

Communication from the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

ENGLISH READING VERSION (NOT LEGALLY BINDING)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President <input type="checkbox"/> Registrar	Study Regulations for the consecutive degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction (Master of Science)	issued 29/2019
	Resp. Dept./unit Faculty of Media	Telephone 3703

In accordance with §§ 3 par. 1, 137 par. 2 cl. 2 of the Thuringian Higher Education Act (ThürHG,) effective 10 May 2018 (Journal of Laws and Ordinances / Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt, p. 149) as amended by Article 128 of the Act on 18 December 2018 (Journal of Laws and Ordinances / Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt, p. 731), and in combination with § 34 par. 3 of the Thuringian Higher Education Act in the version of 13. September 2016 (Journal of Laws and Ordinances / Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt, p. 437), the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar issues the following study regulations, based on the President's approval of the examination regulations for the Master of Science (MSc) degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction.

These regulations were approved by the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Media on 15 May 2019 and were adopted on 28 June 2019 with the approval of the President of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar.

Table of Contents

- § 1 Scope of studies
- § 2 Duration of studies
- § 3 Admissions requirements
- § 4 Objective of studies
- § 5 Structure and content of studies
- § 6 Compensation for disadvantage
- § 7 Subject-specific student advice
- § 8 Equal treatment clause
- § 9 Statement of effect

Appendix: Module overview

§ 1 – Scope of Studies

The following study regulations govern the objectives, content and structure of the (English-language) Master's degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction. When completed, candidates are awarded a Master of Science (MSc) degree in accordance with the corresponding examination regulations.

§ 2 – Duration of studies

The standard duration of study is four semesters. The Faculty Board is responsible for ensuring that candidates complete all the requirements of the degree programme within this period of time. Part-time study is also possible.

§ 3 – Admissions requirements

(1) In order to be eligible for admission to this programme, candidates must have been awarded a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree with a final grade of at least 2.0* in the degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) or Computer Science for Digital Media. A candidate may also be admitted if she or he has been awarded a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession, a degree from a public administration college, or a degree from a public (or state-accredited) university of co-operative education (vocational training). This shall be determined by the examinations committee.

*based on the German grading system, whereby 1.0 is the highest grade, and 4.0 represents a pass. See under § 13 of the Examination Regulations (Prüfungsordnung) - Assessment of examinations, grade calculation (1)

(2) As a rule, the following degree courses are considered to be "subject-related": Human-Computer Interaction, Computer Science for Digital Media and Computer Science, and other courses in technological fields of academic study specifically related to HCI and Computer Science. In addition, candidates must prove that they possess basic knowledge of Human-Machine Interaction, Usability, Perception and Cognition. As a rule, candidates can prove that they possess ample knowledge in these areas by having acquired at least six Credit Points (CP) in subject-related undergraduate courses.

(3) If the necessary requirements are not met or are only partially fulfilled, the application is subject to a case-by-case assessment by the examinations committee, and the candidate may still be admitted based on her or his qualification. In such cases, the candidate is not automatically legally entitled to admission to the programme. If necessary, the examinations committee may attach additional conditions for admission, which the candidate must meet.

(4) In order to be eligible for admission to this programme, a candidate must provide proof of English-language proficiency of at least B2 level as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in the form of:

either

1. proof of mastery of the language as a native speaker (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from an English-speaking country)

or

2. one of the following certificates:

- IELTS score of 6.5 or better
- TOEFL (internet-based score 85 or better)
- Cambridge Certificate (FCE) B2
- an equivalent certificate.

(5) In addition, a letter of motivation in English of approx. 2-4 sides (A4) should be submitted with the application. This document should outline the candidate's specific motivation for admission to the HCI Master's programme. Candidates should also provide an overview of her or his previous university record and professional and practical training. This might include, for example, work on HCI-related projects and/or internships, membership of and commitment to student organisations, and/or academic activities. Wherever possible, evidence of all such activities should be provided.

§ 4 – Objective of studies

(1) The objective of the Master's programme in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) is to offer an intensively supervised, research-oriented advanced study programme and to facilitate the acquisition of advanced, in-depth academic knowledge of in the field of Human-Computer Interaction, especially in respect of central HCI methods and skills, HCI technologies, and interdisciplinary aspects from the fields of psychology and design theory. In the elective part of the programme, students are free to choose individual areas of specialisation.

The teaching of academically-based interdisciplinary knowledge, skills and methods is intended to enable graduates independently to carry out challenging research- or practice-oriented tasks involving the conception, creative and/or technical development and evaluation of user interfaces in digital information systems. The programme expressly encourages students to act in an independent, cooperative, responsible and innovative manner, as well as to think on an interdisciplinary level and to develop an understanding of complex relationships. The degree programme promotes not only technical competence, but also social skills and personal development, particularly by means of project work. By selecting projects and courses from the elective part of the programme, students can also build up an individual qualification profile that reflects their personal interests and inclinations.

(2) The candidate is awarded a Master of Science degree (MSc) upon successful completion of the examinations, the Master's thesis and its defence.

§ 5 – Structure and content of studies

(1) The degree programme comprises modules with a total value of 120 credit points (CP). As a rule, candidates acquire 30 CP per semester. Credit points are awarded only when a module examination has been passed. One credit point is equivalent to 30 hours of course work, including course attendance and private study. Candidates are encouraged to spend a period of time studying abroad. It is possible to begin this degree programme in either the winter or summer semester.

(2) By passing the required examinations, the candidate demonstrates that she or he has gained in-depth knowledge of her or his subject of study and possesses the necessary skills to conduct academic work. A period of study spent abroad allows students to gain international experience. The Master's degree programme concludes with the Master's thesis and its defence.

(3) The degree programme is composed of the compulsory module in Design Theory, five compulsory elective modules (Wahlpflichtmodule) from the degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction, one elective module (Wahlmodul) and two compulsory projects (see Appendix: Module Overview). As a rule, the 4th semester is reserved for the completion of the Master's thesis (24 CP) and its defence (6 CP), both of which count as components of the Master's module.

(4) Compulsory elective modules (Wahlpflichtmodule) give students the opportunity to select from a thematically-limited range of courses. Elective modules (Wahlmodule) are thematically open and give students the opportunity to take classes from other degree courses. A total of two projects must also be completed: these are an essential component of the degree programme, promoting the practical application of knowledge acquired, an understanding of complex relationships, and independent work on complex topics; above and beyond that, they improve multidisciplinary skills such as writing, presentational skills, teamwork and creativity.

(5) The courses offered for both forms of elective module are determined and announced by the examinations committee at the start of each semester.

(6) The degree programme may be studied exclusively in English. This applies to compulsory courses and examinations, as well as the final written thesis and its defence. Candidates are permitted, however, to take non-English language courses as elective modules.

(7) In order to be eligible for submission of the Master's thesis, a candidate must provide proof of **BOTH** English-language proficiency of at least C1 level as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in the form of:

either

1. proof of mastery of the language as a native speaker (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from an English-speaking country)

or

2. one of the following certificates:

- IELTS score of 7.0 or better
- TOEFL (internet-based score 95 or better)
- Cambridge Certificate (C1 Advanced (CAE))
- an equivalent certificate.

AND proof of German-language proficiency of at least A1 level as set out by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) in the form of:

either

1. proof of mastery of the language at native-speaker level (certification proving either a higher education entrance qualification or a first university degree qualifying for entry to a profession from a German-speaking country)

or

2. certification, for example from the Language Centre of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, providing proof of German-language proficiency of at least A1 level.

Before they complete the Master's thesis, students have the opportunity (as a rule, in semesters 1-3) to gain this accreditation by taking advantage of the English and/or German course programmes offered by the Language Centre of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar and by passing the relevant examinations. These courses can be taken within the framework of the elective module and can be worth up to 7 credit points.

§ 6 Compensation for disadvantage

(1) Applicants with disabilities and/or chronic illness may submit an additional application requesting compensation for disadvantage along with their main application

(2) The Bauhaus-Universität Weimar provides student advice and counselling for the degree programme. In addition to the general advice and counselling provided by the university, support and advice for chronically ill and disadvantaged students, including advice on the issue of compensation for disadvantage, is provided by the Thuringian Student Union (Studentenwerk Thüringen).

(3) The structure of the degree programme, including teaching and learning methods, takes account of the specific needs of students (e.g. disabled or chronically ill students) whose special circumstances limit their ability to organise their studies. Maternity or parental leave, as well as time off for nursing care, may also be claimed without the student suffering any disadvantage.

(4) Applications for such compensation must be submitted by the student and/or degree course applicant. The final decision is made by the relevant examinations committee in consultation with the body responsible for admissions. The applicant can propose a specific form of compensation. The application is to be submitted in writing, and the applicant is notified of the decision in writing. In the event of rejection, the reasons are also given in writing.

§ 7 – Subject-specific student advice

(1) The following introductory events are offered at the beginning of the first semester:

(a) orientation event organised by the Faculty of Media for students of the Master's degree programme in Human-Computer Interaction (M.Sc.)

(b) introduction to courses offered in the first semester and a general overview of the Master's degree programme

(2) Students receive general academic advice and counselling from a faculty advisor.

(3) Students are personally advised on matters related to the degree programme by professors and academic staff of the Faculty of Media.

(4) The examinations committee holds a meeting with the students of the degree programme at the beginning of each academic year to discuss the programme's content and structure.

§ 8 – Equal treatment clause

All status and job descriptions appearing in these regulations pertain equally to all genders.

§ 9 – Statement of effect

These regulations come into effect on the first day of the month following their public announcement by the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. They are applicable as of the Winter Semester 2019/20.

Approved by resolution of the Faculty Board on 15 May 2019

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Volker Rodehorst
Dean of the Faculty of Media

These statutes are approvable.

Dipl.-Jur. Rainer Junghanß
Legal advisor

approved
Weimar, 28 June 2019

Prof. Dr. Winfried Speitkamp
President

Appendix: Module Overview

Students are required to acquire a total of 120 credit points (CP) by completing the following modules in the course of four semesters:

Module name	CP
<i>HCI Fundamentals</i>	
Psychology (CE)	6
HCI Concepts and Methods (CE)	6
<i>HCI Technologies</i>	
Visual Interfaces (CE)	6
Computer Vision (CE)	6
HCI Specialisation (CE)	6
Design Theory (C)	6
Electives (E)	24
Research Project I (C)	12
Research Project II (C)	18
Mater's module	
comprising	
Master's thesis	24
Defence	06
Total	120

Key: C = Compulsory module (Pflichtmodul)
CE = Compulsory elective module (Wahlpflichtmodul)
E = Elective module (Wahlmodul)

The courses for each module/compulsory elective module are announced each semester in the course catalogue.

Two compulsory elective modules (each comprising 6 CP) are allocated to the topic areas *HCI Fundamentals* and *HCI Technologies*. A total of 12 credit points must thus be acquired in each topic area.

The compulsory elective module HCI Specialisation (6 CP) allows for work from the two aforementioned topic areas to be accredited if this is not otherwise possible.

The Design Theory module comprises a lecture and a practical class on the Theory and History of Design from the academic programme of the Faculty of Art & Design.

The elective module contains a broad selection of courses including

- lectures and/or seminars from the degree courses in Human-Computer Interaction and Computer Science for Digital Media which have not already been accredited in other modules
- graded language courses in English or German as a Foreign Language worth up to a total of 7 CP
- courses from the departments of Media Studies and Media Management, as well as some from the Faculties of Architecture and Urban Studies, Civil Engineering and Art & Design

- one additional project in the field of Human-Computer Interaction.

If more than 24 CP are acquired in the elective module, the excess credit points are deducted from those courses in which the student has received the lowest grade.

In addition, two projects must be completed, one being worth 12 CP and the other 18 CP.