Bachelor Thesis

The state of research on information systems failure - A review and classification of extant literature

Although the information systems discipline appears quite mature, the rate of information systems failures remains relatively high. Several studies (such as the popular one by Standish Group) show that many IS projects have failed in terms of budget or schedule overruns and/or for not meeting users’ requirements. Thus, a better understanding of information systems failure seems to be of importance for IS researchers and practitioners alike. While a lot of research on information systems success has been published in the IS field during the last decades, the topic of information systems failure seems to be under-researched.

The thesis’ main objective is to analyze the current state of research on information systems failure. Therefore, the student is expected, first, to identify the current state of knowledge in the field of information systems failure and, second, to structure this knowledge into a conceptual map or framework. The literature review approach should follow established guidelines for reviewing and synthesizing literature (Cooper, 1998, Webster & Watson, 2002). Eventually, the thesis should result in a research agenda indicating future research opportunities in the field of information systems failure.

Recommended Literature: