

Curriculum

for the Master's degree programme in

Management, Economics, and Data Science

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Section 1 General Remarks

- (1) The Master's degree programme in *Management, Economics, and Data Science* comprises 120 European Credit Transfer System credits (ECTS credits). This equates to an anticipated study duration of four semesters. The Master's degree programme in *Management, Economics, and Data Science* is assigned to the group of social and economic sciences study programmes pursuant to Section 54 (1) of the Universities Act 2002 (UG).
- (2) The student workload related to the individual academic achievement is expressed in ECTS credits. The workload for one year should amount to 1,500 full hours, for which 60 ECTS credits are assigned (Section 54 (2) UG). The workload comprises independent study as well as the semester hours/contact hours, including participation in assessment procedures.
- (3) The Master's degree programme is taught in English.

Section 2 Qualification Profile and Competences

- (1) The qualification profile describes the academic and professional qualifications that students gain by completing the degree programme.
- (2) The English-language Master's degree programme in *Management, Economics, and Data Science* is aimed at students interested in gaining knowledge of how to address economic issues using modern (data) analytical tools. The courses taught at the start of the degree programme offer students the opportunity to develop the necessary methodological foundations, which they will subsequently apply to a wide range of topics in the field of business and economics. Students can choose to specialise in one of the following majors: *Business Analytics* and *International Business and Economics*. The degree programme thus enables students to specialise in integrated economic analysis and problem-solving or in evidence-based decision-making support. In addition, the Master's degree programme prepares students for an advanced university education within the framework of a doctoral programme in Social and Economic Sciences.
- (3) Each major consists of three predefined guided electives (*minitracks*). Within the scope of the guided electives, students must choose one of the majors (see Section 5), resulting in a specialised skills profile. In addition, two freely selectable guided electives (*minitracks*) must also be completed.
 - The Business Analytics major is the specialisation option that familiarises students with the necessary skills and tools required for business analysis and decision-making support. Students consolidate their knowledge of decision theory as well as statistical data analysis and programming and apply the skills they have acquired to solve various business management problems. They are able to independently recognise and classify decision-making challenges in the sphere of business management and to derive recommendations for action based on their analytical skills. Graduates gain qualifications for careers that require both advanced business management training and broad methodological knowledge. As a result, they are able to provide decision-making support in various functional areas of a business organisation.
 - The International Business and Economics major is the specialisation option for students pursuing a methodologically sound integrated business and economics education based on the central pillars of economics, management science and environmental and energy economics. The major is designed as the next stage following on from the BSc programme in International Business and Economics on

the one hand, and addresses interested individuals who have graduated from other study programmes on the other hand. The integrated, method-led degree programme prepares students, especially in combination with empirical and dataanalytical skills, to work on a wide range of practically relevant economic and entrepreneurial issues in an international context. The focus on quantitative analysis and problem-solving skills opens up a wide range of career paths.

(4) Gender aspects and the equal treatment of women and men are integral components of the Master's degree programme in *Management*, *Economics*, and *Data Science*. Gender aspects have a central role in the required course *Diversity Management* (Section 8). Gender aspects also form part of the course *Business Ethics* (Section 8). Students also have the opportunity to complete courses in the field of Feminist Studies/Gender Studies within the scope of Section 10 (Open Electives).

Section 3 Admission Requirements

- (1) Admission to a Master's degree programme is contingent upon completion of a relevant Bachelor's degree programme, another relevant degree programme of at least the same higher education level completed at a recognised domestic or foreign postsecondary educational institution, or a degree programme as defined in the curriculum of the Master's degree programme (Section 64 (3) UG).
- (2) The Bachelor's degree programmes in Applied Business Administration, Business Administration, Information Management, International Business and Economics, Business and Law, Management Information Systems, and Information and Communications Engineering/Branch of Study Business Engineering at the University of Klagenfurt are classed as relevant in any case (provided the requirements set out in para. 5 are met).
- (3) Other relevant degree programmes of at least the same level of higher education pursuant to para. 1 are those which impart knowledge in core areas of business and economics (in particular business administration and economics) amounting to 30 ECTS credits, as well as knowledge of mathematics and statistics totalling 15 ECTS credits, which are comparable to the level of a Bachelor's degree programme in business and economics, in particular to the degree programmes listed in para. 2. When assessing the required knowledge, all ECTS credits assigned to achievements in the completed degree programme must be taken into account.
- (4) In order to compensate for substantial differences in terms of the content of other relevant programmes of at least the same level of higher education completed at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution, supplementary examinations may be prescribed, which must be completed by the end of the second semester of the Master's programme. The Rectorate may determine which of these supplementary examinations are prerequisites for taking the examinations stipulated in the curriculum of the Master's degree programme (Section 64 (3) UG).
- (5) Individuals who do not have English as their first language are expected to have a command of English at the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).
- (6) The Rectorate is authorised to regulate admission by means of an admission procedure pursuant to Section 63a (8) UG.

