

Study and Subject Examination Regulations
for the International Software Systems Science
Master's Degree Programme
at the University of Bamberg
of 6 March 2015

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Version MM 03.06.2018: This version is a temporary update valid for the academic year 2018-2019. It will be replaced with the new regulations for 2018-2019 once these are passed by the University and translated into English.

(Updated to reflect changes of regulations as approved by Faculty Board on 14.06.2017 and LuSt Commission on 28.06.2017. - Michael Mendler, 09.08.2017)

2nd Regulation changes on 30.09.2016: <http://www.uni-bamberg.de/fileadmin/www.abt-studium/amtliche-veroeffentlichungen/2016/2016-60.pdf>

1st Regulation changes on 30.09.2015: <https://www.uni-bamberg.de/fileadmin/www.abt-studium/amtliche-veroeffentlichungen/2015/2015-39.pdf>

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(Initial Translation: Ben Wilson, 23.10.2015)

*Please note that this English translation is provided merely as a reference aid. It is not a legally binding document. In all official administrative and legal matters, and in cases of dispute, the original German document takes precedence.

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In accordance with Article 13 Paragraph 1 Clause 2 in conjunction with Article 58 Paragraph 1 Clause 1 and Article 61 Paragraph 2 Clause 1 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act, the University of Bamberg issues the following	

Study and Subject Examination Regulations

I. General regulations

§29 Scope of application

- (1) These study and subject examination regulations comprise specific regulations for the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme.
- (2) The International Software Systems Science master's degree programme is a consecutive, advanced master's degree programme that follows and builds upon a bachelor's degree in computer science, software systems science or another closely related degree programme comprising at least 180 ECTS points.
- (3) The study and subject examination regulations supplement the general examination regulations (APO) for bachelor's and master's degree programmes in the University of Bamberg's Faculty of Information Systems and Applied Computer Science (§§1 through 28).

§30 Programme duration and credit scope

- (1) ¹The standard programme duration in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme, including completion of all module examinations and module examination segments, is four semesters of study. ²At least 120 ECTS points are required for successful completion of the degree programme.
- (2) The maximum permitted duration of study in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme is six semesters.

§31 Related degree programmes

¹As defined by §5 APO, degree programmes related to the International Software Systems Science programme are in general all degree programmes situated in the computer science subject field (particularly bioinformatics, computer and communications technology, computer science, computational and computer engineering, media informatics, medical informatics, information

systems). ²In individual cases, the examining board shall decide whether a degree programme is considered to be related.

§32 Module Handbook

¹The examining board is usually issuing a module handbook for the following academic year and publishes it officially by the end of the summer semester. ²The module handbook contains at least descriptions of modules offered by the WIAI Faculty according to these study and subject examination regulations and specifies the contents of these modules in detail such as aims and objectives, teaching formats, usability of modules, weekly class hours, typical work load, periodicity of the offering and duration of the module, thereby concretising these study and subject examination regulations.

II. Master's examination

§33 Programme admission requirements and admission to the master's examination

- (1) Admission to the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme stipulates that candidates possess a degree from an institution of higher education or an equivalent degree comprising at least six semesters of study and 180 ECTS points with a final mark of 2.7 or better from a degree programme in the same field of study.
- (2) Admission to the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme can also be granted to candidates who possess a degree from an institution of higher education or an equivalent degree comprising at least six semesters of study and 180 ECTS points with a final mark of 2.7 or better from a related degree programme as defined by §31 of these regulations, provided this qualifying degree covers competencies of at least 115 ECTS points in the module groups A1, A2, A3 and A4 of the bachelor's degree programme in Informatik: Software Systems Science of the University of Bamberg. The competencies according to section 33(2) comprise
 - competencies in mathematics, theoretical computer science, formal software analysis of at least 34 ECTS points,
 - competencies in programming, software technology or algorithms and data structures of at least 33 ECTS,
 - competencies in data base systems, computer architecture and operating systems, information security, distributed systems, data communication or mobile systems of at least 36 ECTS points,
 - further competencies in mathematics or compute science of at least 12 ECTS points.
- (3) ¹Furthermore, admission to the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme requires verification of English language proficiency at a level suitable for a master's degree programme taught in English. ²English proficiency is to be verified by

documentation as being, at minimum, IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL (internet-based) 90 level or equivalent documentation.

