Subject-specific Examination Regulations for Robotics and Intelligent Systems (Fachspezifische Prüfungsordnung)

The subject-specific examination regulations for Robotics and Intelligent Systems are defined by this program handbook and are valid only in combination with the General Examination Regulations for Undergraduate degree programs (General Examination Regulations = Rahmenprüfungsordnung). This handbook also contains the program-specific Study and Examination Plan (Chapter 6).

Upon graduation, students in this program will receive a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree with a scope of 180 ECTS (for specifics see Chapter 6 of this handbook).

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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>V1.3 Changes in “Admission Requirements” and “Internship / Startup and Career Skills”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contents

1 Program Overview.................................................................................................................. 1
  1.1 Concept.......................................................................................................................... 1
    1.1.1 The Jacobs University Educational Concept .......................................................... 1
    1.1.2 Program Concept ..................................................................................................... 1
  1.2 Specific Advantages of Robotics and Intelligent Systems at Jacobs University ............ 2
  1.3 Program-Specific Educational Aims............................................................................... 3
    1.3.1 Qualification Aims.................................................................................................. 3
    1.3.2 Intended Learning Outcomes................................................................................. 4
  1.4 Career Options .............................................................................................................. 4
  1.5 Admission Requirements .............................................................................................. 5
  1.6 More Information and Contact..................................................................................... 6

2 The Curricular Structure...................................................................................................... 7
  2.1 General .......................................................................................................................... 7
  2.2 The Jacobs University 3C Model................................................................................... 7
    2.2.1 Year 1 – CHOICE ................................................................................................. 7
    2.2.2 Year 2 – CORE ..................................................................................................... 8
    2.2.3 Year 3 – CAREER ............................................................................................... 9
  2.3 The Jacobs Track .......................................................................................................... 12
    2.3.1 Methods and Skills Modules................................................................................. 12
    2.3.2 Big Questions Modules ....................................................................................... 13
    2.3.3 Community Impact Project ................................................................................. 13
    2.3.4 Language Modules .............................................................................................. 13

3 Robotics and Intelligent Systems as a Minor..................................................................... 14
  3.1 Qualification Aims ........................................................................................................ 14
    3.1.1 Intended Learning Outcomes................................................................................ 14
    3.2 Module Requirements ............................................................................................... 14
    3.3 Degree ....................................................................................................................... 14

4 Robotics and Intelligent Systems Undergraduate Program Regulations ....................... 15
  4.1 Scope of these Regulations .......................................................................................... 15
  4.2 Degree ........................................................................................................................ 15
  4.3 Graduation Requirements ........................................................................................... 15

5 Schematic Study Plan for Robotics and Intelligent Systems ........................................... 16

6 Study and Examination Plan ............................................................................................. 17
7.33.3 Community Impact Project ............................................................. 121
7.33.4 Language Modules ......................................................................... 123

8 Appendix ........................................................................................................ 124

8.1 Intended Learning Outcomes Assessment-Matrix ............................... 124
1 Program Overview

1.1 Concept

1.1.1 The Jacobs University Educational Concept

Jacobs University aims to educate students for both an academic and a professional career by emphasizing four core objectives: academic quality, self-development/personal growth, internationality and the ability to succeed in the working world (employability). Hence, study programs at Jacobs University offer a comprehensive, structured approach to prepare students for graduate education as well as career success by combining disciplinary depth and interdisciplinary breadth with supplemental skills education and extra-curricular elements.

In this context, it is Jacobs University’s aim to educate talented young people from all over the world, regardless of nationality, religion, and material circumstances, to become citizens of the world who are able to take responsible roles for the democratic, peaceful, and sustainable development of the societies in which they live. This is achieved through a high-quality teaching as well as manageable study loads and supportive study conditions. Study programs and related study abroad programs convey academic knowledge as well as the ability to interact positively with other individuals and groups in culturally diverse environments. The ability to succeed in the working world is a core objective for all study programs at Jacobs University, both in terms of actual disciplinary subject matter and also to the social skills and intercultural competence. Study-program-specific modules and additional specializations provide the necessary depth, interdisciplinary offerings and the minor option provide breadth while the university-wide general foundation and methods modules, mandatory German language requirements, and an extended internship period strengthen the employability of students. The concept of living and learning together on an international campus with many cultural and social activities supplements students’ education. In addition, Jacobs University offers professional advising and counseling.

Jacobs University’s educational concept is highly regarded both nationally and internationally. While the university has consistently achieved top marks over the last decade in Germany’s most comprehensive and detailed university ranking by the Center for Higher Education (CHE), it has also been listed by the renowned Times Higher Education (THE) magazine as one of the top 300 universities worldwide (ranking group 251-300) in 2019, 2020 and 2021.

The THE ranking is considered as one of the most widely observed university rankings. It is based on five major indicators: research, teaching, research impact, international orientation, and the volume of research income from industry.

1.1.2 Program Concept

Robotics and intelligent systems are more and more present in everyday life. Artificial intelligence and Machine learning are at the forefront of today’s interconnected society. Automation with some sort of embedded intelligence is now the norm rather than the exception. This program covers engineering methods and technologies that are relevant for freeing artificial mobile systems from permanent human supervision, to enable systems to perform autonomous intelligent operations. Application areas include the automotive and transport industries, robotics and automation, communication technologies, marine technology, and logistics.
Hands-on experience with technical systems and methods is provided in first-class labs across the entire program.

During the first year, the foundations of the program are laid out, with programming courses, algorithms, and a comprehensive introduction to robotics and intelligent systems. The second year represents the core of the educational offering of the program, with courses focused on Robotics Systems (Robotics, Machine Learning), Automation and Control (Automation, Embedded Systems, Control Systems), and Intelligent Systems (Computer Vision, Artificial Intelligence). The RIS Lab and RIS project will complement the theoretical education, with use of both robotics simulators and real systems. During the third year, based on their specific interests and career goals, students can choose a variety of specialization courses to complement the core education in depth or breadth. Because robotics science is rooted in mathematics, students will take math methods modules covering calculus, linear algebra, probability theory, and numerical methods or discrete mathematics.

The job market for roboticists and experts in intelligent systems is increasing continuously, and all indications point to the growth of the sector in the near future. Because of the rapid changes in the field, it is important to focus the education on fundamental principles and in subfields of promising future relevance. Cross-disciplinary breadth and flexibility, as well as social and work organization skills are increasingly important. The minor option allows the combination of the education in robotics and intelligent systems with a different discipline, facilitating a cross-disciplinary specialization. The academic qualifications and personal profiles for academic and industrial careers differ. Jacobs University's Robotics and Intelligent Systems program responds to the needs in both areas by offering a core Robotics and Intelligent Systems track designed for students who plan to join the industry, work in / found a start-up, or join graduate programs. A minor track allows students to obtain basic skills in specific application domains, which makes them well suited to work in specific industrial sectors.

1.2 Specific Advantages of Robotics and Intelligent Systems at Jacobs University

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems is positioned in the School of Computer Science & Engineering. It has been designed with an interdisciplinary approach, incorporating concepts from various engineering disciplines such as Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Logistics.
- Although programs on Automation, Robotics, and Mechatronics exist in other universities, what makes Robotics and Intelligent Systems stand out is that, in addition to covering the aforementioned areas, it puts a special emphasis on the key concepts of Intelligence and Autonomy, which are important for the man-made systems of the future. Hence, students are given a solid background in fields such as Control Systems, Machine Learning, and Computer Vision.
- The Robotics and Intelligent Systems program is geared toward the world-renowned automation and robotics industry in Germany. As confirmed by keyword-searches on popular job-portals, engineers with additional skills in Vision, Machine Learning, and Robotics are much sought after by the well-established German and European automobile industry. A mandatory internship during the summer before the fifth semester allows students to gain industrial experience and make contacts for potential future job opportunities.
- Cooperation with universities abroad allows ample choice for students interested in studying a semester abroad.
• The Robotics@Jacobs initiative is a unique program to bring undergraduate students close to robotics systems, working with a variety of platforms. State-of-the-art, high-end equipment includes systems working in land, aerial, and marine domains, ranging from underwater robots to autonomous driving, and from humanoids to drones.
• Based on their performance and interest, students can team up and participate in robotics competitions, e.g., the European Robotics League, receiving support and guidance from faculty members.
• Many faculty members have research groups that are well-funded by European Union (EU) and German Research Foundation (DFG) projects. Hence, ample opportunities exist for students to get involved and gain research experience.

1.3 Program-Specific Educational Aims

1.3.1 Qualification Aims

The main subject-specific qualification aim is to enable students to take up qualified employment in modern industries involving robotics, autonomous systems, machine learning, artificial intelligence, or to enter related graduate programs. Graduates of the Robotics and Intelligent Systems program have obtained the following competencies:

• Robotics and Intelligent Systems competence
Graduates are able to design and develop autonomous systems in a given application scenario, addressing both electrical engineering and computer science aspects. They can analyze, structure, and properly address complex problems. Graduates have the ability to construct and maintain complex robotics systems using a structured, analytic, and creative approach.

• Communication competence
Graduates are able to communicate subject-specific topics convincingly in both spoken and written form to fellow roboticists, experts in intelligent systems, industrial or academic colleagues, as well as to current and potential customers.

• Teamwork and project management competence
Graduates are able to work effectively in a team and to organize workflows in complex development efforts. They are familiar with tools that support the development, testing, and maintenance of complex intelligent systems and they can take design decisions in a constructive way.

• Learning competence
Graduates have acquired a solid foundation enabling them to learn effectively and to stay up to date with the latest developments in the fast-changing field of robotics and intelligent systems.

• Personal and professional competence
Graduates are able to develop a professional profile, justify professional decisions on the basis of theoretical and methodical knowledge, and critically on reflect their behavior, also with respect to its consequences for society.
During the design of the program, national guidelines published by the Gesellschaft für Informatik (GI) (GI: Empfehlungen für Bachelor- und Masterprogramme im Studienfach Informatik an Hochschulen, July 2016) and international guidelines published jointly by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) (ACM/IEEE: Computer Science Curricula 2013, December 2013) have been consulted.

1.3.2 Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, students will be able to

- design basic electronics circuits
- think in an analytic way at multiple levels of abstraction
- develop, analyze and implement algorithms using modern software engineering methods.
- demonstrate knowledge of kinematics and dynamics of multi-body systems
- design and develop linear and nonlinear control systems
- design basic electronics circuits
- examine physical problems, apply mathematical skills to find possible solutions and assess them critically
- show competence about operational principles of motors and drives
- design and develop machine learning algorithms and techniques for pattern-recognition, classification, and decision-making under uncertainty;
- design and develop computer vision algorithms for inferring 3D information from camera images, and for object recognition and localization
- model common mechanical and electrical systems that are part of intelligent mobile systems
- design robotics systems and program them using popular robotics software frameworks
- use academic or scientific methods as appropriate in the field of Robotics and Intelligent Systems such as defining research questions, justifying methods, collecting, assessing and interpreting relevant information, and drawing scientifically founded conclusions that consider social, scientific, and ethical insights
- develop and advance solutions to problems and arguments in their subject area and defend these in discussions with specialists and non-specialists;
- engage ethically with the academic, professional, and wider communities and to actively contribute to a sustainable future, reflecting and respecting different views;
- take responsibility for their own learning, personal, and professional development and role in society, evaluating critical feedback and self-analysis;
- apply their knowledge and understanding to a professional context;
- work effectively in a diverse team and take responsibility in a team;
- adhere to and defend ethical, scientific, and professional standards.

1.4 Career Options

Career options include areas such as research and development or management tracks in the automotive and transport, robotics and automation, communication technologies, marine technology and logistics industries. Given the increasing need for automation of daily life tasks through intelligent mobile systems, there is a significant number of career options in addition to the core options that are covered in the program.
The Robotics and Intelligent Systems program matches scientific content with real-world use cases. This is a strength of the Jacobs offering, to introduce students to real-world applications.

Field trips to and participation in robotics competitions significantly contribute to bringing students closer to the market and to real challenges, in addition to being an excellent opportunity for professional networking.

Companies which hired recent graduates of the IMS program (Intelligent Mobile Systems, the former name of RIS) include Cambio CarSharing Deutschland, Daimler AG, Klöckner Desma GmbH, Objective Software GmbH, and Ubimax.

Several graduate programs have offered a position to IMS students, including the Master in Artificial Intelligence, offered by Università‘ della Svizzera Italiana (Switzerland), the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree on Advanced Robotics, offered by Centrale Nantes (France), University of Genoa (Italy), Warsaw University of Technology (Poland), and Jaume I University (Spain), as well as the Master in Robotics, offered by Heriot-Watt University (Scotland, UK).

The Career Services Center (CSC) as well as the Jacobs Alumni Office help students in their career development. The CSC provides students with high-quality training and coaching in CV creation, cover letter formulation, interview preparation, effective presenting, business etiquette, and employer research, as well as in many other aspects, thus helping students to identify and follow up rewarding careers upon graduation from Jacobs University. Furthermore, the Alumni Office helps students to establish a long-lasting and worldwide network that represents an important asset when exploring job options in academia, industry, and elsewhere.

1.5 Admission Requirements

Admission to Jacobs University is selective and based on a candidate’s school and/or university achievements, recommendations, self-presentation, and performance on required standardized tests. Students admitted to Jacobs University demonstrate exceptional academic achievements, intellectual creativity, and the desire and motivation to make a difference in the world.

The following documents need to be submitted with the application:

- Recommendation Letter
- Official or certified copies of high school/university transcripts
- Educational History Form
- Standardized test results (SAT/ACT) if applicable
- ZeeMee electronic resume (optional)
- Language proficiency test results (TOEFL, IELTS or equivalent)

Formal admission requirements are subject to higher education law and are outlined in the Admission and Enrollment Policy of Jacobs University.

For more detailed information about the admission visit: https://www.jacobs-university.de/study/undergraduate/application-information
1.6 More Information and Contact

For more information please contact the study program chair:

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli
Professor of Marine Systems and Robotics
Email: f.maurelli@jacobs-university.de
Telephone: +49 421 200-3111

or visit our website: https://www.jacobs-university.de/ris/
### 2 The Curricular Structure

#### 2.1 General

The curricular structure provides multiple elements for enhancing employability, interdisciplinarity, and internationality. The unique Jacobs Track, offered across all undergraduate study programs, provides comprehensive tailor-made modules designed to achieve and foster career competency. Additionally, a mandatory internship of at least two months after the second year of study and the possibility to study abroad for one semester give students the opportunity to gain insight into the professional world, apply their intercultural competences and reflect on their roles and ambitions for employment and in a globalized society.

All undergraduate programs at Jacobs University are based on a coherently modularized structure, which provides students with an extensive and flexible choice of study plans to meet the educational aims of their major as well as minor study interests and complete their studies within the regular period.

The framework policies and procedures regulating undergraduate study programs at Jacobs University can be found on the website ([https://www.jacobs-university.de/academic-policies](https://www.jacobs-university.de/academic-policies)).

#### 2.2 The Jacobs University 3C Model

Jacobs University offers study programs that comply with the regulations of the European Higher Education Area. All study programs are structured according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates credit transfer between academic institutions. The three-year undergraduate program involves six semesters of study with a total of 180 ECTS credit points (CP). The undergraduate curricular structure follows an innovative and student-centered modularization scheme - the 3C-Model - that groups the disciplinary content of the three study years according to overarching themes:

- **Year I: CHOICE**
  - Students have the CHOICE to decide on their major after the first year of study.

- **Year II: CORE**
  - Students study the CORE elements of their major and may choose a minor.

- **Year III: CAREER**
  - Students enhance their CAREER skills and prepare for the job market, graduate school, and society.

![Figure 1: The Jacobs University 3C-Model](image)

#### 2.2.1 Year 1 – CHOICE

The first study year is characterized by a university-specific offering of disciplinary education that builds on and expands upon the students’ entrance qualifications. Students select introductory modules for a total of 45 CP from the CHOICE area. The Academic Advising Coordinator offers curricular counseling to all Bachelor students independently of their major, while Academic Advisors support students in their decision-making regarding their major study program as contact persons from the faculty.
To pursue Robotics and Intelligent Systems as a major, the following CHOICE modules (45 CP) need to be taken as mandatory modules:

- CHOICE Module: Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: Programming in C and C++ (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: Algorithms and Data Structures (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: Introduction to Computer Science (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: Classical Physics (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: General Electrical Engineering (7.5 CP)

2.2.1.1 Major Change Option

RIS Students can still change to another major at the beginning of their first or second semester if they have taken the corresponding mandatory CHOICE modules in their first year of studies. All students must participate in a seminar on the major change options in the O-Week and consult their Academic Advisor in the first year of studies prior to changing their major.

RIS students have the option (according to the default study plan) to change their major after their first semester to

- Electrical Engineering (ECE)
- Physics (Phys)

RIS students have the option (according to the default study plan) to change their major after the second semester to

- Computer Science (CS)

2.2.2 Year 2 – CORE

In their second year, students take a total of 45 CP from a selection of in-depth, discipline-specific CORE modules. Building on the introductory CHOICE modules and applying the methods and skills acquired so far (see 2.3.1), these modules aim to expand the students’ critical understanding of the key theories, principles, and methods in their major for the current state of knowledge and best practice.

To pursue Robotics and Intelligent Systems as a major, 45 CP from the following mandatory and mandatory elective CORE modules need to be taken:

- CORE Module: Robotics (m, 5 CP)
- CORE Module: Machine Learning (m, 5 CP)
- CORE Module: RIS Lab (me, 5CP)
- CORE Module: Automation (me, 5 CP)
- CORE Module: Embedded Systems (me, 5 CP)
- CORE Module: Control Systems (me, 5 CP)
- CORE Module: Computer Vision (me, 5CP)
- CORE Module: Artificial Intelligence (m, 5CP)
- CORE Module: RIS Project (m, 5CP)
The remaining 15 CP can be selected according to interest and/or with the aim of pursuing a minor in Computer Science, or students complement their studies by taking all of the above listed mandatory elective CORE modules.

2.2.2.1 Minor Option

Robotics and Intelligent Systems students can take CORE modules (or more advanced Specialization modules) from Computer Science, which allows them to incorporate a minor study track into their undergraduate education, within the 180 CP required for a bachelor’s degree. The educational aims of a minor are to broaden the students’ knowledge and skills, support the critical reflection of statements in complex contexts, foster an interdisciplinary approach to problem-solving, and to develop an individual academic and professional profile in line with students’ strengths and interests. This extra qualification will be highlighted in the transcript.

The Academic Advising Coordinator, Academic Advisor, and the Study Program Chair of the minor study program support students in the realization of their minor selection; the consultation with the Academic Advisor is mandatory when choosing a minor.

According to the default study plan RIS students have the option to pursue a minor in Computer Science.

This requires Robotics and Intelligent Systems students to

- substitute the three mandatory elective Robotics and Intelligent Systems CORE modules (15 CP) in the second year with the default minor CORE modules of Computer Science.

The requirements for the specific minors are described in the handbook of the study program offering the minor (Chapter 3.2) and are marked in the respective Study and Examination Plans.

