

saarland-informatics-campus.de

Tips from the study coordination

Studying in the Computer Science department

Barbara Schulz-Brünken and Rahel Stoike-Sy, 06.10.2025



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SIC Saarland Informatics
Campus

WELCOME

Welcome at SIC

Herzlich willkommen

أهلاً وسهلاً

欢迎

Bienvenue

स्वागत



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WELCOME

Study Coordination of the Computer Science Department

- Barbara Schulz-Brünken
- Rahel Stoike-Sy
- Evelyn Kraska
- Luis Lidon
- Jacqueline Pennekamp
- Laura Ull Méndez
- Ryhene Rais (student assistant)



WELCOME

Study Coordination of the Computer Science Department

Counselling e.g. for

- Study planning
- Compensation for disadvantages, part-time, semesters off
- Recognition of examination results
- Stays abroad
- Problems during your studies (subject-related, personal or health-related)

WELCOME

Contacting us

studium@cs.uni-saarland.de

→ Matriculation Number: First Name, Last Name (xxxxxxx)

→ M. Sc. + Study programme

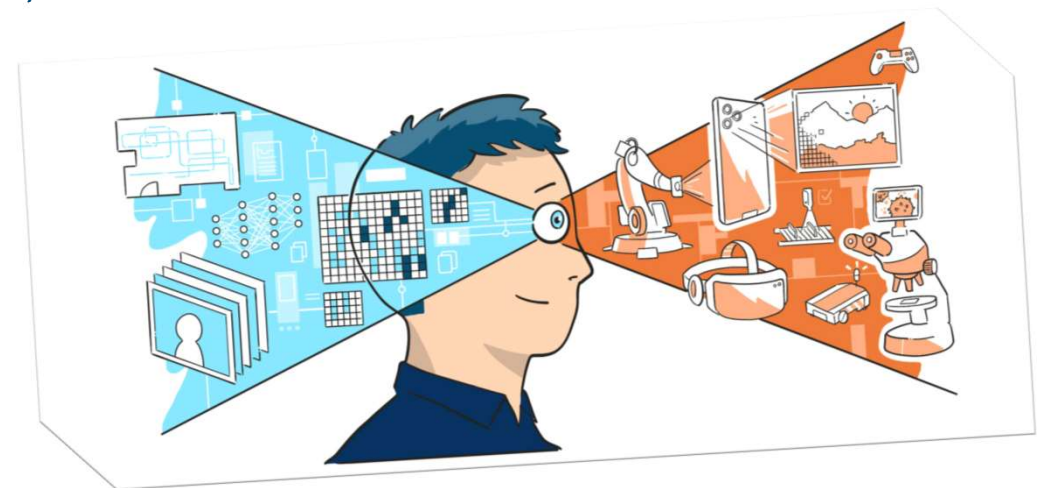
(Note: Make sure to check the information sections on ps-mint
and read the study and examination regulations carefully before writing your e-mail)

- Office hours → please book an online or on-site appointment:
<https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/departments/departments-of-computer-science/departments.html>

YOUR STUDIES

Master programs in the Department of Computer Science

- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (DSAI)
- Embedded Systems
- Media Informatics
- Visual Computing



YOUR STUDIES

Adjusting to university life

- Get to know your degree programme and fellow students
- Attend „StEP“ by the Student Council on **Oct. 7-10**
- Social meet ups by the Student Council during the semester
- Cultural activities at the University

A StEP into your student life

- **What?** The primary introductory event for CS and related subjects, delivered to you by the CS Students' Council.
- **When?** 7th – 10th October 2025 at 9am. Yes, that's the week before lectures!
 - Important: Please arrive early / on time!

YOUR STUDIES

Your most important Study Documents on ps mint

- Examination Regulations
 - Subject-specific Regulations
 - Study Regulations
 - Module Guide (Handbook)
-
- <https://www.ps-mint.uni-saarland.de/en/home>

Study Programme Documents (Downloads)

- Examination regulations: [german](#) / [english](#)

Bachelor DSAI

- Subject-specific regulations: [german](#) / [english](#)
- Study regulations: [german](#)
- Module guide: [german](#)

Master DSAI

- Subject-specific regulations: [german](#) / [english](#)
- Study regulations: [german](#) / [english](#)
- Module guide: [german](#)

YOUR STUDIES

Your Study Regulations and Subject-specific Regulations ...