- (4) ¹In exceptional cases, the examining board may allow commencement of studies prior to the verification of the admission requirements stipulated in Paragraph 1, provided the admission requirements are fulfilled within a maximum of one year after enrolment. ²Enrolment is limited to two semesters. ³The limitation shall be officially removed upon verification of fulfilled admission requirements. ⁴Should the admission requirements not be fulfilled within the time limit, the student's enrolment in the master's degree programme shall be terminated. ⁵Until such time as all admission requirements are conclusively verified, course and examination credit is awarded on a strictly conditional basis.

§34 Subject matter and degree purpose

- (1) ¹The master's examination in the International Software Systems Science degree programme leads to a second, advanced academic degree in the field of Software Systems Science. ²The master's examination is intended to determine whether an examination candidate has gained advanced knowledge and specialised expertise, has a firm understanding of the context of the subject and possesses the skills required to apply the subject's scientific methods and insights to independently solving complex problems and further developing them through research.
- (2) ¹In order to fulfil the study requirements, examinations must be successfully passed in the module groups as specified in section §40 of these study and subject examination regulations, considering the associated elective options and including the successful completion of a master's thesis.
- (3) The module groups' individual ECTS requirements are specified in appendix 1.

§35 Purpose, subject and completion period of the master's thesis

- (1) ¹The master's thesis is meant to verify that the examination candidate is capable of utilising scientific and scholarly methods in an independent pursuit of the assigned topic.
- (2) ¹The topic of the master's thesis shall be drawn from one of the subject groups specified in Appendix 2. ²Upon the examination candidate's request, the examining board may also approve a topic from another subject group. ³In such a case, the examination candidate must satisfactorily show that the content of the proposed topic is drawn from Software Systems Science.
- (3) ¹The master's thesis has a credit value of 30 ECTS points. ²The allotted completion period for writing the master's thesis is six months.
- (4) ¹The mark for the master's thesis is calculated from two parts, whereby 67% of the total derives from the assessment of the written thesis and 33% from the assessment of a 20 to

60-minute colloquium in which the principal findings of the thesis are defended. ²The colloquium may take place either prior to or after assessment of the master's thesis. ³In this matter, the students have a right to choose.

- (5) Admission to the master's thesis in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme requires completion of at least 60 ECTS points from the master's curriculum.

§36 Specialisation field

¹Within the scope of the options available in the module groups, students may choose an individual, specialised focus pursuant to Appendix 3. ²Upon a student's request, the specialisation field shall be indicated in the final examination certificate as per §21 APO provided that

- a) the A4 master's thesis module group,
- b) a seminar or project in the A3 module group and
- c) at least an additional 18 ECTS points from the A1 and A2 module groups

were completed in the specialisation field. ³Courses in the A1 and A2 module groups are classified by specialisation field as established in Appendix B1. ⁴Prior to commencement, classification of the master's thesis and the projects shall be established by the examiner who has assigned the topic. ⁵Seminar classification shall be established and announced by the instructor prior to course commencement.

§37 International Experience

- (1) ¹In the course of master's studies in International Software Systems Science, it is strongly recommended to pursue at least one semester of structured studies abroad and/or to complete an internship of at least 360 hours in an international context. ²The internship or stay abroad should take place in the second or third semester of study.
- (2) ¹Each student is responsible for arranging his or her own foreign studies or internship. ²The University of Bamberg's International Office provides assistance with the arrangement of foreign studies within the framework of established university partnerships and available aid programmes. ³There is no entitlement to placement in a foreign study programme or internship.
- (3) ¹Concerning internships in an international context, students must verify that they have completed a subject-specific internship dealing with the Software Systems Science occupational field in an international context, and preferably abroad. ²The internship, which has a credit value of 12 ECTS points, may be completed in a private or public foreign or internationally active domestic organisation (e.g. research institution). ³The internship must be chosen so as to satisfy the programme objectives as per §39 Paragraph 1. ³Verification of

the internship shall take the form of a completion certificate issued by the department or organisational unit in which the internship was completed together with a written internship report of at least 4 DIN-A4 pages in length⁴The certificate and report are to be submitted to the examining board.⁵Students who have obtained their qualifying bachelor's degree fully outside of Germany may, in deviation from Clause 2, also complete the internship in any other private or public domestic organisation (e.g. research institution).