2.2.3 Year 3 – CAREER

During their third year, students prepare and make decisions about their career path after graduation. To explore available choices and to gain professional experience, students undertake a mandatory summer internship. The third year of studies allows RIS students to take Specialization modules within their discipline, but also focuses on the responsibility of students beyond their discipline (see Jacobs Track).

The 5th semester also opens a mobility window for a diverse range of study abroad options. Finally, the 6th semester is dedicated to fostering the students’ research experience by involving them in an extended Bachelor thesis project.

2.2.3.1 Internship / Start-up and Career Skills Module

As a core element of Jacobs University’s employability approach students are required to engage in a mandatory two-month internship of 15 CP that will usually be completed during the summer between the second and third years of study. This gives students the opportunity to gain first-hand practical experience in a professional environment, apply their knowledge and understanding in a professional context, reflect on the relevance of their major to employment and society, reflect on their own role in employment and society, and find a professional orientation. The internship can also establish valuable contacts for the students’ Bachelor’s
thesis project, for the selection of a Master program graduate school or further employment after graduation. This module is complemented by career advising and several career skills workshops throughout all six semesters that prepare students for the transition from student life to professional life. As an alternative to the full-time internship, students interested in setting up their own company can apply for a start-up option to focus on developing of their business plans.

For further information, please contact the Career Services Center (http://www.jacobs-university.de/career-services/contact).

2.2.3.2 Specialization Modules

In the third year of their studies, students take 15 CP from major-specific or major-related, advanced Specialization Modules to consolidate their knowledge and to be exposed to state-of-the-art research in the areas of their interest. This curricular component is offered as a portfolio of modules, from which students can make free selections during their fifth and sixth semester. The default Specialization Module size is 5 CP, with smaller 2.5 CP modules being possible as justified exceptions.

To pursue RIS as a major, at least 10 of the 15 CP from the following major-specific Specialization Modules need to be taken:

- RIS Specialization: Human Computer Interaction (5 CP)
- RIS Specialization: Marine Robotics (5 CP)
- RIS Specialization: Optimization (5 CP)

A maximum of 5 CP can be taken from major-related modules instead of major-specific Specialization Modules:

- CS Specialization: Distributed Algorithms (5 CP)
- CS Specialization Computer Graphics (5 CP)
- CS Specialization: Web Application Development (5 CP)
- CS CORE Module: Software Engineering (7.5 CP)
- CS CORE Module: Databases and Web Services (7.5 CP)
- ECE Specialization: Digital Design (5 CP)
- ECE CORE Module: PCB design and measurement automation (5 CP)
- ECE CORE Module: Information Theory (5 CP)
- MATH Specialization from: Stochastic Processes (5 CP)
- MATH Specialization from: Stochastic Methods Lab (7.5 CP)
- IEM CORE Module: Operations Research (5 CP)
- DE ELECTIVE: Parallel and Distributed Computing (5 CP)

Students may also select 15 CP entirely from their major-specific Specialization Modules.

Available for RIS students minoring in the respective study program that meet the pre-requisites / co-requisites:

- CS Specialization: Image Processing (5 CP)
- CS Specialization: Automata, Computability, and Complexity (7.5 CP)
- CS Specialization: Computer Networks (5 CP)

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1 For module descriptions, see the respective handbook offering the modules.
In case of students pursuing a minor, the CORE modules of the Robotics and Intelligent Systems program which are substituted for the minor modules are also eligible Specialization Modules.

2.2.3.3 Study Abroad

Students have the opportunity to study abroad for a semester to extend their knowledge and abilities, broaden their horizons and reflect on their values and behavior in a different context as well as on their role in a global society. For a semester abroad (usually the 5th semester), modules related to the major with a workload equivalent to 22.5 CP must be completed. Modules recognized as study abroad CP need to be pre-approved according to Jacobs University study abroad procedures. Several exchange programs allow students to directly enroll at prestigious partner institutions worldwide. Jacobs University’s participation in Erasmus+, the European Union’s exchange program, provides an exchange semester at a number of European universities that include Erasmus study abroad funding.

For further information, please contact the International Office (https://www.jacobs-university.de/study/international-office).

RIS students that wish to pursue a study abroad in their 5th semester are required to select their modules at the study abroad partners such that they can be used to substitute between 10-15 CP of major-specific Specialization modules and between 5-15 CP of modules equivalent to the non-disciplinary Big Questions modules or the Community Impact Project (see Jacobs Track). In their 6th semester, according to the study plan, returning study-abroad students complete the Bachelor Thesis/Seminar module (see next section), they take any missing Specialization modules to reach the required 15 CP in this area, and they take any missing Big Questions modules to reach 15 CP in this area. Study abroad students are allowed to substitute the 5 CP Community Impact Project (see Jacobs Track below) with 5 CP of Big Questions modules.

2.2.3.4 Bachelor Thesis/Seminar Module

This module is a mandatory graduation requirement for all undergraduate students. It consists of two module components in the major study program guided by a Jacobs faculty member: the Bachelor Thesis (12 CP) and a Seminar (3 CP). The title of the thesis will appear on the students’ transcripts.

Within this module, students apply the knowledge skills, and methods they have acquired in their major discipline to become acquainted with actual research topics, ranging from the identification of suitable (short-term) research projects, preparatory literature searches, the realization of discipline-specific research, and the documentation, discussion, and interpretation of the results.

With their Bachelor Thesis students demonstrate mastery of the contents and methods of their major-specific research field. Furthermore, students show the ability to analyze and solve a well-
defined problem with scientific approaches, a critical reflection of the status quo in scientific literature, and the original development of their own ideas. With the permission of a Jacobs Faculty Supervisor, the Bachelor Thesis can also have an interdisciplinary nature. In the seminar, students present and discuss their theses in a course environment and reflect on their theoretical or experimental approach and conduct. They learn to present their chosen research topics concisely and comprehensively in front of an audience and to explain their methods, solutions, and results to both specialists and non-specialists.

### 2.3 The Jacobs Track

The Jacobs Track, an integral part of all undergraduate study programs, is another important feature of Jacobs University’s educational model. The Jacobs Track runs parallel to the disciplinary CHOICE, CORE, and CAREER modules across all study years and is an integral part of all undergraduate study programs. It reflects a university-wide commitment to an in-depth training in scientific methods, fosters an interdisciplinary approach, raises awareness of global challenges and societal responsibility, enhances employability, and equips students with augmented skills desirable in the general field of study. Additionally, it integrates (German) language and culture modules.

#### 2.3.1 Methods and Skills Modules

Methods and skills such as mathematics, statistics, programming, data handling, presentation skills, academic writing, and scientific and experimental skills are offered to all students as part of the Methods and Skills area in their curriculum. The modules that are specifically assigned to each study programs equip students with transferable academic skills. They convey and practice specific methods that are indispensable for each students’ chosen study program. Students are required to take 20 CP in the Methods and Skills area. The size of all Methods and Skills modules is 5 CP.

To pursue Robotics and Intelligent Systems as a major, the following Methods and Skills modules (15 CP) need to be taken as mandatory modules:

- Methods: Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I (5 CP)
- Methods: Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II (5 CP)
- Methods: Probability and Random Processes (5 CP)

For the remaining 5 CP, RIS students can choose between the Methods module:

- Methods: Numerical Methods (5 CP)

and the Mathematics CORE module:

- CORE Module: Discrete Mathematics (5 CP).

#### 2.3.2 Big Questions Modules

The modules in the Big Questions area (10 CP) intend to broaden students’ horizons with applied problem solving between and beyond their chosen disciplines. The offerings in this area comprise problem-solving oriented modules that tackle global challenges from the perspectives of different disciplinary backgrounds that allow, in particular, a reflection of acquired

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2 Students who take a minor must choose Numerical Methods.
Students are required to take 10 CP from modules in the Area. This curricular component is offered as a portfolio of modules, from which students can make free selections during their 5th and 6th semester with the aim of being exposed to the full spectrum of economic, societal, technological, and/or ecological contexts. The size of Big Questions Modules is either 2.5 or 5 CP.

2.3.3 Community Impact Project

In their 5th semester students are required to take a 5 CP Community Impact Project (CIP) module. Students engage in on-campus or off-campus activities that challenge their social responsibility, i.e., they typically work on major-related projects that make a difference in the community life on campus, in the campus neighborhood, Bremen, or on a cross-regional level. The project is supervised by a faculty coordinator and mentors.

Study abroad students are allowed to substitute the 5-CP Community Impact Project with 5 CP of Big Questions modules.

2.3.4 Language Modules

Communication skills and foreign language abilities foster students’ intercultural awareness and enhance their employability in an increasingly globalized and interconnected world. Jacobs University supports its students in acquiring and improving these skills by offering a variety of language modules at all proficiency levels. Emphasis is put on fostering the German language skills of international students as they are an important prerequisite for non-native students to learn about, explore, and eventually integrate into their host country and its professional environment. Students who meet the required German proficiency level (e.g., native speakers) are required to select modules in any other modern foreign language offered (Chinese, French or Spanish). Hence, acquiring 10 CP in language modules, with German mandatory for non-native speakers, is a requirement for all students. This curricular component is offered as a four-semester sequence of foreign language modules. The size of the Language Modules is 2.5 CP.

3 Robotics and Intelligent Systems as a Minor

3.1 Qualification Aims

Students obtaining a minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems learn the basic principles of intelligent systems, including elements of both hardware and software. They obtain an understanding of how current robotics systems are designed and function. Upon completion of the minor, they will have obtained sufficient knowledge about robotics and intelligent systems concepts such that they can effectively work together with professional roboticists and experts in intelligent systems. Students obtaining a minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems can help to drive and advise on the automation processes, which are at the forefront of industrial interest currently and are expected to remain so for the foreseeable future.
3.1.1 Intended Learning Outcomes
With a minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems, students will be able to

- develop solutions to problems in the automation, robotics, and intelligent systems domains in close collaboration with professionals;
- design and develop software of moderate complexity for robotics and intelligent systems;
- design and develop basic algorithms and techniques for pattern-recognition, classification, and decision-making under uncertainty.

3.2 Module Requirements
A minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems requires 30 CP. The default option to obtain a minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems is marked in the Study and Examination Plan. It includes the following CHOICE and CORE modules:

- CHOICE Module: Programming in C and C++ (7.5 CP)
- CHOICE Module: Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems (7.5 CP)
- CORE Module: Robotics (5 CP)
- CORE Module: Machine Learning (5 CP)
- CORE Module: RIS Lab (5 CP)

Upon consultation with the Academic Advisor and the RIS Study Program Chair, individual CORE modules from the default minor can be replaced by other advanced modules (CORE or Specialization) from the RIS major.

3.3 Degree
After successful completion, the minor in Robotics and Intelligent Systems will be listed on the final transcript under PROGRAM OF STUDY and BA/BSc – [name of the major] as “(Minor: Robotics and Intelligent Systems).”

4 Robotics and Intelligent Systems Undergraduate Program Regulations

4.1 Scope of these Regulations
The regulations in this handbook are valid for all students who entered the Robotics and Intelligent Systems undergraduate program at Jacobs University in Fall 2021. In case of a conflict between the regulations in this handbook and the general Policies for Bachelor Studies, the latter shall applies (see http://www.jacobs-university.de/academic-policies).

In exceptional cases, certain necessary deviations from the regulations of this study handbook might occur during the course of study (e.g., change of the semester sequence, assessment type, or the teaching mode of courses).

In general, Jacobs University Bremen reserves therefore the right to change or modify the regulations of the program handbook also after its publication at any time and in its sole discretion.
4.2 Degree

Upon successful completion of the study program, students are awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Robotics and Intelligent Systems.

4.3 Graduation Requirements

To graduate, students need to obtain 180 CP. In addition, the following graduation requirements apply:

Students need to complete all mandatory components of the program, as indicated in the Study and Examination Plan in Chapter 6 of this handbook.
Figure 2 shows schematically the sequence and types of modules required for the study program. A more detailed description, including the assessment types, is given in the Study and Examination Plans in the following section.
# Study and Examination Plan

## Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS) BSc

**Matriculation Fall 2021**

### Program-Specific Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program-Specific Modules</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-S-000 Module: Robotics</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jacobs Track Modules (General Education)</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-S-MA-01 Module: Probability and Random Processes</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 1 – CIRCLE ²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1 – CIRCLE ²</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module: Introduction to Robots and Intelligent Systems (default minor)</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Year 2 – CORE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2 – CORE</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module: Robotics (default minor)</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 3 – CAREER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3 – CAREER</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module: Internship</td>
<td>Project Report / Presentation</td>
<td>Report Presentation</td>
<td>During the semester</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Figure 3: Schematic Study Plan for RIS

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¹ Status (m = mandatory, me = mandatory elective)

² For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the CampusNet online catalogue and/or the study program handbooks.

³ For details please see the program handbook.

---

**Total CP: 180**

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**Unit: Big Questions:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit: Big Questions</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-S-000 Module: Big Questions</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unit: Specialization RIS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit: Specialization RIS</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module: Robotics (default minor)</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Matriculation Fall 2021**

**Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS) BSc**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module: Language 1</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTLA-xxx</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**German is default language. Native German speakers take modules in another offered language.**

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**Module Code: Module: Language 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTLA-xxx</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Figure 3: Schematic Study Plan for RIS**

---

**Matriculation Fall 2021**

**Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS) BSc**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module: Language 3</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTLA-xxx</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Matriculation Fall 2021**

**Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS) BSc**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module: Language 4</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Status¹</th>
<th>Sem. CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTLA-xxx</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Written examination</td>
<td>Examination period</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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For a full listing of all CHOICE / CORE / CAREER / Jacobs Track modules please consult the CampusNet online catalogue and/or the study program handbooks.

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For details please see the program handbook.
# Robotics and Intelligent Systems Modules

## 7.1 Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems</td>
<td>CH-220</td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH-220-A</td>
<td>Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-220-B</td>
<td>Introduction to Robotics and Intelligent Systems - Lab</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

### Program Affiliation

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory for RIS, CS and ECE. Mandatory elective for Physics

### Entry Requirements

- **Pre-requisites**: None
- **Co-requisites**: None
- **Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**: None

### Frequency

Annually (Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lecture (35 hours)
- Lab (17.5 hours)
- Private study (115 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

### Duration

1 semester

### Workload

187.5 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

Review basic linear algebra concepts, vector and matrix operations.

### Content and Educational Aims

This module represents an initial introduction to robotics and intelligent systems, starting from the basics of mathematics and physics applied to simple robotics scenarios. It will cover transformation matrices and quaternions for reference systems. Students will then learn the basics of trajectory planning and robotic systems. The second part of the module offers an introduction to the modeling and design of linear control systems in terms of ordinary differential equations (ODEs). Students learn how to analyze and solve systems of ODEs using state and frequency space methods. The concepts covered include time and frequency response, stability, and steady-state errors. This part culminates with a discussion on P, PI, PD, and PID controllers. The lab is designed to guide students through practical hands-on work with various components of intelligent systems. It will focus on the interfacing of a microcontroller with commonly used sensors and actuators.
**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, successful students will be able to

- compute 3D transformations;
- understand and apply quaternion operations;
- apply trajectory planning techniques;
- model common mechanical and electrical systems;
- understand and apply the unilateral Laplace transform and its inverse;
- explore linear systems and tune their behavior;
- program the open-source electronic prototyping platform Arduino;
- interface Arduino to several different sensors and actuators.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- Mandatory for a major in RIS, CS, ECE
- Mandatory for a minor in RIS.
- Mandatory elective for a major in Physics.
- This module is the foundation of the CORE modules in the following years.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination

Duration: 120 min

Weight: 100%

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Module achievement: Lab report
7.2 Algorithms and Data Structures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Name</strong></th>
<th>Algorithms and Data Structures</th>
<th><strong>Module Code</strong></th>
<th>CH-231</th>
<th><strong>Level (type)</strong></th>
<th>Year 1 (CHOICE)</th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
<th>7.5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Components</strong></th>
<th><strong>Number</strong></th>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Type</strong></th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH-231-A</td>
<td>Algorithms and Data Structures</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Coordinator</strong></th>
<th><strong>Program Affiliation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mandatory Status</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kinga Lipskoch</td>
<td>• Computer Science (CS)</td>
<td>Mandatory for CS and RIS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Entry Requirements</strong></th>
<th><strong>Frequency</strong></th>
<th><strong>Forms of Learning and Teaching</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
<td>Co-requisites</td>
<td>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Programming in C and C++</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Duration</strong></th>
<th><strong>Workload</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>187.5 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Students should refresh their knowledge of the C and C++ programming language and be able to solve simple programming problems in C and C++. Students are expected to have a working programming environment.

**Content and Educational Aims**

Algorithms and data structures are the core of computer science. An algorithm is an effective description for calculations using a finite list of instructions that can be executed by a computer. A data structure is a concept for organizing data in a computer such that data can be used efficiently. This introductory module allows students to learn about fundamental algorithms for solving problems efficiently. It introduces basic algorithmic concepts; fundamental data structures for efficiently storing, accessing, and modifying data; and techniques that can be used for the analysis of algorithms and data structures with respect to their computational and memory complexities. The presented concepts and techniques form the basis of almost all computer programs.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- explain asymptotic (time and memory) complexities and respective notations;
- able to prove asymptotic complexities of algorithms;
- illustrate basic data structures such as arrays, lists, queues, stacks, trees, and hash tables;
- describe algorithmic design concepts and apply them to new problems;
- explain basic algorithms (sorting, searching, graph algorithms, computational geometry) and their complexities;
• summarize and apply C++ templates and generic data structures provided by the standard C++
template library.

Indicative Literature


Usability and Relationship to other Modules

• Mandatory for a major in CS and RIS
• Mandatory for a minor in CS
• Pre-requisite for the following CORE modules:
  o Databases and Web Services
  o Software Engineering
  o Legal and Ethical Aspects of Computer Science
  o Computer Graphics
  o Distributed Algorithms
• Familiarity with basic algorithms and data structures is fundamental for almost all advanced modules in
  computer science. This module additionally introduces advanced concepts of the C++ programming
  language that are needed in advanced programming-oriented modules in the 2nd and 3rd years of the CS
  and RIS programs.

Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Type: Written examination

Duration: 120 min

Weight: 100%

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.3 Programming C and C++

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programming in C and C++</td>
<td>CH-230</td>
<td>Year 1 (CHOICE)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-230-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-230-B</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kinga Lipskoch</td>
<td>• Computer Science (CS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for CS, RIS and ECE</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-requisites</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
<td>• Lecture attendance (17.5 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Tutorial attendance (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Independent study (115 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Exam preparation (20 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>187.5 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations for Preparation**

It is recommended that students install a suitable programming environment on their notebooks. It is recommended to install a Linux system such as Ubuntu, which comes with open-source compilers such as gcc and g++ and editors such as vim or emacs. Alternatively, the open-source Code: Blocks integrated development environment can be installed to solve programming problems.

