget approved by your project mentor and client (include them in CC!) to the PREMIUM Central Management Team.
- 4) Download the reimbursement forms from the [www.edlab.nl/premium](http://www.edlab.nl/premium) website.
- 5) Fill out the forms correctly.
- 6) Submit the forms at EDLAB.

### THE FORMS

Download the reimbursement forms from the [www.edlab.nl/premium](http://www.edlab.nl/premium) website. Note that there are two separate reimbursement forms, each for a different purpose.

- **Claimform business trip expenses:** this form is for reimbursement of travel costs. For example, did you have to take a train to visit your client at their office? Or fly to and stay the night at a hotel in Berlin to attend an important meeting with your client? Fill out this form to be reimbursed for any and all necessary expenses made to travel during project execution.
- **Claimform other expenses:** this form is for reimbursement of everything else. Did you go to dinner as a teambuilding effort? Or perhaps you had to grab a quick lunch on your way back home from meeting the client? Printing a poster, hiring a freelancer? Fill out this form to be reimbursed for any and all necessary expenses made to enable project execution.

### HOW DO I FILL OUT THE REIMBURSEMENT FORMS?

The UM Finance department is very strict about reimbursement forms and there are a couple of rules you are required to follow when completing the forms.

- 1) **Use the correct forms** and fill them out appropriately (travel expenses separated from everything else).
- 2) Always include **original receipts**.
- 3) **No original receipt = no reimbursement**.

All teams should assign one, single team member to file for reimbursement. The reimbursement will be paid out to this student after which you have to divide the money amongst the team members yourself. You may not send in more than one of each form per team. The team member, who will be responsible for handling the reimbursement, should fill out the reimbursement form as follows.



**Personal details:**

Family name and initials	Last Name, A.B.	Personnel no	700 (leave this field empty)
Address	Vrijthof 1A	BSN/Sofinr. (social security number)	12345678 (dutch BSN is 8 or 9 digits)
Postal code and city	1234 AB	IBAN nr. *)	Enter your Dutch IBAN or international bank account number
Country	The Netherlands	BIC nr. *)	Enter your Bank's Identification Code
Sex	M/F	Name Bank	Bank
Date of birth	01/01/1990	Address Bank	Vrijthof 2
Nationality	Dutch		1234 AB, Maastricht

Fill out the form using a computer to avoid mistakes due to unclear handwriting. Most importantly, **be sure to check your bank account number very carefully**. Submitting a form with the wrong bank account number causes delays or no reimbursement at all.

Next, describe the costs. Refer to both what you paid for and the store/restaurant/company it was paid to. List the costs in chronological order. The included receipts may be numbered according to the order on the declaration form (for example, mark the receipt from your lunch at Brasserie Tapijn with a 1).

**Description of other expenses**

	Date	Description expenses	Amount
1	01-01-16	Team lunch at Brasserie Tapijn	€ 50,00
2	02-02-16	Office supplies at Hema	€ 20,50
3	11-06-16	Printing poster at Océ	€ 45,95
4			€
5			€
6			€
7			€
8			€
9			€
10			€
Total			€ 116,45

For travel expenses, make sure you enter the correct information in the designated area. Note that the reimbursement rate for kilometers is € 0,19 per km. This is the standard rate, maintained for everyone at the entire university. Again, be specific and refer to the context in which the costs were made. Add everything up correctly at the bottom of the form (be sure to check it over). You may group costs together in one line. For example, if you travelled by train to Heerlen with your whole team, write "6 x meeting client in Heerlen" and indicate the total amount.

Again, we advise you to fill out this part of the form on a computer to avoid mistakes due to unclear handwriting.



**Travel expenses own transport:**

Date	Number of km/ Rate	Description/Destination/Reason for Travel	Amount (EUR)
02-02-16	50 à € 0,19	Meeting client in Heerlen	€ 9,50

**Travel expenses public transport (train, taxi, bus, airplane etc.)**

Date	Description/Destination/Reason for Travel	Amount	Currency	Amount (EUR)
02-03-16	Meeting client in Heerlen	11,28	Euro	€ 11,28

**Other cost:**

Hotel expenses				
01-04-16, Hotel Ibis Berlin, 1 night, 2 rooms	100	Euro	€ 100	

Other expenses				
02-03-16, Parking costs Heerlen	5,00	Euro	€ 5,00	

The person who filled out the reimbursed forms (so whose name is stated at the top of the form) has to sign the forms in the area shown below.

I here by declare that I have completed this form truthfully.	Date	Signature
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Lastly, the area shown below is for the PREMIUM Central Management Team to sign. You should **not** fill out any field below “Agreed by the budgetholder/Mandated”.

**Agreed by the budgetholder/Mandated**

Name	_____	Signature	_____
Budgetnumber	_____	Faculty/Department	_____
Permanent position	50	Date	_____

**INCLUDING YOUR RECEIPTS**

Now that you have completed the forms, include your original receipts. Please note that proof of payments (betaalbewijzen) from ATM machines is not admissible as receipts as they don't indicate what you paid for and there is no way for us to know what the receipt is for.

**Please make sure your receipts are attached securely.** Staple the receipts to the forms or to a separate sheet of paper. **Make a copy of your original receipts, just in case.** Also, put your forms and receipts in an envelope to make sure everything is kept together.

**SUBMITTING THE FORMS**

In order to hand in the forms, **deliver them to EDLAB or ask your mentor to send them to us through internal mail.** The PREMIUM Central Management Team will check over your forms, sign them, and send them to the Finance department for processing.

**HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?**

If you do not hear from the PREMIUM Central Management Team or the UM's Finance department regarding your reimbursement application, you may assume that everything is O.K. and that you will be receiving the reimbursement soon. Generally, you will not hear from us and the reimbursement will eventually show up in your account. Please note that the entire reimbursement process may take up to a month or two.