- (4) ¹Students participating in structured studies at a foreign university should earn examination and course credit comprising 30 ECTS points. ²The intended examination and course credit is to be arranged with the appropriate examining board in the form of a Learning Agreement prior to going abroad. ³Foreign module credits can be imported if the module's contents directly correspond to those of a compulsory module offered at Bamberg, according to these study and degree programme regulations as per appendix 1. ⁴It is also possible to register foreign module credits if the module contents fall within one of the general topics of the module groups A1, A2 or A3 according to appendix 1. ⁵Study credits in a module already passed at Bamberg cannot be imported from abroad a second time. ⁶The import of modules from study abroad is further regulated in Section §6 APO.

III. Programme prerequisites, objectives and structure

§38 Programme prerequisites

¹Pursuant to these regulations, courses and module examinations shall be held and completed in English.

§39 Programme objectives

- (1) ¹The subject matter of Software Systems Science comprises computer science-based fields of activity required for designing of complex distributed and networked software systems. ²Master's studies in Software Systems Science are meant to provide students with the skills necessary to independently solve any encountered problems using scientific methods, to further develop these scientific methods and also to make a worthy contribution to solving complex computer science problems.
- (2) ¹Over the course of the degree studies, students receive knowledge and learn skills pertaining to the fields of software systems science, computer science and the associated neighbouring and auxiliary disciplines. ²In this context, the integration of these various fields of knowledge and their application to topics in software systems science is of particular significance.

- (3) ¹The programme is both method- and project-oriented and is meant to prepare students for a diverse range of professional opportunities. ²The options available in the core studies provide the opportunity for the development of individual specialisation fields.
- (4) ¹Additionally, the programme is intended to convey the skills required for the continued self-education necessitated by the dynamic nature of the software systems science field. ²Furthermore, the programme is also designed to convey the skills necessary to contribute to the continued advancement of the field within the context of research and development activities.
- (5) Based on its English-language course offering, the programme also provides the opportunity to utilise existing passive and active language skills in the subject-specific context of software systems science, and to learn the technical English terminology used in this field.
- (6) The International Software Systems Science master's degree programme also aims to further strengthen qualifications for working internationally by providing the opportunity to pursue optional, integrated foreign studies or an optional subject-specific internship in an international context.
- (7) ¹The Master's degree programme in International Software Systems Science is designed with the following qualification aims in mind. ²With the successful completion of the degree programme, students
- will acquire the skills to address problems in Software Systems Science self-responsibly and by applying scientifically well-founded methodologies which are cutting edge;
 - will be able to develop innovative software-centered solutions for complex application contexts, satisfying high demands on technical quality, robustness and sustainability;
 - will be prepared to conduct independent postgraduate research, thereby contributing to the further advance of knowledge and scientific methodologies in Software Systems Science;
 - will have developed the ability for technical abstraction, to manage the intellectual complexities arising from the rapid developments in the numerous disciplines of Computer Science and to expand their knowledge continuously and time-efficiently;
 - will acquire the capacity to process, systematically, complex information relevant to Software Systems Science, plan and conduct both theoretical and practical experiments in a self-organised fashion and assess the applicability of new technologies critically, using scientific methods;
 - will communicate fluently in English about technical problems and their resolution in the field of Software Systems Science, organise themselves self-confidently in international teams whilst taking account of relevant intercultural contexts.

§40 Programme structure

- (1) Students in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme gain skills and expertise in the following five module groups:
 - A1: Software Systems Science
 - A2: Domain-specific Software Systems Science
 - A3: Seminar and Project
 - A4: Master's Thesis
 - A5: International Experience
- (2) ¹The master's degree programme's A1 and A2 module groups provide the opportunity to specialise in software systems science and related computer science fields. ²Modules from the module groups A2, A3 and A4 of the Informatik: Software Systems Science bachelor's degree programme that provide required subject-specific prerequisites for modules in the A1 and A2 module groups of the master's degree programme may be selected at a credit value of no more than 12 ECTS points. ³The modules from the bachelor's degree programme that provide subject-specific requirements are specified in the module handbook under the heading "recommended prerequisites". ⁴The decision of whether or not a bachelor's module can be selected is made by the examining board.
- (3) Depending on the current course offering, the A1 module group includes advanced-level modules that may be selected from the fields of computer science foundations, communication systems and computer networks, mobile software systems, software technology and programming languages, information security as well as distributed systems.
- (4) Depending on the current course offering, the A2 module group includes advanced-level modules that may be selected from related computer science fields with a particular connection to software systems science.
- (5) ¹The A3 module group contains seminars and projects that apply and expand on the content of the A1 and A2 module groups. ² The topics addressed in this module group expand on specific issues in areas related to software systems science.
- (6) The A4 module group provides for the in-depth examination of an advanced topic from a subject in the computer science subject group or another subject in accordance with Appendix 2 within the scope of the master's thesis.
- (7) ¹The A5 module group ensures a degree of international experience by providing the opportunities to earn credit points within the framework of structured software systems science studies abroad, or in a subject-specific, professionally-oriented internship in an international context.

IV. Final provisions

§41 Effective date

These regulations enter into effect on the day of their announcement.

Appendix 1: Module groups and specialisation fields in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme

¹At least 120 ECTS points, including the master's thesis, must be earned for completion of the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme. ²The International Software Systems Science master's degree programme comprises the module groups A1 through A5. ³In accordance with the character of the degree programme, these module groups are defined as mandatory elective fields that allow students to develop individual areas of specialisation. ⁴The following table shall detail how the degree programme's required ECTS points are distributed among the module groups.

	Module Group	ECTS
A1	Software Systems Science	30-48
A2	Domain-specific Software Systems Science	0-18
A3	Seminar and Project	12
A4	Master's Thesis (topic pursuant to Appendix 2)	30
A5	International Experience	30
	Total	120

⁵The module groups A1 through A5 are to be selected. ⁶In compliance with the respective module group's applicable minimum and maximum limits, modules with a **combined total of 48 ECTS points are to be completed in the A1 and A2 module groups.**

1. A1 Software Systems Science Module Group

¹In the module group A1 compulsory section 30 ECTS points are required. ²In the elective section an additional 0-18 ECTS points may be selected.

ID	Modul Name	ECTS	Examination
Compulsory Section: 30 ECTS			
MOBI-DSC-M	Data Streams and Complex Event Processing	6	oral (15 mins) or written (60 mins)
SWT-PCC-M	Principles of Compiler Construction	6	term paper (3 weeks) and colloquium (20 minutes)
DSG-DSAM-M	Distributed Systems Architecture and Middleware	6	term paper (3 months) and colloquium (15 minutes)
PSI-AdvaSP-M	Advanced Information Security and Privacy	6	Written (90 mins)
KTR-GIK-M	Foundations of Internet Communication	6	term paper (4 months) and colloquium (30 minutes)
Elective Section: 0-18 ECTS			
DSG-DistrSys-M	Distributed Systems	6	term paper (3 months) and colloquium (15 minutes)
DSG-SOA-M	Service-Oriented Architecture and Web Services	6	term paper (3 months) and colloquium (15 minutes)
DSG-SRDS-M	Selected Readings in Distributed Systems	3	term paper (4 months) and colloquium (20 minutes)
GdI-FP-M	Functional Programming	6	written (90 Minuten)
GdI-AFP-M	Advanced Functional Programming	6	written (90 Minuten) or oral (30 mins)
KTR-MAKV-M	Modeling and Analysis of Communication Networks and Distributed Systems	6	oral (30 Minuten)
KTR-MMK-M	Multimedia Communication in High Speed Networks	6	oral (30 Minuten)
KTR-Mobi-M	Mobile Communication	6	oral (30 Minuten)
MOBI-ADM-M	Advanced Data Management	6	oral (15 mins) or written (60 mins)
SWT-ASV-M	Applied Software Verification	6	term paper (3 weeks) and colloquium (20 minutes)
The module catalogue may be extended by subject-specific related modules as announced in the module handbook. In case of exceptional circumstances, such as sabbaticals or change of staff, some modules may not be offered during a semester.			