**Content and Educational Aims**

This course offers an introduction to programming using the programming languages C and C++. After a short overview of the program development cycle (editing, preprocessing, compiling, linking, executing), the module presents the basics of C programming. Fundamental imperative programming concepts such as variables, loops, and function calls are introduced in a hands-on manner. Afterwards, basic data structures such as multidimensional arrays, structures, and pointers are introduced and dynamically allocated multidimensional arrays and linked lists and trees are used for solving simple practical problems. The relationships between pointers and arrays, pointers and structures, and pointers and functions are described, and they are illustrated using examples that also introduce recursive functions, file handling, and dynamic memory allocation.

The module then introduces basic concepts of object-oriented programming languages using the programming language C++ in a hands-on manner. Concepts such as classes and objects, data abstractions, and information hiding are introduced. C++ mechanisms for defining and using objects, methods, and operators are introduced and the relevance of constructors, copy constructors, and destructors for dynamically created objects is explained. Finally, concepts such as inheritance, polymorphism, virtual functions, and overloading are introduced. The learned concepts are applied by solving programming problems.
**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- explain basic concepts of imperative programming languages such as variables, assignments, loops, and function calls;
- write, test, and debug programs in the procedural programming language C using basic C library functions;
- demonstrate how to use pointers to create dynamically allocated data structures such as linked lists;
- explain the relationship between pointers and arrays;
- illustrate basic object-oriented programming concepts such as objects, classes, information hiding, and inheritance;
- give original examples of function and operator overloading and polymorphism;
- write, test, and debug programs in the object-oriented programming language C++.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- Mandatory for a major in CS, RIS, and ECE
- Mandatory for a minor in CS and RIS
- Pre-requisite for the CHOICE module Algorithms and Data Structures
- Elective for all other undergraduate study programs
- This module introduces the programming languages C and C++ and several other modules build on this foundation. Certain features of C++ such as templates and generic data structures and an overview of the standard template library will be covered in the Algorithms and Data Structures module.

**Examination Type: Module Component Examinations**

**Component 1: Lecture**

- Assessment types: Written examination
- Duration: 120 min
- Weight: 33%
- Scope: All theoretical intended learning outcomes of the module

**Component 2: Tutorial**

- Assessment: Practical assessment (Programming assignments)
- Weight: 67%
- Scope: All practical intended learning outcomes of the module

Completion: To pass this module, the examination of each module component has to be passed with at least 45%.
### 7.4 General Electrical Engineering I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Electrical Engineering I</td>
<td>CH-210</td>
<td>Year 1 (CHOICE)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH-210-A</td>
<td>General Electrical Engineering I</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-210-B</td>
<td>General Electrical Engineering Lab I</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Abreu

#### Program Affiliation
- Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

#### Mandatory Status
- Mandatory for ECE and RIS

#### Entry Requirements

- **Pre-requisites**: None
- **Co-requisites**: None
- **Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**: Basic mathematics, including notions of vectors, matrices, functions, and complex numbers

#### Frequency
- Annually (Fall)

#### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lecture (35 hours)
- Lab (25.5 hours)
- Private Study (127)

#### Duration
- 1 semester

#### Workload
- 187.5 hours

#### Recommendations for Preparation

It is highly recommended that students familiarize themselves with the contents of the appendices of a typical introductory textbook on Electrical Engineering (e.g. “Fundamentals of Electric Circuits”, by Alexander and Sadiku and “Basic Engineering Circuit Analysis”, by Irwin and Nelms), including Complex Numbers and basic Linear Algebra (in particular the solution of simultaneous linear equations). In addition, it is recommended that students acquire Calculus basics (differentiation and integration of simple functions).

#### Content and Educational Aims

The module, consisting of a lecture, supported by corresponding lab experiments, comprises the classical introduction to Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), starting from the basics of the electric phenomenon, its fundamental elements (charge, current, potential, energy, etc.), its interaction with materials (conductivity, capacitance, inductance, etc.) and its manipulation by man-made structures (electronic components and circuits).

The module then develops into a wide set of general principles, laws and analytical tools to understand electric circuits and electric systems in general. The module also offers a solid foundation on which specialization areas in EE (e.g. Communications, Control, etc.) are built. The emphasis is the analysis of circuits in DC steady state and transient modes. Classic material include (but are not limited to): Kirchhoff’s Laws, Volta’s Law (capacitance), Faraday’s Law (inductance), Thevenin and Norton’s Theorem, Tellegen’s Theorem, delta-wye transformation, source transformations, basics of non-linear electronic components (diodes and transistors), OpAmp circuits, State-space Method, Laplace Transform applied to the analysis of higher-order circuits, Laplace impedances and transfer functions. In the lab portion of the module, users will familiarize themselves with electronic components (resistors, capacitors, inductors, diodes, OpAmps, transistors, etc.) and circuits, and learn how to utilize typical lab equipment (such as breadboards, digital multimeters, voltage and current sources and function generators) required for the assembly and analysis of electric circuits.

#### Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students should be able to

- describe the fundamental physical principles of electric quantities (charge, current, potential, energy and its conservation, etc.);
- explain how the aforementioned quantities relate to each other and interact with matter, including corresponding mathematical models;
- explain how the aforementioned models can be utilized to manipulate electric quantities and phenomenon in the form of electric and electronic circuits or machines that perform several tasks and functions according to intended designs;
- employ various theoretical and practical tools to analyze electric circuits including resistive circuits, reactive circuits, and OpAmp circuits, both in DC steady-state and transient modes.

In addition to the aforementioned outcomes, fundamental to a career in ECE, students will also have acquired:

- analytical and mathematical modeling skills useful to study other physical systems (e.g. in other areas of Engineering, Physics, Robotics, etc.)
- the ability to work in a lab environment and operate lab equipment, as required in other professions (e.g. Physics, Biology, Chemistry etc.).

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- Prerequisite to General Electrical Engineering 2
- Mandatory for a major and minor in ECE.
- Mandatory for a major in RIS.

**Indicative Literature**


**Examination Type: Module Component Examinations**

**Module Component 1: Lecture**

Assessment Type: Written examination  
Duration: 120 min  
Weight: 67%

Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the lecture (1-3,5)

**Module Component 2: Lab**

Assessment Type: Lab reports  
Length: 5-10 pages per experiment session  
Weight: 33%

Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the lab (3-4, 6).

Completion: To pass this module, the examination of each module component has to be passed with at least 45%.
7.5 Classical Physics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classical Physics</td>
<td>CH-140</td>
<td>Year 1 (CHOICE)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH-140-A</td>
<td>Classical Physics</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-140-B</td>
<td>Classical Physics Lab</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH-140-C</td>
<td>Technical Mechanics Lab (for RIS students only)</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

- Prof. Dr. Jürgen Fritz

**Program Affiliation**

- Physics

**Mandatory Status**

- Mandatory for Physic, ECE and RIS

**Entry Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• High school physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• High school math</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Frequency**

- Annually (Fall)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Lecture (35 hours)
- Lab (25.5 hours)
- Homework (42 hours)
- Private study (85 hours)

**Duration**

- 1 semester

**Workload**

- 187.5 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

A revision of high school math (especially calculus, analytic geometry, and vector algebra) and high school physics (basics of motion, forces, and energy) is recommended. The level and content follow standard textbooks for calculus-based first-year university physics such as Young & Freedman: University Physics, Halliday & Resnick & Walker: Fundamentals of Physics, and Tipler & Mosca: Physics.

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module introduces students to basic physical principles, facts, and experimental evidence in the fields of classical mechanics, thermodynamics, and optics. It lays the foundations for more advanced physics modules and for other science and engineering disciplines. It is intended for students who already have reasonably solid knowledge of basic physics and mathematics at the high school level.

Emphasis is placed on general physical principles and general mathematical concepts for a thorough understanding of physical phenomena. The lectures are complemented by hands-on work in a teaching lab where students apply their theoretical knowledge by performing experiments as well as related data analysis and presentation. Calculus and vector analysis will be used to develop a scientifically sound description of physical phenomena. An optional tutorial is offered to discuss homework or topics of interest in more detail.

Topics covered in the module include an introduction to mechanics using calculus, vectors, and coordinate systems; concepts of force and energy, momentum and rotational motion, and gravitation and oscillations; and concepts of thermodynamics such as temperature, heat, ideal gas, and kinetic gas theory up to heat engines and entropy. The module content concludes with an introduction to classical optics including refraction and reflection, lenses and optical instruments, waves, interference, and diffraction.

The lectures are complemented by hands-on work in a teaching lab where students apply their theoretical knowledge by performing experiments as well as related data analysis and presentation. The default lab of this module is the Classical Physics Lab offering experiments in mechanics, thermodynamics, and optics. For students majoring in RIS a Technical Mechanics Lab is offered with a focus on technical mechanics experiments. Calculus and vector analysis."
**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- recall basic facts and experimental evidence in classical mechanics, thermodynamics, and optics;
- understand the basic concepts of motion, force, energy, oscillations, heat, and light and apply them to physical phenomena;
- describe and understand natural and technical phenomena in mechanics, thermodynamics, and optics by reducing them to their basic physical principles;
- apply basic calculus and vector analysis to describe physical systems;
- examine basic physical problems, find possible solutions, and assess them critically;
- set up experiments, analyze their outcomes by using error analysis, and present them properly;
- record experimental data using basic experimental techniques and data acquisition tools;
- use the appropriate format and language to describe and communicate the outcomes of experiments and the solutions to theoretical problems.

**Indicative Literature**


or


Or


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- Mandatory for a major in Physics, ECE and RIS
- Mandatory for a minor in Physics
- Prerequisite for first year Physics CHOICE module “Modern Physics”
- Prerequisite for second year Physics CORE modules “Analytical Mechanics” and “Renewable Energy”
- Elective for all other undergraduate study programs

**Examination Type: Module Component Examinations**

**Module Component 1: Lecture**

Assessment Type: Written examination (Lecture), Duration: 120 min

Weight: 67%

Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the lecture (1-5).

**Module Component 2: Lab** (Classical Physics Lab/ Classical Mechanics Lab)

Assessment Type: Lab Reports (Lab), Length: 8-12 pages

Weight: 33%

Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the lab (1, 6-8).

Module achievement: 40% of homework points necessary as prerequisite to take the final exam.

Completion: To pass this module, both module component examinations have to be passed with at least 45%. 
### 7.6 Introduction to Computer Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Computer Science</td>
<td>CH-232</td>
<td>Year 1 (CHOICE)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
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<td>CH-232-A</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schönwälder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science (CS)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for CS, ECE and RIS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every semester (Fall/Spring)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class (52.5 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent study (115 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam preparation (20 hours)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>187.5 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations for Preparation**

It is recommended that students install a Linux system such as Ubuntu on their notebooks and that they become familiar with basic tools such as editors (vim or emacs) and the basics of a shell. The Glasgow Haskell Compiler (GHC) will be used for implementing Haskell programs.

**Content and Educational Aims**

The module introduces fundamental concepts and techniques of computer science in a bottom-up manner. Based on clear mathematical foundations (which are developed as needed), the course discusses abstract and concrete notions of computing machines, information, and algorithms, focusing on the question of representation versus meaning in Computer Science.

The module introduces basic concepts of discrete mathematics with a focus on inductively defined structures, to develop a theoretical notion of computation. Students will learn the basics of the functional programming language Haskell because it treats computation as the evaluation of pure and typically inductively defined functions. The module covers a basic subset of Haskell that includes types, recursion, tuples, lists, strings, higher-order functions, and finally monads. Back on the theoretical side, the module covers the syntax and semantics of Boolean expressions and it explains how Boolean algebra relates to logic gates and digital circuits. On the technical side, the course introduces the representation of basic data types such as numbers, characters, and strings as well as the von Neuman computer architecture. On the algorithmic side, the course introduces the notion of correctness and elementary concepts of complexity theory (big O notation).
### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- explain basic concepts such as the correctness and complexity of algorithms (including the big O notation);
- illustrate basic concepts of discrete math (sets, relations, functions);
- recall basic proof techniques and use them to prove properties of algorithms;
- explain the representation of numbers (integers, floats), characters and strings, and date and time;
- summarize basic principles of Boolean algebra and Boolean logic;
- describe how Boolean logic relates to logic gates and digital circuits;
- outline the basic structure of a von Neumann computer;
- explain the execution of machine instructions on a von Neumann computer;
- describe the difference between assembler languages and higher-level programming languages;
- define the differences between interpretation and compilation;
- illustrate how an operating system kernel supports the execution of programs;
- determine the correctness of simple programs;
- write simple programs in a pure functional programming language.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory for a major in CS, ECE and RIS
- Pre-requisite for the CORE modules Automata, Computability, and Complexity and Operating Systems
- This module introduces key mathematical concepts and various notions of computing machines and computing abstractions and is in particularly important for subsequent courses covering theoretical aspects of computer science. This module is also important for courses that require a basic understanding of computer architecture and program execution at the hardware level.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

**Assessment Type:** Written examination  
**Duration:** 120 min  
**Weight:** 100%

**Scope:** All intended learning outcomes of the module

**Module achievement:** 50% of the assignments correctly solved

This module introduces the functional programming language Haskell. Students develop their functional programming skills by solving programming problems. The module achievement ensures that a sufficient level of practical programming and problem-solving skills has been obtained.
# 7.7 Robotics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robotics</td>
<td>CO-540</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-540-A</td>
<td>Robotics Lecture</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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</table>

### Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Andreas Birk

### Program Affiliation
- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

### Mandatory Status
- Mandatory for RIS
- Mandatory elective for CS

## Entry Requirements

### Co-requisites

### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Programming in C/C++</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>• Class attendance (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Introduction to RIS</td>
<td>(Fall)</td>
<td>• Private study (70 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Exam preparation (20 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Duration
1 semester

### Workload
125 hours

## Recommendations for Preparation
Revise content of the pre-requisite modules.

## Content and Educational Aims
Robotics is an area that is driven by dreams from science fiction and the reality of engineering. The module intends to provide an understanding of the formal foundations of this area as well as its technological state of the art and future directions. The course accordingly gives an introduction to the core algorithmic, mathematical, and engineering concepts and methods of robotics. This includes concepts and methods that are used for well-established tools of factory automation, especially in the form of robot-arms, as well as increasingly relevant intelligent mobile systems such as autonomous cars or autonomous transport systems.

## Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students should be able to

- outline and explain the history, general developments, and application areas of robotics;
- apply the concepts and methods to describe space and motions therein including homogeneous coordinates and transforms as well as quaternions;
- use the spatial concepts and methods for the forward kinematics (FK) of robot-arms;
- explain basic concepts of simple actuators, including electrical motors and gear systems;
- apply concepts and methods to derive the inverse kinematics of robot-arms and related systems such as legs in analytical and numerical forms;
- apply concepts and methods of wheeled locomotion including FK and IK of the differential and of the omni-directional drive;
- use basic concepts and methods of dynamics;
- Explain and use core concepts and methods of global localization, e.g., multilateration and multidimensional scaling;
- use the basic concepts and methods of error propagation estimation in the context of relative localization with dead-reckoning;
- outline and compare the basic concepts and methods of mapping.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory for a major in RIS
- Mandatory for a minor in RIS
- This module serves as a third Year Specialization module for CS major students.
- This module gives an introduction to Robotics, which is a core discipline of Robotics and Intelligent System (RIS) and an important area of possible future employment.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Type: Written examination  
Duration: 120 min  
Weight: 100%  
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.8 Machine Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Machine Learning</td>
<td>CO-541</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
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</table>

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-541-A</td>
<td>Machine Learning</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Peter Zaspel

**Program Affiliation**

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory for RIS
Mandatory elective for CS

**Entry Requirements**

- **Pre-requisites**
  - None
- **Co-requisites**
  - None
- **Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**
  - Knowledge and command of probability theory and methods, as in the module “Probability and Random Process (UTMS-12)"

**Frequency**

Anually (Spring)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

None

**Content and Educational Aims**

Machine learning (ML) concerns algorithms that are fed with (large quantities of) real-world data, and which return a compressed “model” of the data. An example is the “world model” of a robot; the input data are sensor data streams, from which the robot learns a model of its environment, which is needed, for instance, for navigation. Another example is a spoken language model; the input data are speech recordings, from which ML methods build a model of spoken English; this is useful, for instance, in automated speech recognition systems. There exist many formalisms in which such models can be cast, and an equally large diversity of learning algorithms. However, there is a relatively small number of fundamental challenges that are common to all of these formalisms and algorithms. The lectures introduce such fundamental concepts and illustrate them with a choice of elementary model formalisms (linear classifiers and regressors, radial basis function networks, clustering, online adaptive filters, neural networks, or hidden Markov models). Furthermore, the lectures also (re-)introduce required mathematical material from probability theory and linear algebra.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- understand the notion of probability spaces and random variables;
- understand basic linear modeling and estimation techniques;
- understand the fundamental nature of the “curse of dimensionality;”
- understand the fundamental nature of the bias-variance problem and standard coping strategies;
- use elementary classification learning methods (linear discrimination, radial basis function networks, multilayer perceptrons);
- implement an end-to-end learning suite, including feature extraction and objective function optimization with regularization based on cross-validation.
### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- Mandatory for a major in RIS
- Mandatory for a minor in RIS
- This module serves as a third Year Specialization module for CS major students.
- This module gives a thorough introduction to the basics of machine learning. It complements the Artificial Intelligence module.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.9 RIS Lab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIS Lab</td>
<td>CO-542</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-542-A</td>
<td>RIS Lab I</td>
<td>Lecture/lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-542-B</td>
<td>RIS Lab II</td>
<td>Lecture/lab</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

**Program Affiliation**

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory elective for RIS

**Entry Requirements**

**Pre-requisites**

- None
- Introduction to RIS
- Programming in C/C++

**Frequency**

Annually (Fall)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Report preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**

2 semesters

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

None

**Content and Educational Aims**

RIS Lab I focuses on robotics middleware such as the Robot Operating System (ROS). Building on the programming class and on the introductory course, it presents ways in which different units of a robotic system can share information. The work will be mainly in simulation, using the ROS Gazebo package or similar.

RIS Lab II focuses on the analysis and the design of linear control systems. Students learn to use MATLAB and Simulink tools to investigate the system behavior and to study its time and frequency response. They also learn how to design feedback controls, and to interpret and take care of steady-state errors.

Students are also introduced to and practice technical and scientific writing skills in preparation for their thesis.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students should be able to

1. describe robotics software architecture;
2. correctly use available libraries and packages;
3. create new packages and functionalities in a robotics simulator;
4. create an electromechanical model of a brushed DC motor in Simulink and study its properties;
5. design and tune PID controllers for motor-speed control and for servo control;
6. present and justify their work appropriately in accordance with scientific standards.
## Indicative Literature


## Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory elective for a major in RIS
- Mandatory for a minor in RIS
- The first part is a pre-requisite for the RIS project, which will use robotics middleware with real robotics systems.

## Examination Type: Module Component Examination

### Module Component 1: Lab 1

- **Assessment Type:** Final Report for RIS Lab I
  - **Length:** approx. 10 pages
  - **Weight:** 50%
- **Scope:** Intended learning outcomes of RIS Lab I - 1, 2, 3, 6.