... are specific to each study programme!

... will be discussed in detail later by :

Prof. Verena Wolf (Computer Science)

Dr. Ben Stock (Cybersecurity)

Prof. Isabel Valera (DSAI)

Prof. Thorsten Herfet (Embedded Systems)

Prof. Krüger, Pascal Lessel et al (Media Informatics)

Prof. Philipp Slusallek (Visual Computing)

YOUR STUDIES

Joint Examination Regulations

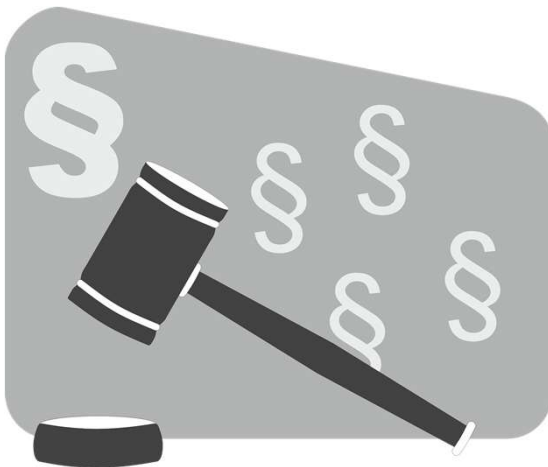


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Content:

I. General provisions

- Section 1 Scope
- Section 2 General information
- Section 3 Types of degree programmes
- Section 4 Student workload
- Section 5 Standard period of study
- Section 6 Modularization and ECTS credits
- Section 7 The Examination Board
- Section 8 Examiners, thesis examiners, supervisors, observers
- Section 9 Studying part-time
- Section 10 Progress checks
- Section 11 Core skills
- Section 12 Admission to the Master's programme

II. Student assessments

- Section 13 Student assessments
- Section 14 Participation in student assessments
- Section 15 Academic accommodations
- Section 16 Grading/marking of student assessments and grading system
- Section 17 Repeating academic assessments and examinations
- Section 18 Deception and plagiarism
- Section 19 Recognition of previous periods of study and earlier coursework, exam admission prerequisites and examination credits

III. Bachelor's or Master's thesis

- Section 20 Admission to the Bachelor's or Master's thesis phase
- Section 21 Subject of the Bachelor's or Master's thesis
- Section 22 Duration and deadlines
- Section 23 Procedural elements, presentation and layout of the thesis

IV. Degree qualification

- Section 24 Successfully completing the Bachelor's or Master's programme and overall grade

Examination Registration (Section 14.2)

- Registration/De-Registration: in HISPOS **until one week before** the exam
- A delayed registration is not allowed!
→ **withdrawal thereafter only with a medical certificate!**
- You must register separately for the main exam and the re-exam

Seminars

- Shortened registration/cancellation period : **Up to three weeks after topic allocation or course start**
- A withdrawal from a seminar registration is only possible three weeks after getting the topic for presentation.

YOUR STUDIES

Excursus: Variety of Systems in the Department

- Course catalogue of the UdS „LSF“
 - List of lectures for your specific study program
 - Exam registration and de-registration

- Content Management System „CMS“



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- Lectures offered for a lot of study programs
- Readings, lecture material, tests, forum, information

- Seminar Assignment System

YOUR STUDIES

Pre-exam Requirements and Examinations

- Pre-exam Requirements
 - Exercise Sheets
 - Mid-terms
- Examinations
 - Written Exam
 - Oral Exam
 - Term Paper
 - Projects

Grading System (Section 16)

Grade	Description (German)	Description (English)	Meaning
1.0 / 1.3	Sehr gut	Very Good	Excellent performance
1.7 / 2.0 / 2.3	Gut	Good	Above-average performance
2.7 / 3.0 / 3.3	Befriedigend	Satisfactory	Acceptable, average performance
3.7 / 4.0	Ausreichend	Sufficient	Minimum passing performance
5.0	Nicht ausreichend	Insufficient / Fail	Failing grade

Examination achievements: ungraded or graded

YOUR STUDIES

Grade Improvement (Section 17.5)

- If intended for a lecture
- If you still have an examination attempt
- In the same exam period
- The better grade counts

Example:

- Main exam: 3.0 and Re-exam: 1.7 → Final grade: 1.7
- Main exam: 2.0 and Re-exam: 3.0 → Final grade: 2.0



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Repeating Academic Assessments and Examinations (Section 17)

- A failed examination may be repeated twice (Section 17 (1) PO)
- 3 x failed = definitively failed
 - Elective or elective mandatory module → can be replaced
 - Compulsory module → Study jeopardised

Right to inspect Examination results (Section 16.11)

- Inspection into written assessments, examinations and thesis reports
 - If not offered: request to the lecturer → examination board
 - Deadline: within one month after the announcement of grades
-
- Exam inspection
 - Check correction (were any points overlooked?)
 - Analyse
 - Reflect on own strengths and weaknesses



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Recognition of previous examination credits (Section 19 PO)

- One single application
- Application in your first semester or directly after a semester abroad
- credittransfer@cs.uni-saarland.de

Study Progress and Control of Progress (Section 10)

Minimum requirements for full-time students:

- At least 9 credits after 1 semester
- At least 30 credits after 2 semesters
- At least 60 credits after 4 semesters
- At least 90 credits after 6 semesters

1. letter → Invitation for advisory meeting with a professor

2. letter → possible loss of the right to examination → Opportunity to make a written statement

→ Examination board takes the final decision:

- a. more time to reach the minimum requirement or
- b. loss of right to participate in examinations

YOUR STUDIES

Academic Integrity

Central values in Science, Teaching & Studies:

- Honesty
- Trust
- Fairness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Courage



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YOUR STUDIES

Plagiarism and Cheating – A No-Go!

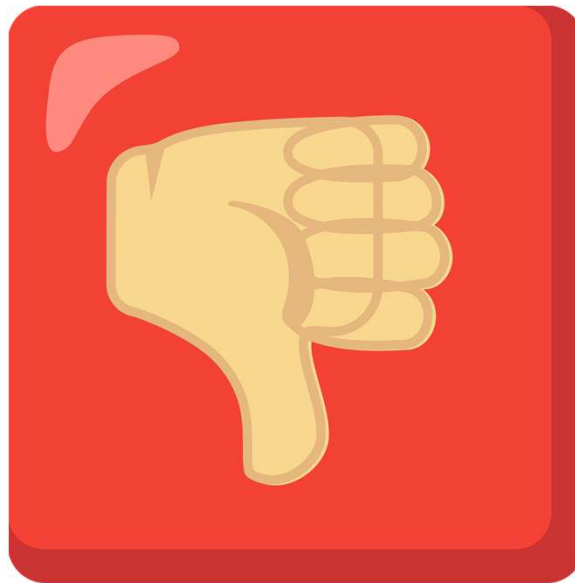


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YOUR STUDIES

Cheating

- Copying solutions from fellow students
- Using cheat sheets in exams (if prohibited)
- Using calculators, internet, AI (if prohibited)

YOUR STUDIES

Plagiarism

Plagiarism = Passing off ideas, texts, images of others as one's own

- Copying texts/code without indicating the source
- Using AI-generated content (texts, code, images) without marking
- Self-plagiarism(reusing your own work from the past)

Plagiarism and Deception – Consequences? (Section 18)

- If there is suspicion → Opportunity to make a statement
- Preliminary examinations like exercise sheets: 0 points, possibly no admission to the exam
- Exam
 - Grade 5.0, invalidation of examination results
 - Entry in plagiarism list and student file
 - Serious/repeated cases: possible loss of the right to be examined (Section 18 (4) PO)

YOUR STUDIES

Avoiding Plagiarism and Cheating

- Always cite sources properly
- Understand and rephrase
- Document code well
- Use AI for learning, not for solving tasks
- Group work:
 - explain ☒
 - share full solutions ✗



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YOUR STUDIES

Learning and Studying with AI at the UdS

- Helpful: Structuring texts, generating ideas, checking grammar or style, exploring new topics
- Use AI for learning; otherwise only if permitted
- Compare prompts & reflect on results
- Chatbot 'Copilot' and 'Hawki platform'

YOUR STUDIES

Joint Examination Office MINT

- Administration of academic achievements (i.e. submission of language course certificates)
- Application for part-time study
- Issuing degree documents



YOUR STUDIES

Joint Examination Office MINT

Computer Science → cs@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Fauß)

Cybersecurity → cybersicherheit@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Wintringer)

Embedded Systems → es@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Lorang)

Media Informatics → mei@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Lorang)

Data Science & AI → dsai@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Lorang)

Visual Computing → vc@ps-mint.uni-saarland.de (Ms. Schmigiel)

(<https://www.ps-mint.uni-saarland.de/de/home>)

YOUR STUDIES

Part-Time Studies (Section 9)

- Study for at least 50% and no more than 60% of the available working hours (Section 9 (1))
- How? → Submit your application via e-mail to the Examination office
- When? → No later than two weeks before the enrolment or re-registration deadline

Leave of Absence

- Semester does not count for progress control → enrolled, but not allowed to take exams
- Application must be sent to [studium\(at\)uni-saarland.de](mailto:studium(at)uni-saarland.de)
- When? → At re-registration or during semester (latest: last lecture day)
- Application for refund of fees possible (there are deadlines!)
- Application forms and more information:

<https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/study/organisation/more/leave-of-absence.html>

Reasonable Accommodations (Nachteilsausgleich) (Section 15)

- Compensating for disadvantages due to disability or chronic illness
 - Needs-based adjustments of study and examination conditions
 - Ensures equal participation
 - Individually and situationally adapted to impairments
-
- Contact: The Disability Support Service (KSB)

<https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/administration/diversity/ksb/students/reasonable-accommodations.html>

STUDYING ABROAD

Study abroad for 1 or 2 semesters

Within Europe (ERASMUS)

- many partner universities of Computer Science
- Enquiry by 1 March (for winter semester) or 1 September (for summer semester)
- Information: Study Coordination (Ms Schulz-Brünken), erasmus@cs.uni-saarland.de

Non-European countries

- Coordinated by the International Office, Gout! Service Center
- Scholarship programme UdS mobil



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WELCOME

Learning Culture

- International
- Theoretical
- Variety of → Accents
 - Teaching Styles
 - Exam Types

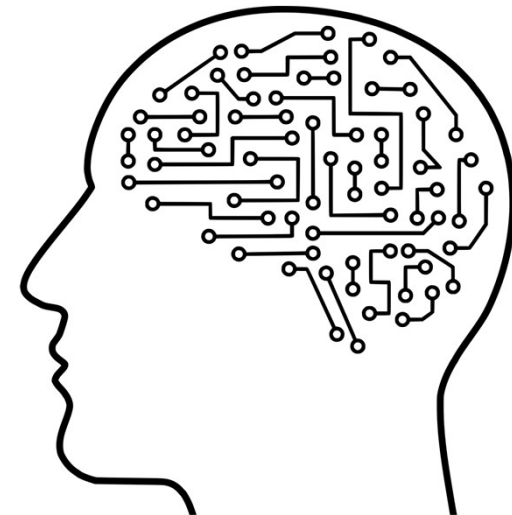


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YOUR STUDIES

Career center

- Counselling
- Tipps for your application documents
- Next on May 5th, 2026

WELCOME

Onboarding for First-Semester Students: Digital Learning Platforms

- introductory event where you can learn about important platforms and tools for their studies.
- This introduction covers learning platforms such as MS Teams, Moodle, and LSF.
- You will also receive tips and tricks for using AI tools in your studies and other digital resources available at the University of Saarland. Various dates are available in different languages. Participation is possible online without registration or in person with registration.
- <https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/einrichtung/zell/sonderformate/onboarding-for-first-semester-students-lsf-moodle-and-ms-teams.html>

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All about studying at SIC and more
<https://saarland-informatics-campus.de/en/studium-studies/>

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YOUR STUDIES

Tips for successful studying (passt mehr bei den subject-specific Vorträgen)

- Take broader introductory classes in Semesters 1 & 2
- Afterwards take more specialized classes and seminars in Semesters 2 & 3
- Choose courses strategically
- Do not take more than 30 CP per semester
- Study in groups of 2-3 people



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YOUR STUDIES

Student council (Fachschaftsrat)

- Students of all CS programs

E1.3, Room 107

<http://cs.fs.uni-saarland.de>

- Organise many activities
- Advocate for your concerns