2. A2 Domain-specific Software Systems Science Module Group

¹In the A2 elective module group 0 to 18 ECTS points may be selected. ²The modules specially indicated in column “rT” require regular attendance.

ID	Module Name	ECTS	Examination	rT
EESYS-ES-M	Energy-Efficient Systems	6	written (90 mins)	
EESYS-DAE-M	Data Analytics in Energy Informatics	6	written (90 mins)	
HCI-MCI-M	Human-Computer Interaction	6	written (90 mins) or oral (30 mins)	
HCI-US-B	Ubiquitous Systems	6	written (90 mins) or oral (30 mins)	
KogSys-ML-M	Machine Learning	6	written (90 mins)	
SME-STE-M	Introduction to Knowledge Representation: Space, Time, Events	6	oral (20 mins)	
SNA-OSN-M	Project Online Social Networks	6	term paper (4 months) and colloquium (30 minutes)	x
The module catalogue may be extended by subject-specific related modules as announced in the module handbook. In case of exceptional circumstances, such as sabbaticals or change of staff, some modules may not be offered during a semester.				

3. A3 Seminar and Project Module Group

¹In the A3 module group both a master’s seminar in computer science comprising 3 ECTS points and a software systems science master’s project comprising 9 ECTS points are required. ²The seminar’s module examination takes the form of an oral presentation combined with a written term paper.

³The project’s module examination takes the form of a written term paper and a colloquium.

⁴Regular attendance in the selected courses is required for admission to the respective module examination, in accordance with Section §9(10) APO.

4. A4 Master’s Thesis Module Group

¹The A4 module group requires the production of a master’s thesis with a credit value of 30 ECTS points as per section §35. ²The module exam consists of a written thesis and an oral colloquium. ³The maximum allotted completion period for writing the master’s thesis is six months. ⁴The duration of the colloquium is between 20 to 60 minutes.

5. A5 International Experience Module Group

(1) ¹The A5 module group requires 30 ECTS points. ²This shall occur either within the framework of structured studies abroad in which examination and course credit in the field of software systems science or a closely related field that does not significantly overlap with the content of the A1, A2 and A3 module groups is earned at a foreign university, or in a subject-specific internship in an international context comprising 12 ECTS points.

(2) ¹The internship, which should be oriented towards professions in the field of software systems science, is to be completed in a foreign or internationally active domestic organisation (e.g. research institution). ²No mark is awarded for the internship, but it must be verified with a certificate of completion and a final report. ³Sections §37 and §40 apply accordingly.

(3) ¹Points missing from the A5 module group's required 30 ECTS points must be earned in additional, not previously completed modules from A1 or A2 module groups' required elective options in accordance with Appendix 1, or in foreign language modules offered by the University's language department up to 18 ECTS points. ²In cases where neither foreign studies nor an internship in an international context are undertaken, all 30 ECTS points from module group A5 shall be earned in foreign language modules offered by the University's language department up to 18 ECTS points, or in previously uncompleted modules in the A1 or A2 module groups in accordance with Appendix 1.

Appendix 2: Master's thesis topics in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme

The topic of the master's thesis (30 ECTS points) may be drawn from one of the following subjects:

a) Subjects from the Computer Science subject group:

- Foundations of computer science
- Communications services, telecommunications systems and computer networks
- Mobil software systems / mobility
- Software technology and programming languages
- Distributed systems
- Privacy and Security in Information Systems

b) Subjects otherwise related to the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme that have a strong connection to software systems science.

Concerning b) above, an examination candidate's proposed topic must be approved by the examining board. The official proposal to the board should satisfactorily show that the topic exhibits a thematic

connection to the content of the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme.

Appendix 3: Specialisation fields in the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme

In the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme an individual selection of required elective modules determines one of four specialisation fields:

- S1: Distributed and Mobile Systems
- S2: Software Analysis and Verification
- S3: Service-oriented Architectures
- S4: Communication Systems and Protocols

The table below presents the specialisation field classification of regularly offered modules. Based on a student's request, the examining board shall determine the appropriate specialisation field classification for modules not appearing in the table. In the International Software Systems Science master's degree programme and within the scope of the Learning Agreement, it is also possible for a student to arrange for the specialisation field classification of modules to be completed in the A5 International Experience module group.

Module Classification for the Specialisation Fields S1 to S4:

ID	Module Title	ECTS	S1	S2	S3	S4	Semester
DSG-DSAM-M	Distributed Systems Architecture and Middleware	6	x				WS, annually
DSG-IDistrSys*	Introduction to Distributed Systems*	6	x		x	x	SS, annually
DSG-DistrSys-M	Distributed Systems	6	x		x	x	SS, annually
DSG-SOA-M	Service-Oriented Architecture and Web Services	6			x		SS, annually
DSG-SRDS-M	Selected Readings in Distributed Systems	3	x		x		WS, SS
EESYS-ES-M	Energy Efficient Systems	6			x		SS, annually
EESYS-DAE-M	Data Analytics in Energy Informatics	6			x		WS, annually
GdI-CaS-M*	Communication and Synchronisation*	6	x	x		x	SS, annually
GdI-IaS-M*	Information and Security*	6	x	x		x	SS, annually
GdI-AFP-M	Advanced Functional Programming	6		x			SS, annually
GdI-IFP*	Introduction to Functional Programming*	6		x			WS, annually
GdI-FP-M	Functional Programming	6		x			WS, annually
GdI-MTL*	Modal and Temporal Logic*	6		x			WS, annually
HCI-MCI-M	Human-Computer Interaction	6	x		x		SS, annually
HCI-US-B	Ubiquitous Systems	6	x				WS, annually
ISDL-SOA*	SOA-Governance and Evaluation*	3			x		WS, annually
KInf-SemInf-M*	Semantic Information Processing*	6			x	x	WS, annually
KogSys-ML-M	Machine Learning	6			x		WS, annually

KTR-GIK-M	Foundations of Internet Communication	6			x	x	<i>SS, annually (WS as required)</i>
KTR-MAKV-M	Modeling and Analysis of Communication Networks and Distributed Systems	6	x	x		x	<i>SS, annually</i>
KTR-MMK-M	Multimedia Communication in High Speed Networks	6				x	<i>SS, annually</i>
KTR-Mobi-M	Mobile Communication	6	x			x	<i>WS, annually</i>
MOBI-DSC-M (MOBI-DSC*)	Data Streams and Complex Event Processing	6	x			x	<i>WS, annually</i>
MOBI-ADM-M	Advanced Data Management	6	x				<i>SS, annually</i>
SME-STE-M	Introduction to Knowledge Representation: Space, Time, Events	6		x			<i>WS, annually</i>
SNA-OSN-M	Project Online Social Networks	6				x	<i>WS, annually</i>
SWT-ASV-M	Applied Software Verification	6	x	x		x	<i>SS, annually</i>
SWT-PCC-M	Principles of Compiler Construction	6		x			<i>WS, annually</i>
SWT-FSA*	Foundations of Software Analysis*	6	x	x		x	<i>WS, annually</i>
PSI-AdvaSP-M	Advanced Security and Privacy	6	x			x	<i>SS, annually</i>

***These modules are no longer taught in the MSc programme. Any credits completed in these modules will be accounted for as specified above, notwithstanding.**

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Senate of the University of Bamberg of 10 December 2014 and the approval of the University of Bamberg's President on 6 March 2015 pursuant to Article 13 Paragraph 2 Clause 2 in conjunction with Article 61 Paragraph 2 Clause 1 BayHSchG.

Bamberg, 6 March 2015

Prof. Dr. Dr. habil. G. Ruppert

President

The ordinance was laid down on 6 March 2015 at the University of Bamberg; this was made public in the university by posting on the same day. The date of notification is therefore 6 March 2015.