### Module Component 2: Lab 2

- **Assessment Type:** Final Report for RIS Lab II
  - **Length:** approx. 10 pages
  - **Weight:** 50%
- **Scope:** Intended learning outcomes of RIS Lab II - 4, 5, 6.

**Completion:** To pass this module, both module component examinations have to be passed with at least 45%.
# 7.10 Automation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automation</td>
<td>CO-543</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-543-A</td>
<td>Automation</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

### Program Affiliation

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for RIS

### Entry Requirements

#### Pre-requisites

- ☒ Programming C/C++
- ☒ Introduction to RIS

#### Co-requisites

- None

#### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills

- Understanding of the basics of electronics
- Calculus
- basic C/C++/Python
- basic MATLAB/Simulink or SciLab

### Frequency

Annually (Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lectures (30 hours)
- Lab (5 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

### Duration

1 semester

### Workload

125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

Review material of Embedded Systems Lab.

### Content and Educational Aims

Automation is the application of science and technology to control mechanical systems, including situations in which this proposed solution duplicates the skills of a human operator or even exceeds them. Industrial automation concentrates on solutions in the production and delivery of products and services. The field of automation has considerable overlap with the fields of Control and Robotics. However, the distinguishing aspect is the emphasis on an industrial performance and setting, along with the concomitant focus on robustness and efficiency under factory conditions.

The topics covered in this course include: an introduction to sensors and their scientific principles; filtering, data fusion and estimation; types of actuators and details about the operation of industrial motors and drives; an introduction to programmable logic controllers (PLCs); their hierarchy and different PLC programming paradigms; and artificial intelligence (AI) concepts used in automation, such as state machines and sensor data processing.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- explain the characteristics and principles of a number of industrial sensors and electric motors, comment on their overall parameters such as accuracy and precision, and outline the reasons for the calibration process;
- apply this knowledge to translate simple machine specifications into an automation problem in terms of sensing, actuation, and processing strategy at the conceptual level, including an educated selection of sensors and drives;
• apply a family of filtering and estimation techniques covered in the lectures to systems similar to those used in the examples; recall the analysis of their stability and duplicate it in the case of the presented system;
• apply the state machine concept to simple processes and routines;
• explain the strengths, principles, and programming paradigms of PLCs;
• recall the currently used concept in organizing a factory-wide automation pyramid and understand the working of at least one automation communication protocol in detail;
• combine the skills mentioned above in proposing solutions to simple industrial problem examples.

Indicative Literature

Usability and Relationship to other Modules
• Mandatory elective for RIS
• A portion of the knowledge is complementary with the Control Systems course
• The robotics course completes the information given in this course with respect to mobile machinery.

Examination Type: Module Examination
Assessment Type: Written examination Duration: 150 min
Weight: 100%
Scope: The course material excluding programming skills.

The exam will provide a number of multiple choice of true/false questions, where students will be expected to recall facts and principles covered in the class. Sample problems will be given, similar to those given in class, where the students will be expected to duplicate the calculations and choice principles explained in the class.
An open-ended question will test their understanding of the entire concepts such as calibration or state machine.
## 7.11 Embedded Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embedded Systems</td>
<td>CO-544</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
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### Module Components

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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-544-A</td>
<td>Embedded Systems</td>
<td>Lecture/Lab</td>
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</table>

### Module Coordinator

Dr. Fangning Hu

### Program Affiliation

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for RIS

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Programming in C/C++</td>
<td>☐ None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Frequency

Annually (Fall)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lecture/Lab (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

### Duration

1 semester

### Workload

125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

Revising programming in C and the binary number systems.

### Content and Educational Aims

Microcontrollers are core components of modern devices. Designed to handle sensor data and to control actuators, equipped with considerable computational power at relatively low cost and with limited power consumption, they are enablers of our rapidly growing technological environment, in particular, when it comes to mobile systems. We are going to use the AVR/ARM processor based on the RISC-architecture, which is becoming increasingly popular with its use in smartphones, tablets, and various forms of embedded systems, owing to its small size and low power consumption. The course provides a sound introduction to these nearly ubiquitous devices and guides the students in an application-oriented manner through a series of design tasks. The list of topics includes the basic architecture of a microcontroller with its ALU, timer/counter, memory, and I/O interface; the concepts of working registers, interrupt vectors, and program counters; necessary programming tools such as embedded C and assembler, as well as several implementation problems such as reading/controlling various sensors/actuators, processing internal/external interrupts, generation of PWM signals, and AD/DA conversion. At the end of the course, students should be able to develop and implement their own solutions for typical applications on AVR/ARM-based microcontrollers.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- describe the architecture of a microcontroller;
- understand the datasheet of a microcontroller;
- program a microcontroller to read/control sensors/actuators, process interrupts, generate PWM, and perform AD/DA conversion;
- design a solution for an embedded application by microcontroller.

### Indicative Literature

Online resources and manuals provided by the Instructor of Records.

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- Mandatory elective for a major in RIS
- This module introduces the architecture of an AVR/ARM-based microcontroller and how to program it. It could also serve as a specialization course for students from Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Project</th>
<th>Duration: 180 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
## 7.12 Control Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control Systems</td>
<td>CO-545</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-545-A</td>
<td>Control Systems</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)</td>
<td>Mandatory Elective for RIS</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Calc+LA I/II, ☒ Intro to RIS</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• Transfer functions</td>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
<td>• Lecture (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Laplace transforms</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Private study (90 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recommendations for Preparation

Revise calculus, linear algebra, Laplace transforms, and obtain the course textbook in advance of the first class. Please see course pages for details.

### Content and Educational Aims

This course offers a systematic walk through the fundamentals of control theory for linear systems. Building on the introduction to RIS course, new concepts, perspectives, and skills will be introduced and discussed. In particular, this includes (different) state space representations, reduction techniques for larger block diagrams, the BIBO perspective on stability, the role of disturbances, and the related question of sensitivity. We will also study new approaches to improve the response of a given system via lead and lag compensators, including feedback techniques. The major new analytic tools will be the Nyquist plot and techniques based on it.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to

- understand and apply fundamental concepts from linear control theory;
- reduce larger block diagrams;
- use various methods (Routh table, root locus, Nyquist) to analyze systems for stability;
- find the steady-state errors for various standard input signals;
- understand and quantify the sensitivity of steady-state errors with regard to parameter deviations;
- design lead and lag compensators to improve the system response.
### Indicative Literature

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
This module introduces the students to the field of automatic control and is strongly related to the embedded systems, automation, and robotics modules. However, it also helps to better understand how systems in general, be they mechanical, electrical, biological, or even social, such as smart cities, can be maintained under stable conditions and with desired response characteristics.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
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</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.13 Computer Vision

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Module Code</strong></th>
<th><strong>Level (type)</strong></th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Vision</td>
<td>CO-546</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-546-A</td>
<td>Computer Vision</td>
<td>Lecture/lab</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

**Program Affiliation**

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory elective for RIS and CS

**Entry Requirements**

- **Pre-requisites**
  - Intro to RIS
  - Programming in C/C++

- **Co-requisites**
  - None

- **Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**
  - Basic knowledge of robotics middleware (RIS Lab I)

**Frequency**

Annually (Fall)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Refresh basic programming skills in MATLAB and/or Python

**Content and Educational Aims**

Computer Vision algorithms are used in a variety of real-world applications that include surveillance and object tracking, 3D model building (photogrammetry), and object recognition. Apart from their visual appeal, these algorithms also represent elegant applications of linear algebra and optimization techniques. Topics covered in this course include a recapitulation of relevant linear algebra, introduction to face-recognition, camera calibration, stitched panoramas, edge and blob visual features, structure from motion, color-spaces, segmentation, and an introduction to object-recognition.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students should be able

- describe image formation and camera models;
- calibrate cameras;
- compute image histograms, and basic image processing;
- discriminate among visual features (e.g., corner, edge, blob);
- Properly use computer vision libraries;
- implement computer vision applications.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
- Giving the foundation of computer vision, this module is important for RIS project and for advanced specialization courses.
- Mandatory elective for a major in RIS.
- This module serves as a third year Specialization module for CS major students.

**Examination Type:** Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Module achievements: 50% if the assignments correctly solved
### 7.14 Artificial Intelligence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>CO-547</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-547-A</td>
<td>Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Andreas Birk

**Program Affiliation**

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

**Mandatory Status**

- Mandatory for RIS
- Mandatory elective for CS

**Entry Requirements**

**Pre-requisites**

- ☒ Programming in C/C++
- ☒ Introduction to RIS

**Co-requisites**

- None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**

**Frequency**

Annually (Spring)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Revise content of the pre-requisite modules.

**Content and Educational Aims**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an important subdiscipline of Computer Science that deals with technologies to automate the performance of tasks that are usually associated with intelligence. AI methods have a significant application potential, as there is an increasing interest and need to generate artificial systems that can carry out complex missions in unstructured environments without permanent human supervision. The module teaches a selection of the most important methods in AI. In addition to general-purpose techniques and algorithms, it also includes aspects of methods that are especially targeted for physical systems such as intelligent mobile robots or autonomous cars.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- outline and explain the history, general developments, and application areas of AI;
- apply the basic concepts and methods of behavior-oriented AI;
- use concepts and methods of search algorithms for problem-solving;
- explain the basic concepts of path-planning as an application example for domain-specific search;
- apply basic path-planning algorithms and to compare their relations to general search algorithms;
- write and explain concepts of propositional and first-order logic;
- use logic representations and inference for basic examples of artificial planning systems.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module gives an introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI) excluding the aspects of machine learning (ML), which are covered in a dedicated module that complements this one.
- Mandatory for a major in RIS
- This module serves as a third year Specialization module for CS major students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Type: Module Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Type: Written examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 7.15 RIS Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIS Project</td>
<td>CO-548</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

#### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-548-A</td>
<td>RIS Project</td>
<td>Lecture/lab</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Program Affiliation
- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

#### Mandatory Status
- Mandatory for RIS

#### Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

#### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Intro to RIS</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• Basic knowledge of robotics middleware (RIS Lab I)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Frequency
- Annually (Spring)

#### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Report preparation (20 hours)

#### Duration
- 1 semester

#### Workload
- 125 hours

#### Recommendations for Preparation
None

#### Content and Educational Aims
The aim of RIS project is to use real robotics systems (e.g., Duckietown for autonomous driving) to design and implement a project that is related to one or more modules of the RIS program. Students will work in groups and will choose a scenario to focus on, involving a combination of robotics, computer vision, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and control systems competences. The lecture part of the module will focus on the transition from work in simulation to work with real robotics systems, including basic health and safety procedures.

#### Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students should be able to
1. apply available libraries to real robotics systems;
2. develop new robotics functionalities;
3. integrate new functionalities in robotics systems;
4. design and plan a project over several weeks;
5. work in a team, overcoming challenges;
6. present scientific results in an adequate manner.

#### Indicative Literature
Not specified

#### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- This module represents a glue among various different core modules, focusing on the design and implementation of a project with real robotics systems. It is pivotal for advanced courses in the third year and lays the foundation for the competence skills required for the thesis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Component 1: Report</th>
<th>Length: approx. 15 pages</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the lecture 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Component 2: Presentation</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Weight: 25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion: This module is passed with an assessment-component weighted average grade of 45% or higher.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# 7.16 Marine Robotics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marine Robotics</td>
<td>CA-S-RIS-801</td>
<td>Year 3 (Specialization)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-RIS-801</td>
<td>Marine Robotics</td>
<td>Lecture/lab</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Francesco Maurelli

### Program Affiliation

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory Elective for RIS, Elective for CS

### Entry Requirements

#### Pre-requisites
- Intro to RIS
- Programming in C/C++

#### Co-requisites
- None

#### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills
- Basic knowledge of robotics middleware (RIS Lab I)

### Frequency

Annually (Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

### Duration

1 semester

### Workload

125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

None

### Content and Educational Aims

Marine robotics currently plays a key role in the exploitation of marine resources (offshore), conservation of marine environments (environment assessment), and security applications (harbor protection). The European Commission has estimated that the economic impact of the “blue” economy, which considers all activities linked to the sea, is worth more than €400 billion annually, with more than €150 billion in activities directly related to marine activities.

This module builds on the CORE courses of the second year with a specialization on (intelligent) marine robotics, studying the typical environmental constraints, technical solutions, and current trends.

The topics covered by this module include ROV and AUV operations, underwater acoustic, underwater sensing, navigation, communication, and multivehicle cooperation.

The module will have a practical component, with the possibility of visiting nearby institutions and participating in field excursions.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- understand the challenges in the marine domain for robotics systems;
- analyze the functioning of acoustic devices for robot autonomy;
- develop advanced functionalities for a marine robot in a simulation;
- develop advanced functionalities for a marine robot in the field.

### Indicative Literature

Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module is a robotics-oriented specialization course, with the possibility to work with real robots.

Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Oral examination</th>
<th>Duration: approx. 15 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module</td>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.17 Human Computer Interaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Computer Interaction</td>
<td>CA-S-RIS-802</td>
<td>Year 3 (Specialization)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-RIS-802</td>
<td>Human Computer Interaction</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sergey Kosov</td>
<td>• Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)</td>
<td>Mandatory elective for RIS and CS</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>• Class attendance (35 hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-requisites</td>
<td>(Fall)</td>
<td>• Private study (70 hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Exam preparation (20 hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations for Preparation</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Content and Educational Aims     |               |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|                                 |
| Computer systems often interact with human beings. The design of a good human–computer interface is often crucial for the acceptance and the success of a software system. Human–computer interface designs have to satisfy several requirements such as usability, learnability, efficiency, accessibility, and safety. The module discusses the evolution of human–computer interaction models and introduces design principles for graphical user interfaces and other types of interaction (e.g., visual, voice, gesture). Human–computer interaction designs are often evaluated using prototypes or mockups that can be given to test candidates to evaluate the effectiveness of the design. The module introduces evaluation strategies as well as tools and techniques that can be used to prototype human–computer interfaces. |

| Intended Learning Outcomes       |               |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|                                 |
| By the end of this module, students should be able to |               |                                 |
| • explain the evolution of human–computer interaction models; |               |                                 |
| • design and implement simple graphical user interfaces; |               |                                 |
| • explain ergonomic principles guiding the design of user interfaces; |               |                                 |
| • illustrate different types of interaction (e.g., visual, voice, gestures) and their usability aspects; |               |                                 |
| • evaluate aspects of and tradeoffs between usability, learnability, efficiency, and safety; |               |                                 |
| • apply scientific methods to evaluate interfaces with respect to their usability and other desirable properties; |               |                                 |
| • use prototyping tools that can be employed to create mockups of user interfaces during the early stages of a software project. |               |                                 |

| Indicative Literature            |               |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|                                 |
| Not specified                     |               |                                 |

| Usability and Relationship to other Modules |               |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|                                 |
- Students with a strong interest in graphical user interfaces are encouraged to also select the Computer Graphics specialization module, which introduces methods and technologies for creating computer graphics and animations.
- Mandatory elective third year Specialization module for CS and RIS major students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Type: Module Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Type: Written examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module</td>
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</table>
7.18 Optimization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Optimization</td>
<td>CA-S-RIS-803</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Module Code**
- CA-S-RIS-803

**Level (type)**
- Year 3
- (Specialization)

**CP**
- 5

---

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CA-RIS-803</td>
<td>Optimization</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Number**
- CA-RIS-803

**Name**
- Optimization

**Type**
- Lecture

**CP**
- 5

---

**Module Coordinator**

- Prof. Dr. Mathias Bode

---

**Program Affiliation**

- Robotics and Intelligent Systems (RIS)

**Mandatory Status**
- Mandatory elective for RIS

---

**Entry Requirements**

- **Pre-requisites**
  - ☒ Calc+LA I/II
  - ☒ None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Lecture (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

**Frequency**

- Annually (Spring)

**Duration**

- 1 semester

**Workload**

- 125 hours

---

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Revise calculus and linear algebra from your first year.

---

**Content and Educational Aims**

Optimization is a key step in the design of systems and processes. The course starts with a review of multidimensional calculus applied to unconstrained problems. It then focuses on equality- and inequality-constrained cases from the perspective of the Lagrange formalism and introduces the KKT theorem for convex problems. Linear and quadratic programming methods are covered as important application-oriented examples. Special emphasis is placed on duality, in particular, in the case of semidefinite programming. The last part of the course is devoted to deterministic and probabilistic search methods, introducing the ideas of genetic algorithms. The course provides a wide variety of examples, including applications in electronics, decision-making, machine learning, and optimal control.

---

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, successful students will be able to

1. apply classical search techniques;
2. apply and understand the Lagrange formalism;
3. phrase optimization problems in terms of suitable standard types, and address them accordingly;
4. solve optimization problems by means of dedicated software packages.

---

**Indicative Literature**


---

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module builds on the first year Calc/LA modules and prepares the students for more challenging optimization aspects, which will be relevant in many third year projects, particularly in the fields of machine learning, robotics, control, and communication.
**Examination Type: Module Examination**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scope: Intended Learning Outcomes 1–3</td>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intended Learning Outcome 4 will be assessed through non graded tasks during the lecture.
7.19 Distributed Algorithms

**Module Name**
Distributed Algorithms

**Module Code**
CA-S-CS-803

**Level (type)**
Year 3 (Specialization)

**CP**
5

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-CS-803</td>
<td>Distributed Algorithms</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**
Dr. Kinga Lipskoch

**Program Affiliation**
- Computer Science (CS)

**Mandatory Status**
Mandatory elective for CS and RIS

**Entry Requirements**

**Pre-requisites**
- Algorithms and Data Structures

**Co-requisites**
- None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**
- None

**Frequency**
Annually (Fall or Spring)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**
- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**
1 semester

**Workload**
125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**
None

**Content and Educational Aims**

Distributed algorithms are the foundation of modern distributed computing systems. They are characterized by a lack of knowledge of a global state, a lack of knowledge of a global time, and inherent non-determinism in their execution. The course introduces basic distributed algorithms using an abstract formal model, which is centered on the notion of a transition system. The topics covered are logical clocks, distributed snapshots, mutual exclusion algorithms, wave algorithms, election algorithms, reliable broadcast algorithms, and distributed consensus algorithms. Process algebras are introduced as another formalism to describe distributed and concurrent systems.

The distributed algorithms introduced in this module form the foundation of computing systems that have to be scalable and fault-tolerant, e.g., large-scale distributed non-standard databases or distributed file systems. The course is recommended for students interested in the design of scalable distributed computing systems.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- describe and analyze distributed algorithms using formal methods such as transition systems;
- explain different algorithms to solve election problems;
- illustrate the limitations of time to order events and how logical clocks and vector clocks overcome these limitations;
- apply distributed algorithms to produce consistent snapshots of distributed computations;
- describe the differences among wave algorithms for different topologies;
- analyze and implement distributed consensus algorithms such as Paxos and Raft;
- use a process algebra such as communicating sequential processes or $\pi$-calculus to model distributed algorithms.
**Indicative Literature**

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
- Mandatory elective 3rd Specialization module for CS and RIS major students.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**
Assessment Type: Written examination
Duration: 120 min
Weight: 100%
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
# 7.20 Computer Graphics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Graphics</td>
<td>CA-S-CS-801</td>
<td>Year 3 (Specialization)</td>
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## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-CS-801</td>
<td>Computer Graphics</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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</table>

### Module Coordinator

Dr. Sergey Kosov

### Program Affiliation

- Computer Science (CS)

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for CS and RIS

### Entry Requirements

**Pre-requisites**

- Algorithms and Data Structures

**Co-requisites**

- None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**

- None

### Frequency

Annually (Fall)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Private study (70 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

### Duration

1 semester

### Workload

125 hours

## Recommendations for Preparation

None

## Content and Educational Aims

This module deals with the digital synthesis and manipulation of visual content. The creation process of computer graphics spans from the creation of a three-dimensional (3D) scene to displaying or storing it digitally. Prominent tasks in computer graphics are geometry processing, rendering, and animation. Geometry processing is concerned with object representations such as surfaces and their modeling. Rendering is concerned with transforming a model of the virtual world into a set of pixels by applying models of light propagation and sampling algorithms. Animation is concerned with descriptions of objects that move or deform over time. This is an introductory module covering the concepts and techniques of 3D (interactive) computer graphics. It covers mathematical foundations, basic algorithms and principles, and some advanced methods and concepts. An introduction to the implementation of simple programs using a mainstream computer graphics library completes this module.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- construct 3D geometry representations;
- apply 3D transformations;
- understand the algorithms and optimizations applied by graphics rendering systems;
- explain the stages of modern computer graphics programmable pipelines;
- implement simple computer graphics applications using graphics frameworks such as OpenGL;
- illustrate the techniques used to create animations.

## Indicative Literature

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- Mandatory elective for a major in CS.
- Serves as a 3rd year specialization module for RIS major students.
- Students with a strong interest in graphical user interfaces are encouraged to also select the Human–Computer Interaction specialization module, which discusses among other things how computer graphics can be used as a component of interactive graphical user interfaces.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 min</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
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Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.21 Software Engineering

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Software Engineering</td>
<td>CO-561</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-561-A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-561-B</td>
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<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Peter Baumann</td>
<td>• Computer Science (CS)</td>
<td>Mandatory for CS Mandatory elective for RIS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Databases and Web Services</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Spring)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Independent study (10 hours)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Development work (132.5 hours)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Exam preparation (10 hours)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>187.5 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Students are expected to be able to develop software using an object-oriented programming language such as C++, and they should have access to a Linux system and associated software development tools.

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module is an introduction to software engineering and object-oriented software design. The lecture focuses on software quality and the methods to achieve and maintain it in environments of "multi-person construction of multi-version software." Based on their pre-existing knowledge of an object-oriented programming language, students are familiarized with software architectures, design patterns and frameworks, software components and middleware, Unified Modeling Language (UML)-based modelling, and validation by testing. Furthermore, the course addresses the more organizational topics of project management and version control.

The lectures are accompanied by a software project in which students have to develop a software solution to a given problem. The problem is described from the viewpoint of a customer and students working in teams have to execute a whole software project lifecycle. The teams have to create a suitable software architecture and software design, implement the components, and integrate the components. The teams have to ensure that basic quality requirements for the solution and the components are defined and satisfied. The students produce various artifacts such as design documents, source code, test cases and user documentation. All artifacts need to be maintained in a version control system and the commits should allow the instructor and other team members to track in a meaningful way the changes and who has been contributing them.
### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- understand and apply object-oriented design patterns;
- read and write UML diagrams;
- contrast the benefits and drawbacks of different software development models;
- design and plan a larger software project involving a team development effort;
- translate requirements formulated by a customer into computer science terminology;
- evaluate the applicability of different software engineering models for a given software development project;
- assess the quality of a software design and its implementation;
- apply tools that assist in the various stages of a software development process;
- work effectively in a team toward the goals of the team.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory for a major in CS
- Mandatory for a minor in CS
- Serves as mandatory elective 3rd year Specialization module for RIS major students.
- Pre-requisite for the CORE module Image Processing

### Examination Type: Module Component Examinations

#### Module Component 1: Lecture

Assessment Type: Written examination

Duration: 60 min  
Weight: 33%

**Scope:** The first three intended learning outcomes of the module (the lecture module component)

#### Module Component 2: Project

Assessment Type: Project

Weight: 66%

**Scope:** The remaining intended learning outcomes of the module (the project module component)

Completion: To pass this module, the examination of each module component has to be passed with at least 45%.
## 7.22 Databases and Web Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Databases and Web Services</td>
<td>CO-560</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
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**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>CO-560-A</td>
<td>Databases and Web Services</td>
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<td>CO-560-B</td>
<td>Databases and Web Services - Project</td>
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**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Peter Baumann

**Program Affiliation**

- Computer Science (CS)

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory for CS
Mandatory elective for RIS

**Entry Requirements**

**Pre-requisites**

☒ Algorithms and Data Structures

**Co-requisites**

☒ None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**

- None

**Frequency**

Annually (Fall)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Class attendance (35 hours)
- Project (97.5 hours)
- Independent Studies (35 hours)
- Exam preparation (20 hours)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

187.5 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Working knowledge of basic data structures, such as trees, is required as well as familiarity with an object-oriented programming language such as C++. Basic knowledge of algebra is useful. For the project work, students benefit from having basic hands-on skills using Linux and, ideally, basic knowledge of a scripting language such as Python (the official Python documentation is available on https://docs.python.org/).

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module offers a combined introduction to databases and web services. The database part starts with database design using the Entity Relationship (ER) and Unified Modeling Language (UML) models, followed by relational databases and querying them through SQL, relational design theory, indexing, query processing, transaction management, and NoSQL/Big Data databases. In the web services part, the topics addressed include markup languages, three-tier application architectures, and web services. Security aspects are addressed from both perspectives.

A hands-on group project complements the theoretical aspects: on a self-chosen topic, students implement the core of a web-accessible information system using Python (or a similar language), MySQL, and Linux, guided through homework assignments.
### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- read and write ER and UML diagrams;
- design and normalize data models for relational databases;
- write SQL queries and understand their evaluation by a database server;
- explain the concept of transactions and how to use transactions in application design;
- use web application frameworks to create dynamic websites;
- describe the differences of selected NoSQL data models and make a requirement-driven choice;
- restate three-tier architectures and their components;
- discuss the principles and basic mechanisms of reactive website design;
- summarize the security and privacy issues in the context of databases and web services.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory for a major in CS
- Mandatory for a minor in CS
- Serves as a mandatory elective specialization module for RIS major students.
- Pre-requisite for the CORE module Secure and Dependable Systems
- This module introduces components that are widely used by modern applications and information systems. Students can apply their knowledge in the software engineering module. This module serves as a default advanced level minor module.

### Examination Type: Module Component Examinations

#### Module Component 1: Lecture

**Assessment Type:** Written examination

**Duration:** 120 min

**Weight:** 67%

**Scope:** All intended learning outcomes of the excluding the practical aspects

#### Module Component 2: Project

**Assessment Type:** Project

**Weight:** 33%

**Scope:** All practical aspects of the intended learning outcomes

Completion: To pass this module, the examination of each module component has to be passed with at least 45%.
### 7.23 Digital Design

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Design</td>
<td>CA-S-ECE-803</td>
<td>Year 3 (Specialization)</td>
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<table>
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<td>Number</td>
</tr>
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<td>CA-ECE-803</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Fangning Hu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)</td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>Mandatory elective for ECE, RIS and CS</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
<td>• Lecture/Lab (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>• Private study (90 hours)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recommendations for Preparation


### Content and Educational Aims

The current trend of digital system design is towards hardware description languages (HDLs) that allow compact description of very complex hardware constructs. The module provides a sound introduction to basic components of a digital system such as logic gates, multiplexers, decoders, flip-flops and registers as well as VHDLs such as types, signals, sequential and concurrent statements. Methods and principle of designing complex digital systems such as finite state machines, hierarchical design, pipelined design, RTL design methodology and parameterized design will also be introduced. Students will learn VHDL for programming FPGA boards to realize small digital systems in hardware (i.e. on FPGA boards). Such digital systems could be adders, multiplexers, control units, multipliers, asynchronous serial communication modules (UART). At the end of the module, the students should be able to design a simple digital system by VHDL on an FPGA board.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- understand the principle of digital system design based on standard building blocks and components;
- design a complex digital system;
- understand the limitations of a given hardware platform (here FPGAs), modify algorithms where necessary, and structure them suitably in order to optimize performance and complexity;
- use a typical development system;
- program in VHDL;
- program an FPGA board.

### Indicative Literature
Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module introduces how to design digital systems and how to realize them on a FPGA board which could also serve as a specialization module for students from Computer Science and Robotics and Intelligent Systems.
- Mandatory elective 3rd year Specialization module for ECE, CS and RIS major students.

Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Type: written examination
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
Duration: 120 min
Weight: 100%
### 7.24 PCB Design and Measurement Automation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCB Design and Measurement Automation</td>
<td>CO-527</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
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#### Module Components

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-527-A</td>
<td>PCB Design and Measurement Automation</td>
<td>Lab</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Coordinator

- **Prof. Dr.-Ing. Werner Henkel**

#### Program Affiliation

- Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

#### Mandatory Status

- Mandatory for ECE
- Mandatory elective for RIS

#### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ General</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• Knowledge of Fourier series and transforms</td>
<td>Annually (Spring)</td>
<td>• Lab (59.5 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical Engineering I</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Basic knowledge of electronics components and circuits</td>
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<td>• Private Study (65.5 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>☒ General</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Matlab</td>
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<td>Electrical Engineering II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Workload</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Recommendations for Preparation

Download material from corresponding Web pages and get to know the tasks and how the tools and equipment works.

#### Content and Educational Aims

The module (lab) covers mainly two aspects that are seen to be important for employability. One share of the lab deals with measurement automation. Similar tasks, one also finds in industrial automation or monitoring, sometimes using the same tools. Students will learn to use Matlab and Labview for measurement automation tasks. In there, students will also get acquainted with more advanced measurement equipment, like high-end digital scopes, network, and spectrum analyzers. The students will measure standard telephone cables in their properties, which will require a treatment of transmission line theory and transformers/baluns. These theoretical aspects will also be covered.

The second major aspect handled in the lab makes students aware that electrical/electronic components have non-ideal behaviors, e.g., that a capacitor can act as an inductor in some frequency range. It makes students also aware of the problems in selecting the right component for a certain function inside a circuit, caring not just for the frequency range and the variation of properties with frequency, but also power, current, and voltage limits. Then, a typical circuit design path will be taught, starting from schematics to placement of components and routing. Important aspects of printed circuit board design are treated, like how analog and digital power supplies have to be realized, how mass connections should look like, what measures have to be taken to block unwanted signal coupling is avoided, e.g., blocking capacitors, star-like power supply wiring.

Students also practice scientific writing in line with scientific writing rules as a preparation for their BSc thesis.

#### Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students should be able to

1. use vector network analyzers, spectrum analyzers, and more advanced digital scopes;
2. learn how to program with LabVIEW;
3. remotely control measurement equipment using Matlab or LabVIEW;
4. describe principles of remote control;
5. know transmission line theory and how transformers/baluns are modeled;
6. measure and determine line parameters;
7. taking non-ideal behavior of passive and active components into account and be able to select components according to their parameters and limitations;
8. design printed circuit boards (PCB) with typical tools and a typical design cycle consisting of schematics, placement, and routing;
9. design analog and digital power routes, shielding ground connections, use measures to block unwanted ingress and coupling;
10. organize work contributions of group members in the lab and in reporting;
11. write reports in line with scientific writing rules as a preparation for their BSc thesis.

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module builds on previous electronics knowledge and rounds this knowledge up with the final PCB design.
- Having learned to use Matlab in earlier modules, mostly for signal processing tasks, this module shows another application and provides a view into graphical programming as another option which they have seen earlier in the form of Simulink
- The module prepares students for a thesis with PCB design aspects.
- Mandatory for major in ECE.
- Serves as a mandatory elective 3rd year Specialization module for RIS major students.

**Indicative Literature**


**Examination Type: Module Examination**

- **Assessment Component 1: Written examination**
  - **Duration:** 120 min
  - **Weight:** 50%
  - **Scope:** Intended learning outcomes of the lecture/theory component (4, 5, 7, 9).

- **Assessment Component 2: Lab reports**
  - **Length:** 5-10 pages per experiment session
  - **Weight:** 50%
  - **Scope:** Intended learning outcomes of the lab (1-3, 6-11).

**Completion:** This module is passed with an assessment-component weighted average grade of 45% or higher.
7.25 Information Theory

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Theory</td>
<td>CO-525</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr.-Ing. Werner Henkel</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
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<td>Mandatory for ECE Mandatory elective for CS and RIS</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Spring)</td>
<td>• Lectures (35 hours) • Private Study (90 hours)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>125 hours</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Recommendations for Preparation

Some basic knowledge of communications and sound understanding of probability is recommended. Hence, it is strongly advised to take the methods and skills course Probability and Random Processes prior to this module. Nevertheless, probability basics will also be revised within the module.

Content and Educational Aims

Information theory serves as the most important foundation for communication systems. The module provides an analytical framework for modeling and evaluating point-to-point and multi-point communication. After a short rehearsal of probability and random variables and some excursion to random number generation, the key concept of information content of a signal source and information capacity of a transmission medium are precisely defined, and their relationships to data compression algorithms and error control codes are examined in detail. The module aims to install an appreciation for the fundamental capabilities and limitations of information transmission schemes and to provide the mathematical tools for applying these ideas to a broad class of communications systems.

The module contains also a coverage of different source-coding algorithms like Huffman, Lempel-Ziv-(Welch), Shannon-Fano-Elias, Arithmetic Coding, Runlength Encoding, Move-to-Front transform, PPM, and Context Tree Weighting. In Channel coding, finite fields, some basic block and convolutional codes, and the concept of iterative decoding will be introduced. Aside from source and channel aspects, an introduction to security is given, including public-key cryptography. Information theory is a standard module in every communications-oriented Bachelor’s program.

Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to
- explain what is understood as the information content of data and the corresponding limits of data compression algorithms;
- design and apply fundamental algorithms in data compression;
- explain the information theoretic limits of data transmission;
- apply the mathematical basics of channel coding and cryptography;
- implement some channel coding schemes;
- differentiate the principles of encryption and authentication schemes and implement discussed procedures.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- Although not a mandatory prerequisite, this module is ideally taken before Coding Theory (CA-ECE-802)
- All communications-related modules are naturally based on information theory
- Students from Computer Science or related programs, also students taking Bio-informatics modules, profit from information-theoretic knowledge and source coding (compression) algorithms. Students from Computer Science would also be interested in the algebraic basics for error-correcting codes and cryptology, fields which area also introduced shortly.
- Mandatory for a major in ECE.
- Serves as a mandatory elective 3rd year Specialization module for CS and RIS major students.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination

Duration: 120 min

Weight: 100%

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module.
7.26 Stochastic Processes

**Module Name**
Stochastic Processes

**Module Code**
CA-S-MATH-803

**Level (type)**
Year 2/3 (Specialization)

**CP**
5

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-MATH-803</td>
<td>Stochastic Processes</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Dr. Keivan Mallahizadeh-Karai

**Program Affiliation**

- Mathematics

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory elective for Mathematics and RIS

**Entry Requirements**

**Pre-requisites**

☑ “Applied Mathematics” or “Probability and Random Processes”

**Co-requisites**

☑None

**Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills**

- None beyond formal pre-requisites

**Frequency**

Biennially (Spring)

**Forms of Learning and Teaching**

- Lectures (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Review of Probability and Analysis I

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module serves as an introduction to the theory of stochastic processes. It starts with a review of Kolmogorov axioms for probability spaces and continues by providing a rigorous treatment of topics such as the independence of events and Borel-Cantelli Lemma, Kolmogorov’s zero-one law, random variables, expected value and variance, the weak and strong laws of large numbers, and the Central limit theorem. More advanced topics that will follow include finite and countable state Markov chains, Galton-Watson trees, and the Wiener process. Several relevant applications that will be discussed are percolation on graphs, the application of Markov chains to sampling problems, and probabilistic methods in graph theory. The module also includes examples from mathematical finance.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- demonstrate their mastery of basic stochastic methods;
- develop ability to use stochastic processes to model real-world problems, e.g. in finance;
- analyze the definition of basic probabilistic objects, and their numerical features;
- formulate and design methods and algorithms for solving applied problems based on ideas from stochastic processes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicative Literature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usability and Relationship to other Modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• This module is a specialization module in Mathematics to be taken in Semester 4 or 6.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Serves as a mandatory elective 3rd year Specialization module for RIS major students.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Type: Module Examination</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Type: Written examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module</td>
</tr>
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</table>
7.27 Stochastic Methods Lab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stochastic Methods Lab</td>
<td>CA-S-MATH-811</td>
<td>Year 2/3 (Specialization)</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-MATH-811</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Sören Petrat</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Mandatory elective for Mathematics and RIS</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I and II</td>
</tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendations for Preparation**

- Review the content of Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II
- Review Python programming
- Pre-install *Anaconda Python* on your own laptop and know how to edit and start simple Python programs in a Python IDE like *Spyder* (which comes bundled as part of *Anaconda Python*).
## Content and Educational Aims

This module is a first hands-on introduction to stochastic modeling. Examples will mostly come from the area of Financial Mathematics, so that this module plays a central role in the education of students interested in Quantitative Finance and Mathematical Economics. The module is taught as an integrated lecture-lab, where short theoretical units are interspersed with interactive computation and computer experiments.

Topics include a short introduction to the basic notions of financial mathematics, binomial tree models, discrete Brownian paths, stochastic integrals and ODEs, Ito’s Lemma, Monte-Carlo methods, finite differences solutions, the Black-Scholes equation, and an introduction to time series analysis, parameter estimation, and calibration. Students will program and explore all basic techniques in a numerical programming environment and apply these algorithms to real data whenever possible.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- apply fundamental concepts of deterministic and stochastic modeling;
- design, conduct, and interpret controlled in-silico scientific experiments;
- analyze the basic concepts of financial mathematics and their role in finance;
- write computer code for basic financial calculations, binomial trees, stochastic differential equations, stochastic integrals and time series analysis;
- compare their programs and predictions in the context of real data;
- demonstrate the usage of a version control system for collaboration and the submission of code and reports.

## Indicative Literature


## Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module is part of the core education in Applied Mathematics
- It is also valuable for students in Physics, Computer Science, RIS, and ECE, either as part of a minor in Mathematics, or as an elective module.
- Serves as a mandatory elective 3rd year specialization module for RIS major students.

## Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Type: Project (portfolio)  
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module  
Weight: 100%
7.28 Operations Research

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operations Research</td>
<td>CO-583</td>
<td>Year 2 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO-583-A</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Marcel Oliver</td>
<td>• Industrial Engineering &amp; Management (IEM)</td>
<td>Mandatory for IEM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mandatory elective for RIS</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
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<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
<td>• Lectures (35 hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Private Study (90 hours)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommendations for Preparation
Revise basic calculus, matrix algebra and spreadsheet software functions.

Content and Educational Aims
Operations research is an interdisciplinary mathematical science that focuses on the effective use of technology by organizations. By employing techniques such as mathematical modeling, statistical analysis, and mathematical optimization, operations research finds optimal or near-optimal solutions to complex decision-making problems. Operations Research is concerned with determining the maximum (of profit, performance, or yield) or the minimum (of loss, risk, or cost) of some real-world objective. This module introduces students to the modelling of decision problems and the use of quantitative methods and techniques for effective decision-making.

Intended Learning Outcomes
By the end of this module, students will be able to

- calculate optimal or near-optimal solutions to complex decision-making problems using operations research methods;
- design mathematical models for business problems;
- apply techniques such as linear programming, dynamic programming or stochastic programming to solve business problems;
- resolve common network optimization problems such as transportation, shortest path, minimum spanning tree, and maximum flow problems.

Indicative Literature
### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Pre-requisite for 3rd-year IEM Specialization modules and Thesis
- Serves as a 3rd-year Specialization module for major students in RIS
- Elective for all other undergraduate study programs.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 120 minutes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weight: 100 %</td>
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</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module.
# 7.29 Web Application Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Name</strong></th>
<th>Web Application Development</th>
<th><strong>Module Code</strong></th>
<th>CA-S-CS-804</th>
<th><strong>Level (type)</strong></th>
<th>Year 3 (Specialization)</th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
<th>5</th>
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</table>

## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-CS-804-A</td>
<td>Web Application Development</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-CS-804-B</td>
<td>Web Application Development - Project</td>
<td>Project</td>
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</table>

### Module Coordinator

- **N.N.**

### Program Affiliation

- Computer Science (CS)

### Mandatory Status

- Mandatory elective for CS
- Mandatory elective for RIS

## Entry Requirements

### Pre-requisites

- Databases and Web Services

### Co-requisites

- None

### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills

- None

## Frequency

- Annually

## Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Class attendance (17.5 hours)
- Private study (40 hours)
- Project work (50 hours)
- Exam preparation (17.5 hours)

## Duration

1 semester

## Workload

125 hours

## Recommendations for Preparation

None

## Content and Educational Aims

A web application is a client-server computer program where the client provides the user interface and the client side logic runs in a web browser or as an app running on a mobile device such as a smart phone or a tablet. A key characteristic is that more complex application logic and data storage is realized by a server offering a web application programming interface.

This module focuses on the client side of web application and introduces technologies that can be used to implement interactive user interfaces and client side logic. It builds on the module databases and web services, which covers the data storage components and server side logic of web applications.

This module consists of a lecture and an associated project. The lecture component introduces programming languages and frameworks that are widely used for implementing the client side of web applications such as Java, Kotlin, Swift, JavaScript and frameworks built on top of them. In the project component, students develop web applications and test them on existing and openly accessible web services.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- explain the document object model behind HTML and its relation to CSS;
- discuss the principles and basic mechanisms of reactive website design;
- analyze the interactions between web applications and web services.
- use languages such as Java, Kotlin, or Swift to implement mobile web applications;
- use web standards such as HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to implement web applications running in standard web browsers.

**Indicative Literature**
Stoyan Stefanov: JavaScript Patterns, O'Reilly Media, 2010.

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
- Mandatory elective for a major in CS.
- Mandatory elective for a major in RIS.

**Examination Type: Module Component Examinations**

**Module Component 1: Lecture**
Assessment Type: Written examination  
Duration: 120 min  
Weight: 50%
Scope: First group of intended learning outcomes of the module

**Module Component 2: Project**
Assessment Type: Project  
Weight: 50%
Scope: Second group of intended learning outcomes of the module
Completion: To pass this module, the examination of each module component has to be passed with at least 45%.
### 7.30 Parallel and Distributed Computing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Module Name</strong></th>
<th>Parallel and Distributed Computing</th>
<th><strong>Module Code</strong></th>
<th>MDE-CS-02</th>
<th><strong>Level (type)</strong></th>
<th>Year 2 (Elective)</th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
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#### Module Components

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<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Type</strong></th>
<th><strong>CP</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MDE-CS-02</td>
<td>Parallel and Distributed Computing</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
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#### Module Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Program Affiliation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mandatory Status</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc Data Engineering</td>
<td>Mandatory elective for DE, CSSE, RIS (BSc) and CS (BSc)</td>
</tr>
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#### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Pre-requisites</strong></th>
<th><strong>Co-requisites</strong></th>
<th><strong>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</strong></th>
<th><strong>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td></td>
<td>Basic knowledge in C/C++</td>
<td>Mandatory proficiency in Python</td>
</tr>
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</table>

#### Frequency

- Annually
- (Fall)

#### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lecture (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

#### Duration

- 1 semester

#### Workload

- 125 hours

#### Recommendations for Preparation

If no knowledge in C/C++ is present, interested students are encouraged to get a basic understanding of C/C++ (via online material) in order to better understand some of the discussed concepts.

#### Content and Educational Aims

In the recent years, the development of parallel and cloud computing has opened the door for Big Data analysis and processing. This module aims at providing an overview and introduction to the vast field of parallel and cloud computing. In traditional parallel computing, we aim to develop notions for different parallelization models (shared-memory, distributed-memory, SIMD, SIMT), get to know appropriate programming methodologies for high performance data analysis (OpenMP / MPI) and aim at understanding performance and scalability in this field (weak vs. strong scaling, Amdahl’s law). This fundamental knowledge will then be carried over to recent developments in cloud computing, where distributed processing frameworks (Spark / Hadoop MapReduce / Dask), based on appropriated deployment infrastructures, are in the process to become De Facto standards for Big Data processing and analysis. We will approach these technologies from a practical point of view and aim at developing the necessary knowledge to carry out scalable machine learning and data processing on Big Data.

#### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- understand theory and fundamentals of parallelization models (shared-/distributed memory, SIMD, SIMT)
- explain and apply parallel programming methodologies (OpenMP / MPI)
- describe and analyze performance and scalability (weak vs. strong scaling, ...)
- Understand basic principles of distributed and cloud computing
- use distributed processing frameworks (Spark / Hadoop MapReduce / Dask) for scalable distributed calculations
- develop scalable machine learning and data processing on Big Data

#### Indicative Literature

Zaccone, Python Parallel Programming Cookbook, O’Reilly.

J.C. Daniel, Data Science with Python and Dask, Manning Publications.
Z. Radtka, D. Miner, Hadoop with Python. Hadoop with Python, O'Reilly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Usability and Relationship to other Modules</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N.A.</td>
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</table>

| **Examination Type: Module Examination**       |
| Assessment Type: Written Exam                 |
| Duration: 120 minutes                         |
| Weight: 100%                                  |

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module.
### 7.31 Internship / Startup and Career Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internship / Startup and Career Skills</td>
<td>CA-INT-900</td>
<td>Year 3 (CAREER)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-INT-900-0</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sinah Vogel &amp; Dr. Tanja Woebs (CSC Organization); SPC / Faculty Startup Coordinator (Academic responsibility)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAREER module for undergraduate study programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for all undergraduate study programs except IEM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ at least 15 CP from CORE modules in the major</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Spring/Fall)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Internship/Start-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Internship event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Seminars, info-sessions, workshops and career events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Self-study, readings, online tutorials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>375 Hours consisting of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Internship (308 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Workshops (33 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Internship Event (2 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Self-study (32 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recommendations for Preparation |
Please see the section “Knowledge Center” at JobTeaser Career Center for information on Career Skills seminar and workshop offers and for online tutorials on the job market preparation and the application process. For more information, please see [https://www.jacobs-university.de/employability/career-services](https://www.jacobs-university.de/employability/career-services)

Participating in the internship events of earlier classes

### Content and Educational Aims

The aims of the internship module are reflection, application, orientation, and development: for students to reflect on their interests, knowledge, skills, their role in society, the relevance of their major subject to society, to apply these skills and this knowledge in real life whilst getting practical experience, to find a professional orientation, and to develop their personality and in their career. This module supports the programs’ aims of preparing students for gainful, qualified employment and the development of their personality.

The full-time internship must be related to the students’ major area of study and extends lasts a minimum of two consecutive months, normally scheduled just before the 5th semester, with the internship event and submission of the internship report in the 5th semester. Upon approval by the SPC and CSC, the internship may take place at other times, such as before teaching starts in the 3rd semester or after teaching finishes in the 6th semester. The Study Program Coordinator or their faculty delegate approves the intended internship a priori by reviewing the tasks in either the Internship Contract or Internship Confirmation from the respective internship institution or company. Further regulations as set out in the Policies for Bachelor Studies apply.

Students will be gradually prepared for the internship in semesters 1 to 4 through a series of mandatory information sessions, seminars, and career events.

The purpose of the Career Services Information Sessions is to provide all students with basic facts about the job market in general, and especially in Germany and the EU, and services provided by the Career Services Center. In the Career Skills Seminars, students will learn how to engage in the internship/job search, how to create a competitive application (CV, Cover Letter, etc.), and how to successfully conduct themselves at job interviews and/or assessment centers. In addition to these mandatory sections, students can customize their skill set regarding application challenges and their intended career path in elective seminars.

Finally, during the Career Events organized by the Career Services Center (e.g. the annual Jacobs Career Fair and single employer events on and off campus), students will have the opportunity to apply their acquired job market skills in an actual internship/job search situation and to gain their desired internship in a high-quality environment and with excellent employers.

As an alternative to the full-time internship, students can apply for the StartUp Option. Following the same schedule as the full-time internship, the StartUp Option allows students who are particularly interested in founding their own company to focus on the development of their business plan over a period of two consecutive months. Participation in the StartUp Option depends on a successful presentation of the student’s initial StartUp idea. This presentation will be held at the beginning of the 4th semester. A jury of faculty members will judge the student’s potential to realize their idea and approve the participation of the students. The StartUp Option is supervised by the Faculty StartUp Coordinator. At the end of StartUp Option, students submit their business plan. Further regulations as outlined in the Policies for Bachelor Studies apply.

The concluding Internship Event will be conducted within each study program (or a cluster of related study programs) and will formally conclude the module by providing students the opportunity to present on their internships and reflect on the lessons learned within their major area of study. The purpose of this event is not only to self-reflect on the whole internship process, but also to create a professional network within the academic community, especially by entering the Alumni Network after graduation. It is recommended that all three classes (years) of the same major are present at this event to enable networking between older and younger students and to create an educational environment for younger students to observe the “lessons learned” from the diverse internships of their elder fellow students.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- describe the scope and the functions of the employment market and personal career development;
- apply professional, personal, and career-related skills for the modern labor market, including self-organization, initiative and responsibility, communication, intercultural sensitivity, team and leadership skills, etc.;
- independently manage their own career orientation processes by identifying personal interests, selecting appropriate internship locations or start-up opportunities, conducting interviews, succeeding at pitches.
or assessment centers, negotiating related employment, managing their funding or support conditions (such as salary, contract, funding, supplies, work space, etc.);

- apply specialist skills and knowledge acquired during their studies to solve problems in a professional environment and reflect on their relevance in employment and society;
- justify professional decisions based on theoretical knowledge and academic methods;
- reflect on their professional conduct in the context of the expectations of and consequences for employers and their society;
- reflect on and set their own targets for the further development of their knowledge, skills, interests, and values;
- establish and expand their contacts with potential employers or business partners, and possibly other students and alumni, to build their own professional network to create employment opportunities in the future;
- discuss observations and reflections in a professional network.

### Indicative Literature
Not specified

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- Mandatory for a major in BCCB, CBT, CS, EES, GEM, IBA, IRPH, ISCP, Math, MCCB, Physics, RIS, and SMP.
- This module applies skills and knowledge acquired in previous modules to a professional environment and provides an opportunity to reflect on their relevance in employment and society. It may lead to thesis topics.

### Examination Type: Module Examination
Assessment Type: Internship Report or Business Plan and Reflection
Length: approx. 3.500 words
Scope: All intended learning outcomes
Weight: 100%
# 7.32 Bachelor Thesis and Seminar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor Thesis and Seminar</td>
<td>CA-RIS-800</td>
<td>Year 3 (CAREER)</td>
<td>15</td>
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</table>

## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA-RIS-800-T</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>CA-RIS-800-S</td>
<td>Thesis Seminar</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Module Coordinator

- **Study Program Chair**
- **Program Affiliation**
  - All undergraduate programs

## Mandatory Status

- Mandatory for all undergraduate programs

## Entry Requirements

- **Pre-requisites**
  - Students must be in their third year and have taken at least 30 CP from CORE modules in their major.
- **Co-requisites**
  - None

## Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills

- Comprehensive knowledge of the subject and deeper insight into the chosen topic;
- Ability to plan and undertake work independently;
- Skills to identify and critically review literature.

## Frequency

- Annually (Spring)

## Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Self-study/lab work (350 hours)
- Seminars (25 hours)

## Duration

- 1 semester

## Workload

- 375 hours

## Recommendations for Preparation

- Identify an area or a topic of interest and discuss this with your prospective supervisor in a timely manner.
- Create a research proposal including a research plan to ensure timely submission.
- Ensure you possess all required technical research skills or are able to acquire them on time.
- Review the University's Code of Academic Integrity and Guidelines to Ensure Good Academic Practice.
Content and Educational Aims

This module is a mandatory graduation requirement for all undergraduate students to demonstrate their ability to address a problem from their respective major subject independently using academic/scientific methods within a set time frame. Although supervised, this module requires students to be able to work independently and systematically and set their own goals in exchange for the opportunity to explore a topic that excites and interests them personally and that a faculty member is interested in supervising. Within this module, students apply their acquired knowledge about their major discipline and their learned skills and methods for conducting research, ranging from the identification of suitable (short-term) research projects, preparatory literature searches, the realization of discipline-specific research, and the documentation, discussion, interpretation, and communication of research results.

This module consists of two components, an independent thesis and an accompanying seminar. The thesis component must be supervised by a Jacobs University faculty member and requires short-term research work, the results of which must be documented in a comprehensive written thesis including an introduction, a justification of the methods, results, a discussion of the results, and a conclusion. The seminar provides students with the opportunity to practice their ability to present, discuss, and justify their and other students’ approaches, methods, and results at various stages of their research in order to improve their academic writing, receive and reflect on formative feedback, and therefore grow personally and professionally.

Intended Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module, students should be able to

1. independently plan and organize advanced learning processes;
2. design and implement appropriate research methods, taking full account of the range of alternative techniques and approaches;
3. collect, assess, and interpret relevant information;
4. draw scientifically-founded conclusions that consider social, scientific, and ethical factors;
5. apply their knowledge and understanding to a context of their choice;
6. develop, formulate, and advance solutions to problems and debates within their subject area, and defend these through argument;
7. discuss information, ideas, problems, and solutions with specialists and non-specialists.

Indicative Literature


Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module builds on all previous modules in the undergraduate program. Students apply the knowledge, skills, and competencies they have acquired and practiced during their studies, including research methods and their ability to acquire additional skills independently as and if required.

Examination Type: Module Component Examinations

Module Component 1: Thesis
Assessment type: Thesis
Scope: All intended learning outcomes, mainly 1-6.
Weight: 80%
Length: approx. 10,000 – 14,000 words (25–35 pages), excluding front and back matter.

Module Component 2: Seminar
Assessment type: Presentation
Duration: approx. 15 to 30 minutes
Weight: 20%
Scope: The presentation focuses mainly on ILOs 6 and 7, but by nature of these ILOs it also touches on the others.
Completion: To pass this module, both module component examinations have to be passed with at least 45%.
Two separate assessments are justified by the size of this module and the fact that the justification of solutions to problems and arguments (ILO 6) and discussion (ILO 7) should at least have verbal elements. The weights of the types of assessments are commensurate with the sizes of the respective module components.
7.33 Jacobs Track Modules

7.33.1 Methods and Skills Modules

7.33.1.1 Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I</td>
<td>JTMS-MAT-09</td>
<td>Year 1 (Methods)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JTMS-09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Marcel Oliver, Prof. Dr. Tobias Preußer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacobs Track – Methods and Skills</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for CS, ECE, RIS, MATH and Physics Mandatory elective for EES</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites: None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-requisites: None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of Pre-Calculus at High School level (Functions, inverse functions, sets, real numbers, polynomials, rational functions, trigonometric functions, logarithm and exponential function, parametric equations, tangent lines, graphs, elementary methods for solving systems of linear and nonlinear equations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of Analytic Geometry at High School level (vectors, lines, planes, reflection, rotation, translation, dot product, cross product, normal vector, polar coordinates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some familiarity with elementary Calculus (limits, derivative) is helpful, but not strictly required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private study (90 hours)</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommendations for Preparation

Review all of higher-level High School Mathematics, in particular the topics explicitly named in “Entry Requirements – Knowledge, Ability, or Skills” above.

Content and Educational Aims

This module is the first in a sequence introducing mathematical methods at the university level in a form relevant for study and research in the quantitative natural sciences, engineering, Computer Science, and Mathematics. The emphasis in these modules is on training operational skills and recognizing mathematical structures in a problem context. Mathematical rigor is used where appropriate. However, a full axiomatic treatment of the subject is provided in the first-year modules “Analysis I” and “Linear Algebra”.

The lecture comprises the following topics

- Brief review of number systems, elementary functions, and their graphs
- Brief introduction to complex numbers
- Limits for sequences and functions
- Continuity
- Derivatives
- Curve sketching and applications (isoperimetric problems, optimization, error propagation)
- Introduction to Integration and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus
- Review of elementary analytic geometry
- Vector spaces, linear independence, bases, coordinates
- Matrices and matrix algebra
- Solving linear systems by Gauss elimination, structure of general solution
- Matrix inverse

Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- apply the methods described in the content section of this module description to the extent that they can solve standard text-book problems reliably and with confidence;
- recognize the mathematical structures in an unfamiliar context and translate them into a mathematical problem statement;
- recognize common mathematical terminology used in textbooks and research papers in the quantitative sciences, engineering, and mathematics to the extent that they fall into the content categories covered in this module.

Indicative Literature


Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- The module is a mandatory / mandatory elective module of the Methods and Skills area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- The module is followed by "Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II". All students taking this module are expected to register for the follow-up module.
- A rigorous treatment of Calculus is provided in the module “Analysis I”. All students taking “Analysis I” are expected to either take this module or exceptionally satisfy the conditions for advanced placement as laid out in the Jacobs Academic Policies for Undergraduate Study.
- The second-semester module “Linear Algebra” will provide a complete proof-driven development of the theory of Linear Algebra. Students enrolling in “Linear Algebra” are expected to have taken this module; in particular, the module “Linear Algebra” will assume that students are proficient in the operational aspects of Gauss elimination, matrix inversion, and their elementary applications.
- This module is a prerequisite for the module “Applied Mathematics” which develops more advanced theoretical and practical mathematical tools essential for any physicist or mathematician.
- Mandatory for a major in CS, ECE, RIS, MATH and Physics
- Mandatory elective for a major in EES.
- Pre-requisite for Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II
- Elective for all other study programs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examination Type: Module Examination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment type: Written examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weight: 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module</td>
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</table>
7.33.1.2  Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II</td>
<td>JTMS-MAT-10</td>
<td>Year 1 (Methods)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Module Components**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTMS-10</td>
<td>Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module Coordinator**

Prof. Dr. Marcel Oliver, Prof. Dr. Tobias Preußer

**Program Affiliation**

- Jacobs Track – Methods and Skills

**Mandatory Status**

Mandatory for CS, ECE, MATH, Physics and RIS

**Entry Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>- None beyond formal pre-requisites</td>
<td>- Lectures (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Private study (90 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Frequency**

Annually (Spring)

**Duration**

1 semester

**Workload**

125 hours

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Review the content of Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module is the second in a sequence introducing mathematical methods at the university level in a form relevant for study and research in the quantitative natural sciences, engineering, Computer Science, and Mathematics. The emphasis in these modules is on training operational skills and recognizing mathematical structures in a problem context. Mathematical rigor is used where appropriate. However, a full axiomatic treatment of the subject is provided in the first-year modules “Analysis I” and “Linear Algebra”.

The lecture comprises the following topics:

- Directional derivatives, partial derivatives
- Linear maps
- The total derivative as a linear map
- Gradient and curl (elementary treatment only, for more advanced topics, in particular the connection to the Gauss and Stokes’ integral theorems, see module “Applied Mathematics”)
- Optimization in several variables, Lagrange multipliers
- Elementary ordinary differential equations
- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- Hermitian and skew-Hermitian matrices
- First important example of eigendecompositions: Linear constant-coefficient ordinary differential equations
- Second important example of eigendecompositions: Fourier series
- Fourier integral transform
- Matrix factorizations: Singular value decomposition with applications, LU decomposition, QR decomposition

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module, students will be able to
• apply the methods described in the content section of this module description to the extent that they can solve standard text-book problems reliably and with confidence;
• recognize the mathematical structures in an unfamiliar context and translate them into a mathematical problem statement;
• recognize common mathematical terminology used in textbooks and research papers in the quantitative sciences, engineering, and mathematics to the extent that they fall into the content categories covered in this module.

**Indicative Literature**

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
• The module is a mandatory / mandatory elective module of the Methods and Skills area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
• A more advanced treatment of multi-variable Calculus, in particular, its applications in Physics and Mathematics, is provided in the second-semester module “Applied Mathematics”. All students taking “Applied Mathematics” are expected to take this module as well as the module topics are closely synchronized.
• The second-semester module “Linear Algebra” provides a complete proof-driven development of the theory of Linear Algebra. Diagonalization is covered more abstractly, with particular emphasis on degenerate cases. The Jordan normal form is also covered in “Linear Algebra”, not in this module.
• Mandatory for CS, ECE, MATH, Physics and RIS.
• Elective for all other study programs.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**
Assessment type: Written examination
Duration: 120 min
Weight: 100%
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module
7.33.1.3  Probability and Random Processes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probability and Random Processes</td>
<td>JTMS-MAT-12</td>
<td>Year 2 (Methods)</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>

<p>| Module Components |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTMS-12</td>
<td>Probability and random processes</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Marcel Oliver, Prof. Dr. Tobias Preußer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacobs Track – Methods and Skills</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mandatory for CS, ECE, MATH, Physics and RIS. Mandatory elective for EES.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ☒ Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I & II | ☒ None | - Knowledge of calculus at the level of a first year calculus module (differentiation, integration with one and several variables, trigonometric functions, logarithms and exponential functions).
| | | - Knowledge of linear algebra at the level of a first year university module (eigenvalues and eigenvectors, diagonalization of matrices).
| | | - Some familiarity with elementary probability theory at the high school level. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annually (Fall)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures (35 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private study (90 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>125 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations for Preparation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review all of the first year calculus and linear algebra modules as indicated in “Entry Requirements – Knowledge, Ability, or Skills” above.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content and Educational Aims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This module aims to provide a basic knowledge of probability theory and random processes suitable for students in engineering, Computer Science, and Mathematics. The module provides students with basic skills needed for formulating real-world problems dealing with randomness and probability in mathematical language, and methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

89
for applying a toolkit to solve these problems. Mathematical rigor is used where appropriate. A more advanced
treatment of the subject is deferred to the third-year module Stochastic Processes.

The lecture comprises the following topics
- Brief review of number systems, elementary functions, and their graphs
- Outcomes, events and sample space.
- Combinatorial probability.
- Conditional probability and Bayes’ formula.
- Binomials and Poisson-Approximation
- Random Variables, distribution and density functions.
- Independence of random variables.
- Conditional Distributions and Densities.
- Transformation of random variables.
- Joint distribution of random variables and their transformations.
- Expected Values and Moments, Covariance.
- High dimensional probability: Chebyshev and Chernoff bounds.
- Moment-Generating Functions and Characteristic Functions,
- The Central limit theorem.
- Random Vectors and Moments, Covariance matrix, Decorrelation.
- Multivariate normal distribution.
- Markov chains, stationary distributions.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**
By the end of the module, students will be able to
- command the methods described in the content section of this module description to the extent that
  they can solve standard text-book problems reliably and with confidence;
- recognize the probabilistic structures in an unfamiliar context and translate them into a mathematical
  problem statement;
- recognize common mathematical terminology used in textbooks and research papers in the
  quantitative sciences, engineering, and mathematics to the extent that they fall into the content
  categories covered in this module.

**Indicative Literature**
Prentice Hall.

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
- The module is a mandatory / mandatory elective module of the Methods and Skills area that is part of
  the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language
  modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students taking this module are expected to be familiar with basic tools from calculus and linear
  algebra.
- Mandatory for a major in CS, ECE, MATH, Physics and RIS.
- Mandatory elective for a major in EES (if pre-requisites are met).
- Elective for all other study programs.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**
Assessment type: Written examination Duration: 120 min
Weight: 100%
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module
# 7.33.1.4 Numerical Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numerical Methods</td>
<td>JTMS-MAT-13</td>
<td>Year 2 (Methods)</td>
<td>5</td>
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## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTMS-13</td>
<td>Numerical Methods</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Module Coordinator

**Prof. Dr. Marcel Oliver, Prof. Dr. Tobias Preußer**

### Program Affiliation
- Jacobs Track – Methods and Skills

## Mandatory Status
- Mandatory for ECE, MATH and Physics
- Mandatory elective for CS and RIS

## Entry Requirements

### Pre-requisites
- None

### Co-requisites
- None

### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills
- Knowledge of Calculus (functions, inverse functions, sets, real numbers, sequences and limits, polynomials, rational functions, trigonometric functions, logarithm and exponential function, parametric equations, tangent lines, graphs, derivatives, anti-derivatives, elementary techniques for solving equations)
- Knowledge of Linear Algebra (vectors, matrices, lines, planes, n-dimensional Euclidean vector space, rotation, translation, dot product (scalar product), cross product, normal vector,

## Frequency
- Annually (Spring)

## Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

## Duration
- 1 semester

## Workload
- 125 hours
Eigenvalues, eigenvectors, elementary techniques for solving systems of linear equations.

**Recommendations for Preparation**

Taking Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra II before taking this module is recommended, but not required. A thorough review of Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra, with emphasis on the topics listed as “Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills” is recommended.

**Content and Educational Aims**

This module covers calculus-based numerical methods, in particular root finding, interpolation, approximation, numerical differentiation, numerical integration (quadrature), and a first introduction to the numerical solution of differential equations.

The lecture comprises the following topics

- number representations
- Gaussian elimination
- LU decomposition
- Cholesky decomposition
- iterative methods
- bisection method
- Newton’s method
- secant method
- polynomial interpolation
- Aitken’s algorithm
- Lagrange interpolation
- Newton interpolation
- Hermite interpolation
- Bezier curves
- De Casteljau’s algorithm
- piecewise interpolation
- Spline interpolation
- B-Splines
- Least-squares approximation
- polynomial regression
- difference schemes
- Richardson extrapolation
- Quadrature rules
- Monte Carlo integration
- time stepping schemes for ordinary differential equations
- Runge Kutta schemes
- finite difference method for partial differential equations

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- describe the basic principles of discretization used in the numerical treatment of continuous problems;
- command the methods described in the content section of this module description to the extent that they can solve standard text-book problems reliably and with confidence;
- recognize mathematical terminology used in textbooks and research papers on numerical methods in the quantitative sciences, engineering, and mathematics to the extent that they fall into the content categories covered in this module;
- implement simple numerical algorithms in a high-level programming language;
- understand the documentation of standard numerical library code and understand the potential limitations and caveats of such algorithms.

**Indicative Literature**
Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- The module is a mandatory / mandatory elective module of the Methods and Skills area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- This module is a co-recommendation for the module “Applied Dynamical Systems Lab”, in which the actual implementation in a high-level programming language of the learned methods will be covered.
- Mandatory for a major in ECE, MATH, and Physics.
- Mandatory elective for a major in CS and RIS.
- Elective for all other study programs.

Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment type: Written examination

Duration: 120 min
Weight: 100%

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module.
### Module Name
Discrete Mathematics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-501</td>
<td>Year 2/3 (CORE)</td>
<td>5</td>
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### Module Components

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO-501-A</td>
<td>Discrete Mathematics</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator
Dr. Keivan Mallahi-Karai

### Program Affiliation
- Mathematics

### Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for Mathematics, CS, Physics and RIS

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>● Basic university mathematics: can be acquired via the Methods Modules “Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I + II” or “Applied Calculus” and “Finite Mathematics”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Frequency
Annually (Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (35 hours)
- Private Study (90 hours)

### Duration
1 semester

### Workload
125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation
- Some basic familiarity with linear algebra is useful, but not technically required.
- It is recommended to have taken the Methods module: Calculus and Elements of Linear Algebra I + II

### Content and Educational Aims
This module is an introductory lecture in discrete mathematics. The lecture consists of two main components, enumerative combinatorics and graph theory. The lecture emphasizes connections of discrete mathematics with other areas of mathematics such as linear algebra and basic probability, and outlines applications to areas of computer science, cryptography, etc. where employment of ideas from discrete mathematics has proven to be fruitful. The first part of the lecture—enumerative combinatorics—deals with several classical enumeration problems (Binomial coefficients, Stirling numbers), counting under group actions and generating function. The second half of the lecture—graph theory—includes a discussion of basic notions such as chromatic number, planarity, matchings in graphs, Ramsey theory, and expanders, and their applications.
### Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of the module, students will be able to

- demonstrate their mastery of basic tools in discrete mathematics.
- develop the ability to use discrete mathematics concepts (such as graphs) to model problems in computer science.
- analyze the definition of basic combinatorial objects such as graphs, permutations, partitions, etc.
- formulate and design methods and algorithms for solving applied problems basic on concepts from discrete mathematics.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module is a specialization / CORE module in Mathematics to be taken in Semester 4 or 6.
- This module is recommended for students pursuing a minor in Mathematics.
- This module serves as a mandatory elective Methods and Skills module for CS, Physics and RIS.
- This module is a good option as an elective module for students in RIS.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Type: Written examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 min</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of this module
# Big Questions Modules

## 7.33.2.1 Water: The Most Precious Substance on Earth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water: The Most Precious Substance on Earth</td>
<td>JTBQ-BQ-002</td>
<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-002</td>
<td>Water: The Most Precious Substance on Earth</td>
<td>Lecture/Tutorial</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Michael Bau and Dr. Doris Mosbach

### Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs except IEM

### Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ☒ None         | ☒ None        | • The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance  
|                |               | • Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources |

### Frequency
Annually (part I: Fall; part II: Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (17.5 hours)
- Project work (90 hours)
- Private study (17.5 hours)

### Duration
2 semesters

### Workload
125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation
Critically following media coverage on the module's topics in question.
### Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students' horizons with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

Water is the basic prerequisite for life on our planet, but it has become a scarce resource and a valuable commodity. Water is of fundamental importance to the world’s economy and global food supply, in addition to being a driving force behind geopolitical conflict. In this module, the profound impact of water on all aspects of human life will be addressed from very different perspectives: from the natural and environmental sciences and engineering, and from the social and cultural sciences.

Following topical lectures in the Fall semester, students will work on projects on the occasion of the World Water Day (March 22) in small teams comprised of students from various disciplines and with different cultural backgrounds. This teamwork will be accompanied by related tutorials.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- advance a knowledge-based opinion on the complex module topics: on the physio-chemical properties of water, its origin and history, on the importance of water as a resource, on physical and economic freshwater scarcity, on the risks of water pollution and the challenges faced by waste water treatment, on the concept of virtual water, on the bottled water industry, and on the cultural values and meanings of water;
- formulate coherent written and oral contributions (e.g., to panel discussions) on the topic;
- perform well-organized teamwork;
- present a self-designed project in a university-wide context.

### Indicative Literature


### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Component 1: Written examination</th>
<th>Duration: 60 min</th>
<th>Weight: 50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Component 2: Team project</td>
<td>Weight: 50%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Completion: This module is passed with an assessment-component weighted average grade of 45% or higher.
## Module Name
Ethics in Science and Technology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-BQ-003</td>
<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-003</td>
<td>Ethics in Science and Technology</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Alexander Lerchl

### Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Mandatory Status
- Mandatory for CBT
- Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Frequency
Each semester (Fall & Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

### Duration
1 semester

### Workload
125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation
Critically following media coverage of the scientific topics in question.

### Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students’ horizons with applied problem solving that extends beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

Ethics is an often neglected, yet essential part of science and technology. Our decisions about right and wrong influence the way in which our inventions and developments change the world. A wide array of examples will be presented and discussed, e.g., the foundation of ethics, individual vs. population ethics, artificial life, stem cells, animal rights, abortion, pre-implantation diagnostics, legal and illegal drugs, the pharmaceutical industry, gene modification, clinical trials and research with test persons, weapons of mass destruction, data fabrication, and scientific fraud.
### Intended Learning Outcomes

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- summarize and explain ethical principles;
- critically look at scientific results that seem too good to be true;
- apply the ethical concepts to virtually all areas of science and technology;
- discover the responsibilities of society and of the individual for ethical standards;
- understand and judge the ethical dilemmas in many areas of the daily life;
- discuss the ethics of gene modification at the level of cells and organisms;
- reflect on and evaluate clinical trials in relation to the Helsinki Declaration;
- distinguish and evaluate the ethical guidelines for studies with test persons.

### Indicative Literature

Not specified.

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- Mandatory for CBT
- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

**Assessment Type:** Written examination

**Duration:** 120 min

**Weight:** 100%

**Scope:** All intended learning outcomes of the module.
Global Health – Historical context and future challenges

**Module Name**
Global Health – Historical context and future challenges

**Module Code**
JTBQ-BQ-004

**Level (type)**
Year 3 (Jacobs Track)

**CP**
5

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-004</td>
<td>Global Health – Historical context and future challenges</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Coordinator
Dr. Andreas M. Lisewski

#### Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM

#### Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Entry Requirements

#### Pre-requisites
☒ None

#### Co-requisites
☒ None

#### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills
- The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance
- Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources

### Frequency
Annually (Fall)

#### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (35 hours)
- Private study (90 hours)

#### Duration
1 semester

#### Workload
125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

Critically following media coverage on the module's topics in question.

### Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. The BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden the students' horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules are relevant for every university graduate in order to become an informed and responsible citizen in a global society.

The module gives a historical, societal, technical, and medicinal overview over the past, present and future milestones and challenges of global health. Main topics include health systems, public health, health/disease monitoring and response, past and recent breakthroughs in medicine and healthcare, as well as recent health-related developments in technology and economy. Special focus is put on children, maternal and adolescent health, as their health is critical to the well-being of next generations. Further topics cover epidemiology and demographics, such as the connection between a society’s economic development level and its population health status, demographic and epidemiologic transitions, measures of health status and disease burden, and health-related global development goals. An overall guiding aspect is human health in our increasingly interconnected civilization that is however reaching its global limits on key resources and that is therefore becoming more prone to disruptions. Discussed in this context are today’s urgent global health issues, such as newly emergent and re-emergent infectious diseases, biosafety and complex humanitarian crises caused by unforeseen epidemics and pandemics.
**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- identify the historical context and today’s function of global health institutions, surveillance and response systems;
- evaluate and compare global indicators of disease burden, especially by using online databases and repositories;
- break down global development goals directly related to global health;
- discuss and differentiate present and future challenges of public and global health responses to novel disease outbreaks in a global society network context.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- The module is a mandatory elective module of the Big Questions area, that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute such knowledge and competences to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Duration: 120 min.

Weight: 100%

Module achievement: Oral presentation of selected literature and media topics on global health (topics are given but can also be suggested by students for approval).

The module achievement ensures sufficient knowledge about key global health concepts, challenges and current topics.
### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-005</td>
<td>Global Existential Risks</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Module Coordinator

Dr. Andreas M. Lisewski

#### Program Affiliation

- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs except IEM

#### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs except IEM

#### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Frequency

Annually (Spring)

#### Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lectures (35 hours)
- Tutorial of the lecture (10 hours)
- Private study (80 hours)

#### Duration

1 semester

#### Workload

125 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation

Critically following media coverage on the module’s topics in question.

### Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students’ horizons with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

The more we develop science and technology, the more we also learn about catastrophic and, in the worst case, even existential global dangers that put the entire human civilization at risk of collapse. These doomsday scenarios therefore directly challenge humanity’s journey through time as an overall continuous and sustainable process that progressively leads to a more complex but still largely stable human society. The module presents the main known varieties of existential risks, including, for example, astrophysical, planetary, biological, and technological events or critical transitions that have the capacity to severely damage or even eradicate earth-based human civilization as we know it. Furthermore, this module offers a description of the characteristic features of these risks in comparison to more conventional risks, such as natural disasters, and a classification of global existential risks based on parameters such as range, intensity, probability of occurrence, and imminence. Finally, this module reviews several hypothetical monitoring and early warning systems as well as analysis methods that could potentially be used in strategies, if not to eliminate, then at least to better understand and ideally to minimize...
imminent global existential risks. This interdisciplinary module will allow students to look across relevant and diverse subject fields, thus enabling them to initiate and to contribute substantially to discussions about these special risks.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module. By the end of this module, students will be able to

- identify and explain the known spectrum of global existential risks, including physical, biological, and technological risks
- differentiate and classify these risks according to their characteristics in range (scope), intensity (severity), probability of occurrence, and imminence
- distinguish and identify main directions and potential biases in media coverage of global existential risks
- prepare, present, explain and discuss today’s key topics in global existential risks from both academic literature and from public media

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Duration: 120 min.

Weight: 100%

Module achievement: Oral presentation of selected literature and media topics on our civilization’s existential risks (topics are given but can also be suggested by students for approval)

The module achievement ensures sufficient knowledge about key risks and challenges for humanity’s survival.
### Module Name
Future: From Predictions and Visions to Preparations and Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-BQ-006</td>
<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-006</td>
<td>Future: From Predictions and Visions to Preparations and Actions</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Joachim Vogt

### Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Frequency
Annually (Spring)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lecture (17.5 hours)
- Private study (45 hours)

### Duration
1 semester

### Workload
62.5 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation
Critically following media coverage of the module’s topics in question.

### Content and Educational Aims
All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students' horizons with applied problem solving that extend beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

This module addresses selected topics related to the future as a general concept in science, technology, culture, literature, ecology, and economy, and it consists of three parts. The first part (Future Continuous) discusses forecasting methodologies rooted in the idea that key past and present processes are understood and continue to operate such that future developments can be predicted. General concepts covered in this context include determinism, uncertainty, evolution, and risk. Mathematical aspects of forecasting are also discussed. The second part (Future Perfect) deals with human visions of the future as reflected in the arts and literature, ranging from ideas of utopian societies and technological optimism to dystopian visions in science fiction. The third part (Future Now) concentrates on important current developments—such as trends in technology, scientific breakthroughs, the evolution of the Earth system, and climate change—and concludes with opportunities and challenges for present and future generations.
### Intended Learning Outcomes

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, student should be able to

- use their factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- distinguish and qualify important approaches to forecasting and prediction;
- summarize the history of utopias, dystopias, and the ideas presented in classical science fiction;
- characterize current developments in technology, ecology, society, and their implications for the future.

### Indicative Literature

- United Nations University. https://unu.edu

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

### Examination Type: Module Examination

- Assessment Type: Written examination
- Duration: 60 min
- Weight: 100%
- Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
# 7.33.2.6 Climate Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>JTBQ-BQ-007</td>
<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Components</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-007</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Affiliation</th>
<th>Mandatory Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Dr. Laurenz Thomsen and Prof. Dr. Vikram Unnithan</td>
<td>• Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM</td>
<td>Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-requisites</td>
<td>Annually (Spring)</td>
<td>• Lecture (17.5 hours) · Private study (45 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-requisites</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>☒ None</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
<td>1 semester</td>
<td>62.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendations for Preparation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critically following media coverage of the module’s topics in question.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students’ horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

This module will give a brief introduction into the development of the atmosphere throughout Earth’s history from the beginning of the geological record up to modern times, and will focus on geological, cosogenic, and anthropogenic changes. Several major events in the evolution of the Earth that had a major impact on climate will be discussed, such as the evolution of an oxic atmosphere and ocean, the onset of early life, snowball Earth, and modern glaciation cycles. In the second part, the module will focus on the human impact on present climate change and global warming. Causes and consequences, including case studies and methods for studying climate change, will be presented and possibilities for climate mitigation (geo-engineering) and adapting our society to climate change (such as coastal protection and adaption of agricultural practices to more arid and hot conditions) will be discussed.

## Intended Learning Outcomes
Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students should be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- advance a knowledge-based opinion on the complex module topics, including: impact of climate change on the natural environment over geological timescales and since the industrial revolution, and the policy framework in which environmental decisions are made internationally;
- work effectively in a team environment and undertake data interpretation;
- discuss approaches to minimize habitat destruction.

**Indicative Literature**

The course is based on a self-contained, detailed set of online lecture notes.


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination  
Duration: 60 min.  
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module  
Weight: 100%
Module Name
Extreme Natural Hazards, Disaster Risks, and Societal Impact

Module Code
JTBQ-BQ-008

Level (type)
Year 3 (Jacobs Track)

CP
2.5

Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-008</td>
<td>Extreme Natural Hazards: Disaster Risks, and Societal Impact</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Laurenz Thomsen

Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM

Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>• The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frequency
Annually (Fall)

Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lecture (17.5 hours)
- Private study (45 hours)

Duration
1 semester

Workload
62.5 hours

Recommendations for Preparation
Critically following media coverage of the module's topics in question.

Content and Educational Aims
All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students' horizons with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

Extreme natural events increasingly dominate global headlines, and understanding their causes, risks, and impacts, as well as the costs of their mitigation, is essential to managing hazard risk and saving lives. This module presents a unique, interdisciplinary approach to disaster risk research, combining natural science and social science methodologies. It presents the risks of global hazards and natural disasters such as volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, hurricanes, precipitation floods, and space weather, and provides real-world hazard and disaster case studies from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Pacific.

Intended Learning Outcomes
 Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, student should be able to
• use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
• advance a knowledge-based opinion on the complex module topics, including how natural processes affect and interact with our civilization, especially those that create hazards and disasters;
• distinguish the methods scientists use to predict and assess the risk of natural disasters;
• discuss the social implications and policy framework in which decisions are made to manage natural disasters;
• work effectively in a team environment.

**Indicative Literature**

The course is based on a self-contained, detailed set of online lecture notes.


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

• The module is a mandatory elective module of the Big Questions area, that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules)
• Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute such knowledge and competences to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Written examination

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Duration: 60 min.

Weight: 100%
### Module Name
International Development Policy

### Module Code
JTBQ-BQ-009

### Level (type)
Year 3 (Jacobs Track)

### CP
2.5

### Module Components

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<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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<td>International Development Policy</td>
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### Module Coordinator
Prof. Dr. Claas Knoop

### Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

### Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
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<td>The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficient handling of data sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Frequency
Annually (Fall)

### Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lecture (17.5 hours)
- Presentations
- Private study (45 hours)

### Duration
1 semester

### Workload
62.5 hours

### Recommendations for Preparation
Critically following media coverage of the module’s topics in question.

### Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal, and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden students’ horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become informed and responsible citizens in a global society.

We live in a world where still a large number of people still live in absolute poverty without access to basic needs and services, such as food, sanitation, health care, security, and proper education. This module provides an introduction to the basic elements of international development policy, with a focus on the relevant EU policies in this field and on the Sustainable Development Goals/SDGs of the United Nations. The students will not only learn about the tools applied in modern development policies, but also about the critical aspects of monitoring and evaluating the results of development policy. Module-related oral presentations and debates will enhance the students’ learning experience.
**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module. By the end of this module, the student should be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- breakdown the complexity of modern development policy;
- identify, explain, and evaluate the tools applied in development policy;
- formulate well-justified criticism of development policy;
- summarize and present a module-related topic in an appropriate verbal and visual form.

**Indicative Literature**


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- This module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

- Assessment Type: Presentation
- Duration: 10 minutes per student
- Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
- Weight: 100%
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<thead>
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<th>Module Name</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Level (type)</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<th>Entry Requirements</th>
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<td>Pre-requisites</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-requisites</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<td>Annually (Spring)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms of Learning and Teaching</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Lecture and Tutorial (17.5 hours)</td>
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<td>• Private study (45 hours)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 semester</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workload</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62.5 hours</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Recommendations for Preparation
https://www.ctsi.ucla.edu/researcher-resources/files/view/docs/EGBS4_Kolchinsky.pdf
https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/jcb.2008.27
Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. The BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden the students’ horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules support students in their development to become an informed and responsible citizen in a global society.

This module has a particular focus on the role that Biotechnology and Biorefining is expected to play in social, economic and environmental contexts.

To deliver such a vision the module will prepare students to extract value from Biotechnology and associated activities. This will be done in the form of business cases that will be systematically developed by students alongside the development of the module. In this way, students will develop entrepreneurial skills while understanding basic business-related activities that are not always present in a technical curriculum. Case development will also provide students with the possibility of understanding the social, economic, environmental impact that Biotechnology and Biorefining can deliver in a Bio-Based Economy. The knowledge and skills gained through this module are in direct and indirect support of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: “Transforming our World”.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, the students should be able to

- design and develop a Business Case based on the tools provided by modern Biotechnology;
- explain the interplay between Science, Technology and Economics / Finance;
- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- work effectively in a team environment and undertake data interpretation and analysis;
- discuss approaches to value creation in the context of Biotechnology and Sustainable Development;
- explain the ethical implications of technological advance and implementation;
- demonstrate presentation skills.

Indicative Literature


Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- The module is a mandatory elective module in the Big Questions area, which is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute their knowledge and competencies to class discussions and activities.

Examination Type: Module Examination

Assessment Component 1: Term Paper
Length: 1.500 – 3.000 words
Weight: 75%
Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the module (1-6)

Assessment Component 2: Presentation
Duration: 10-15 min.
| Scope: Intended learning outcomes of the module (2-7) | Weight: 25% |
Module Name
Gender and Multiculturalism. Debates and Trends in Contemporary Societies

Module Code
JTBQ-BQ-013

Level (type)
Year 3 (Jacobs Track)

CP
5

Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>CP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-013</td>
<td>Gender and Multiculturalism: Debates and Trends in Contemporary Societies</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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</table>

Module Coordinator
Dr. Jessica Price

Program Affiliation
- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs

Mandatory Status
Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

Entry Requirements

Pre-requisites
☒ None

Co-requisites
☒ None

Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills
- The ability and openness to engage in interdisciplinary issues of global relevance
- Media literacy, critical thinking and a proficient handling of data sources

Frequency
Annually (Fall)

Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Lectures (17.5 hours)
- Project work (90 hours)
- Private study (17.5 hours)

Duration
1 semester

Workload
125 hours

Recommendations for Preparation
Critical following of the media coverage on the module’s topics in question.

Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. The BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden the students’ horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules are relevant for every university graduate in order to become an informed and responsible citizen in a global society.

The objective of this module is to introduce and familiarize students with the current debates, trends and analytical frameworks pertaining how gender is socially constructed in different cultural zones. Through lectures, group discussions and reflecting upon cultural cases, students will familiarize themselves with the current trends and the different sides of ongoing cultural and political debates that shape cultural practices, policies and discourses. The module will zoom-in on topics such as: cultural identity; the social construction of gender; gender fluidity and its backlash; gender and human rights; multiculturalism as a perceived threat in plural societies, among others. Students will be provided with opportunities for reflection and to ultimately develop informed opinions concerning topics that are continue to define some of the most contested cultural debates of contemporary societies. Furthermore, participants will engage their ideas in “hands on” projects aimed at moving
the needle from mere reflection by conducting “action-research” that will inform the outcomes of their course projects.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- use their disciplinary factual and methodological knowledge to reflect on interdisciplinary questions by comparing approaches from various disciplines;
- summarize and evaluate the current cultural, political and legal debates concerning the social construction of gender in contemporary societies;
- reflect and develop informed opinions concerning the current debates and trends that are shaping ideas of whether multiculturalism ideals are realistic in pluralist western societies, or whether multiculturalism is a failed project;
- identify, explain and evaluate the role that societal forces, such as religion, socio-economic, political and migratory factors play in the construction of gendered structures in contemporary societies;
- develop a well-informed perspective concerning the interplay of science and culture in the debates around gender fluidity;
- deconstruct and reflect on the intersectionality between populist/nationalist discourses and gender discrimination;
- reflect and propose societal strategies and initiatives that attempt to answer the big questions presented in this module regarding gendered and cross-culturally-based inequalities;
- complete a self-designed project, collect and distill information from an “action-research” perspective; summarizing the process in a suitable reporting format;
- consider the application of an algorithm for group formation (not mandatory);
- overcome general teamwork problems in order to perform well-organized project work.

**Indicative Literature**

Biological Limits of Gender Construction Author(s): J. Richard Udry


**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**

- The module is a mandatory elective module of the Big Questions area, that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules)
- Students are encouraged to relate the content of their previous modules to the topics of this module and contribute such knowledge and competences to class discussions and activities.

**Examination Type: Module Examination**

Assessment Type: Team Project

Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module

Weight: 100%
## Module Name

The Challenge of Sustainable Energy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-BQ-014</td>
<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
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## Module Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JTBQ-014</td>
<td>The Challenge of Sustainable Energy</td>
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</table>

### Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Karen Smith Stegen

### Program Affiliation

- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

## Entry Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>Co-requisites</th>
<th>Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>☒ None</td>
<td>Ability to read texts from a variety of disciplines</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Frequency

Annually (Spring)

## Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lectures and Group Exercises

## Duration

1 semester

## Workload

62.5 hours

## Recommendations for Preparation

Reflect on their own behavior and habits with regard to sustainability.

## Content and Educational Aims

All “Big Questions” (BQ) modules deal with the economic, technological, societal and environmental contexts of the global issues and challenges of the coming decades. The BQ modules intend to raise awareness of those challenges and broaden the students’ horizon with applied problem solving beyond the borders of their own disciplines. Knowledge and skills offered in the interdisciplinary BQ modules are relevant for every university graduate in order to become an informed and responsible citizen in a global society.

How can wide-scale social, economic and political change be achieved? This module examines this question in the context of encouraging “sustainability”. To address global warming and environmental degradation, humans must adopt more sustainable lifestyles. Arguably, the most important change is the transition from conventional fuels to renewable sources of energy, particularly at the local, country and regional levels. The main challenge to achieving an “energy transition” stems from human behavior and not from a lack of technology or scientific expertise. This module thus examines energy transitions from the perspective of the social sciences, including political science, sociology, psychology, economics and management. To understand the drivers of and obstacles to technology transitions, students will learn the “Multi-Level Perspective”. Some of the key questions explored in this module include: What is meant by sustainability? Are renewable energies “sustainable”? How can a transition to renewable energies be encouraged? What are the main social, economic, and political challenges? How can these (potentially) be overcome? The aim of the course is to provide students with the tools for reflecting on energy transitions from multiple perspectives.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

Students acquire transferable and key skills in this module.

By the end of this module, students will be able to

- articulate the history of the sustainability movement and the major debates;
- identify different types of renewable energies;
- explain the multi-level perspective (MLP), which models technology innovations and transitions;
- summarize the obstacles to energy transitions;
- compare a variety of policy mechanisms for encouraging renewable energies.

### Usability and Relationship to other Modules
- The module is a mandatory elective module of the Big Questions area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- For students interested in sustainability issues, this module complements a variety of modules from different programs, such as “International Resource Politics” (IRPH/SMP), “Environmental Science” (EES), “General Earth and Environmental Sciences” (EES), and “Renewable Energies” (Physics).

### Examination Type: Module Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
# State, Religion and Secularism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module Name</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Level (type)</th>
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<tr>
<td>State, Religion and Secularism</td>
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<td>Year 3 (Jacobs Track)</td>
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## Module Components

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<tr>
<td>JTBQ-015</td>
<td>State, religion and secularism</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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## Module Coordinator

Prof. Dr. Manfred O. Hinz

### Program Affiliation

- Big Questions Area: All undergraduate study programs

### Mandatory Status

Mandatory elective for students of all undergraduate study programs, except IEM

## Entry Requirements

- **Pre-requisites:** None
- **Co-requisites:** None

### Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills

- Ability to read texts from a variety of disciplines

## Frequency

Annually (Spring)

## Forms of Learning and Teaching

- Lectures and Group Exercises

## Duration

1 semester

## Workload

62.5 Hours

## Recommendations for Preparation

Reflect on the situation and role in respective home-country

## Content and Educational Aims

The relationship between state and religion has been a matter of concern in most if not all societies. Is religion above the state, or is it to the state to determine the place of religion? What does secularity mean? To what extent will religion accept secularity? Where does the idea of secularity come from? The course State, religion, secularism will search for answers to questions of this nature. After introducing to the topic and looking at some legal attempts to regulate the relationship between state and religion, the focus will be, on the one hand, on Christianity and secularity and, on Islam and secularity, on the other. Depending on the interest of participants, other religions and their relationships to states of relevance can be added.

## Intended Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able

- To understand the basic problems that have led to different models to regulate the relationship between the state and religion;
- To reflect critically the situation of state and religion in selected countries;
- To assess the values behind the concept of democracy and human rights;
- To use the acquired knowledge to strengthen the capacity towards respect for others and tolerance.

## Usability and Relationship to other Modules

- The module is a mandatory elective module of the Big Questions area that is part of the Jacobs Track (Methods and Skills modules; Community Impact Project module; Language modules; Big Questions modules).
- For students interested in State, Religion and secularism, this module complements modules from other programmes, such as IRPH and SMP

<table>
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Module Name: Community Impact Project

Module Code: JTCI-950
Level (type): Year 3 (Jacobs Track)
CP: 5

Module Components

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<td>JTCI-950</td>
<td>Community Impact Project</td>
<td>Project</td>
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Module Coordinator: CIP Faculty Coordinator

Program Affiliation
- All undergraduate study programs except IEM

Mandatory Status
Mandatory for all undergraduate study programs except IEM

Entry Requirements

Pre-requisites
- at least 15 CP from CORE modules in the major

Co-requisites
- None

Knowledge, Abilities, or Skills
- Basic knowledge of the main concepts and methodological instruments of the respective disciplines

Frequency
Annually (Fall)

Forms of Learning and Teaching
- Introductory, accompanying, and final events: 10 hours
- Self-organized teamwork and/or practical work in the community: 115 hours

Duration
1 semester

Workload
125 hours

Recommendations for Preparation

Develop or join a community impact project before the 5th semester based on the introductory events during the 4th semester by using the database of projects, communicating with fellow students and faculty, and finding potential companies, organizations, or communities to target.

Content and Educational Aims

CIPs are self-organized, major-related, and problem-centered applications of students' acquired knowledge and skills. These activities will ideally be connected to their majors so that they will challenge the students' sense of practical relevance and social responsibility within the field of their studies. Projects will tackle real issues in their direct and/or broader social environment. These projects ideally connect the campus community to other communities, companies, or organizations in a mutually beneficial way.

Students are encouraged to create their own projects and find partners (e.g., companies, schools, NGOs), but will get help from the CIP faculty coordinator team and faculty mentors to do so. They can join and collaborate in interdisciplinary groups that attack a given issue from different disciplinary perspectives.

Student activities are self-organized but can draw on the support and guidance of both faculty and the CIP faculty coordinator team.

Intended Learning Outcomes

The Community Impact Project is designed to convey the required personal and social competencies for enabling students to finish their studies at Jacobs as socially conscious and responsible graduates (part of the Jacobs mission) and to convey social and personal abilities to the students, including a practical awareness of the societal context and relevance of their academic discipline.

By the end of this project, students should be able to
- understand the real-life issues of communities, organizations, and industries and relate them to concepts in their own discipline;
- enhance problem-solving skills and develop critical faculty, create solutions to problems, and communicate these solutions appropriately to their audience;
- apply media and communication skills in diverse and non-peer social contexts;
- develop an awareness of the societal relevance of their own scientific actions and a sense of social responsibility for their social surroundings;
- reflect on their own behavior critically in relation to social expectations and consequences;
- work in a team and deal with diversity, develop cooperation and conflict skills, and strengthen their empathy and tolerance for ambiguity.

**Indicative Literature**
Not specified

**Usability and Relationship to other Modules**
- Students who have accomplished their C1P (6th semester) are encouraged to support their fellow students during the development phase of the next year’s projects (4th semester).

**Examination Type: Module Examination**
Project, not numerically graded (pass/fail)
Scope: All intended learning outcomes of the module
7.33.4 Language Modules

The descriptions of the language modules are provided in a separate document, the “Language Module Handbook” that can be accessed from here: https://www.jacobs-university.de/study/learning-languages
# 8 Appendix

## 8.1 Intended Learning Outcomes Assessment-Matrix

![Intended Learning Outcomes Assessment-Matrix](image-url)

### Figure 4: Intended Learning Outcomes Assessment-Matrix