# Assignment

optional, but warmly recommended
Please sign up for participating! (deadline Sunday Sept 8, 21h)
https://forms.gle/caQeMZqHZVQs1k1B8

## Coordination

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## Rationale

Most of you are working on a research project in the field of recommender systems – for instance, in scope of your thesis or for some other smaller or larger research project/study. Shaping one's research goal, asking the right questions, and going the right paths to answer these questions are challenging. We want to support you – hands on – in this endeavor and help applying what you learn throughout the summer school week right away.

## Tutoring sessions

Throughout the week, we will organize tutoring sessions where senior researchers will help students shaping (and formulating) their research goals, asking the right research questions, and how to test and evaluate those questions. In each session, one senior researcher (one of the teachers in the summer school) will tutor a small group of 5-6 students. The first two sessions are scheduled on Monday and Tuesday 17-18h at the venue. Other sessions are still to be decided.

## Preparation task

Pick **one specific** research project that you currently work on or want to start soon. (If you are in a late phase of your current project, we recommend to think of the to do next; e.g., a question left open in your current work and that you want to address in a next step.)

Please, reflect on your **research goal** and the **one** (or maximum 2) **research question**(s) that you aim to answer.
1) Please **sign up** for the tutoring session via Google forms until Sunday night (8 September, 21h).
2) **Write down** your **research goal** in 3 sentences as concise as possible.
3) Formulate and **write down** the **research question** (or the 2 questions) that you aim to answer.
Try to be concise, targeted, and "to the point"!

4) Submit your research goal and questions via the form (so that we can prepare and assign the groups). (deadline Sunday Sept 8, 21h) https://forms.gle/caQeMZqHZVQs1k1B8

5) Have 2-3 print copies of your text with you in the sessions – just in case!

## Outcome

The document (with the research goal and the research question(s)) is your starting point. The tutoring sessions will help you to shape and concisely express the research goal, and to find appropriate questions and fitting paths to answer these questions.

## Further benefit

The document (and potential revised versions that you come up with during the first couple of days of the summer school) will serve as a great basis for the Friday afternoon session by Christine Bauer on "Answering the right questions: Leveraging multiple methods to answer what you were looking for". Moreover, during the tutor sessions you get the chance to discuss research with your peers and one of the teachers in the school, exchanging experiences, and developing your network.