Section 4 Academic Degree

Graduates of this Master's degree programme are awarded the academic degree "Master" accompanied by "of Science" (abbreviated to: "MSc"). When used, the academic degree must follow the name.

Section 5 Structure & Organisation of the Degree Programme/Intended Learning Outcomes

(1) As part of the Master's degree programme, students must complete the required subjects (*Common Body of Knowledge*) and subjects assigned to the guided electives (one *major* and two *minitracks*).

Students must also complete the open electives. In addition, students must complete a Master's thesis and the seminar accompanying the Master's thesis. Finally, the programme is concluded with a final examination conducted by an examination board.

Subject/ Academic achievement	Designation	ECTS credits	see
Required Subjects:	CBK 1: Mathematical Methods	8	Sec. 8
Common Body of	CBK 2: Statistical Methods	8	
Knowledge (CBK)	CBK 3: Bridging Computing	4	
	CBK 4: Bridging Business	2	
	CBK 5: Bridging Economics	2	
	CBK 6: Ethics and Diversity Management	6	
	Total	30	
Guided Electives	Business Analytics Major or International Business and Economics Major	36	Sec. 9
	Two minitracks	24	
	Total	60	
Master's Thesis	Master's Thesis	19	Sec. 13
	Seminar accompanying the Master's Thesis	4	
Open Electives		6	Sec. 10
Final Board Examination		1	Sec. 15
Total ECTS credits		120	

(2)	The Master's degree programme comprises the following required subjects (30 ECTS credits):
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Subject/ Academic achievement	Designa	tion	Intended learning outcomes	ECTS credits
Required Subjects: Common Body of Knowledge (CBK)	1	CBK 1: Mathematical Methods	Students are familiar with the mathematical methods required to understand economic literature. They are able to apply the formal methods required in economics and to analyse economic models with the help of formal mathematical methods.	8
	2	CBK 2: Statistical Methods	Students are able to define, implement and apply the basics of probability theory, stochastic simulation and stochastic processes as well as basic statistical concepts and models and to prove selected theorems.	8
	3	CBK 3: Bridging Compu- ting	Students have a basic command of a programming language and are capable of autonomously developing small programmes.	4
	4	CBK 4: Bridging Business	Students can structure decision-making problems and apply central concepts of decision-making under certainty and risk as well as with single and multiple objectives. Students are also able to assess the significance of these concepts for business administration.	2

5	CBK 5: Bridging Economics	Students have a basic knowledge of economics at the level of the Bachelor's degree programme in International Business and Economics. They have mastered essential elements of economic modelling at Bachelor's level and are able to describe, formalise and analyse economic problems at this level and discuss possible solutions.	2
6	CBK 6: Ethics and Diversity Management	Students are able to perceive dimensions of ethical action and analyse management problems from an ethical or intersectional perspective. They can plan and implement appropriate ways of dealing with ethical issues in an organisational context. They can also reflect theoretically on their knowledge of various dimensions of diversity, diversity management and anti-discrimination and apply this knowledge to a variety of practical contexts.	6

(3) Students must complete a total of 60 ECTS credits in guided electives.

This involves choosing one of two compulsory majors, each comprising three guided electives (*minitracks*) totalling 36 ECTS credits, namely:

- a) Business Analytics Major
 - Minitrack 1: Foundations of Business Analytics
 - Minitrack 2: Computing
 - Minitrack 3: Managerial Applications
- b) International Business and Economics Major
 - Minitrack 4: Economics
 - Minitrack 5: Management Science
 - Minitrack 6: International, Energy, Environmental, and Climate Change Economics

c) Two further guided electives (*minitracks*) (each worth 12 ECTS credits) can be freely selected. However, these must not be part of the chosen major.

Guided electives:	7	Minitrack 1: Foundations of Business Analytics	Students have knowledge of data analysis at Master's level. Among other things, students acquire the skills to explain and evaluate modern tools of empirical modelling, statistical learning and causal inference and to apply them to practical problems. They are able to make data-based decisions.	12
	8	Minitrack 2: Computing	Students are able to design and implement simple structured and object-based programmes with the help of development tools. They are also able to solve advanced problems in software development.	12
	9	Minitrack 3: Managerial Applications	Students are able to deal with data-based decision-making problems in typical business application fields. They can categorise these in terms of planning and have the necessary skills and data-based analysis techniques to support decision-making.	12
	10	Minitrack 4: Economics	Students possess knowledge of the concepts and methods of micro- and macroeconomics at Master's level. Students are able to systematically analyse and work on operational and strategic economic issues with the help of the structured economic instruments.	12

11	Minitrack 5: Management Science	Students are able to classify and model business optimisation problems in an international economic context and to develop and apply suitable solution methods. Numerical results for typical practical decision problems can be analysed and interpreted.	12
12	Minitrack 6: International, Energy, Environmental, and Climate Change Economics	Students have knowledge of international economics, energy economics and environmental and climate economics at Master's level. Students are able to systematically analyse and deal with operational and strategic economic issues, in particular energy and environmental issues.	12
13	Minitrack 7: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning	Students are able to explain the essential concepts and methods of Artificial Intelligence. Furthermore, they are able to design Artificial Intelligence systems, identify and apply suitable methods for specific Artificial Intelligence problems and analyse the limits of Artificial Intelligence systems. Finally, they are able to explain the theoretical principles of Machine Learning and apply them to practical examples.	12

14	Minitrack 8: Rationality and Agent- based Computational Economics	Students are able to analyse and model strategic interactions in (business) economic and social organisations and institutions at Master's level. Students can model and analyse static and dynamic strategic decision- making problems using various rationality assumptions and apply suitable methods to solve them.	12
15	Minitrack 9: Public Management in the Digital Age	Students are able to identify and apply suitable theoretical concepts, methods and analytical tools in the context of public management, public performance measurement and analytics and public policy in the digital age and to analyse, interpret and present solutions and (quantitative) results in an understandable manner.	12

(4) Further academic achievements (30 ECTS credits):

Subject/ Academic achievement	Designat	ion	Intended learning outcomes	ECTS credits
Master's Thesis	16	Master's Thesis and the seminar accompanying the Master's Thesis	Students are able to work through a specific research question autonomously and to research and analyse relevant literature. They are able to select suitable methods, apply them, draw conclusions from the results and defend them scientifically.	19 + 4

Open Electives	17	Students gain individually selected further competences and are able to apply these.	6
Final Board Ex- amination	18	Students are able to present the Master's thesis they have written and engage in a scholarly discourse with the examiners.	1

Section 6 Study-Related Period Abroad/Mobility

- (1) It is highly recommended for all students of the Master's degree programme to complete a study-related period abroad within the framework of their degree programme. Transnational EU, state or university mobility programmes can be used for this purpose. Examinations and other coursework completed as part of a studyrelated period abroad are recognised in accordance with the provisions of Section 78 UG for examinations prescribed in the curriculum. The 2nd or 3rd semester is the recommended mobility window.
- (2) At the request of regular students who wish to carry out parts of their studies abroad, a preliminary decision shall be issued in advance to determine which of the proposed examinations and other academic achievements can be recognised (Section 78 (5) UG). In any case, interested students are advised to contact the respective competent Programme Director in advance to discuss possible and intended recognition.

Section 7 Types of Courses

- (1) **Lectures (Vorlesungen/VO)** are courses by which knowledge is transferred by means of talks given by lecturers. The examination takes place as a one-off (written and/or oral) examination. Students are entitled to take lecture examinations up to the end of the semester following the semester in which the course is held.
- (2) **Courses with ongoing assessment** are courses in which the assessment does not take place in a one-off examination, but on the basis of written and/or oral contributions by the participants during the sessions. If, in the framework of a course with ongoing assessment, a seminar paper or a paper requiring a comparable degree of effort is to be written, papers for courses taking place in the winter semester can be handed in up until the following 30 June; papers for courses taking place in the summer semester can be handed in up until 31 January of the following year (Part B para. 10 (2) of the University Statute).
- (3) Courses with ongoing assessment comprise:
 - (a) Interactive lecture (Vorlesung interaktiv/VI): This is a course with ongoing assessment which initially has the character of a lecture, however, based on interactive learning methods (particularly blended learning approaches), content is also prepared by the students themselves and lecturers and students interact via an e-learning platform. The e-learning makes up at least 30 percent of the course workload.

- (b) Lecture with course (Vorlesung mit Kurs/VC) or Lecture with exercise (Vorlesung mit Übung/VU): This type of course consists of a lecture component and a course/exercise component which are closely linked in terms of didactics and which are assessed jointly. Phases in which knowledge is imparted through lectures by teachers alternate with phases in which teachers and students work together to address specific questions in theory and practice.
- (c) **Course (Kurs/KS) or Exercise class (Übung/UE):** Courses are applicationorientated or experience-orientated and serve to acquire, expand and consolidate both academic and practical skills and consist of lecturers and students working together to address specific issues or learning content. Exercise classes are courses that allow students to practise and deepen their theoretical knowledge through concrete tasks or problems (e.g. expanding on the subject matter of the corresponding lecture, practising scientific methods, solving concrete tasks, etc.).
- (d) **Seminar (Seminar/SE):** Seminars are research-, theory- or project-orientated courses aimed at advanced students. They serve to reflect on and discuss specific scientific problems and/or deal with current problems or topics with practical relevance.

Section 8 Required Subjects

(1) Required subjects are subjects that are integral to the degree programme and for which examinations must be taken. Students must complete a total of 30 ECTS credits in required subjects.

	Course	title	Course type	ECTS credits
CBK 1: Mathematical Methods	1.1	Mathematical Methods	VO + UE	4 + 4
			Total:	8
CBK 2: Statistical	2.1	Statistical Methods: Probability	VC/VU	4
Methods	2.2	Statistical Methods: Inference	VU	4
			Total:	8
CBK 3: Bridging Computing	3.1	Bridging Computing	VC	4
			Total:	4
CBK 4: Bridging Business	4.1	Bridging Business	VC/VI/VO	2
			Total:	2

(2) The courses assigned to the required subjects are listed in the table below:

CBK 5: Bridging Economics	5.1	Bridging Economics	VC/VI/VO	2
			Total:	2
CBK 6: Ethics and Diversity Management	6.1	Business Ethics	VC/VI/VO	2
	6.2	Diversity Management	VC/VI/VO	4
			Total:	6

Section 9 Guided Electives

- (1) Guided electives are those subjects that students choose according to the provisions of the curriculum. A total of 60 ECTS credits must be completed in guided electives.
- (2) The courses offered as guided electives are listed in the table below:

	Course	title	Course type	ECTS credits
Minitrack 1: Foundations of Business Analytics	7.1	BA1: Empirical Methods	VC	4
	7.2	BA2: Statistical Learning	VU	4
	7.3	BA3: Data Analytics	VC	4
			Total:	12
Minitrack 2: Computing	8.1	CO1: Computing I	VO + UE	2 + 4
	8.2	CO2: Computing II	VO + UE	2 + 4
			Total:	12
Minitrack 3: Managerial Ap- plications	9.1	MA1: Applications I	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	9.2	MA2: Applications II	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	9.3	MA3: Applications III	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
			Total:	12

Minitrack 4: Economics	10.1	EC1: Microeconomics	VC	6
	10.2	EC2: Macroeconomics	VC	6
			Total:	12

Minitrack 5: Management Science	11.1	MS1: Operations Research & Decision Support	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	11.2	MS2: Decision Modeling & Implementation	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	11.3	MS3: Data-driven Optimization	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
			Total:	12
Minitrack 6: International, Energy, Environmental, and Climate Change Economics	12.1	IEECC1: International Economics	VC/VI/VO	4
	12.2	IEECC2: Energy Economics	VC/VI/VO	4
	12.3	IEECC3: Environmental and Climate Change Economics	VC/VI/VO	4
			Total:	12
Minitrack 7: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning	13.1	AIML1: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence I	VC	4
	13.2	AIML2: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence II	VC	4
	13.3	AIML3: Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning	VC	4
			Total:	12
Minitrack 8: Rationality and Agent-based Computational Economics	14.1	RACE1: Algorithmic Game Theory	VC or VO + UE	6
	14.2	RACE2: Modeling Boundedly Rational Agents	VC or VO + UE	6
			Total	12
Minitrack 9: Public Management in the Digital Age	15.1	PMDA1: Public Performance Management and Analytics	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	15.2	PMDA2: Digital Government	KS/VC/VI/VO	4
	15.3	PMDA3: Smart Cities: Technology, Management, Governance	VC	4
			Total	12

Section 10 Open Electives

- (1) Open electives are those subjects that students can freely choose from the range of courses offered by recognised domestic and foreign universities. Courses completed as a prerequisite to study or to gain general or special eligibility for university admission cannot be taken as open electives.
- (2) Students are required to complete 6 ECTS credits in open electives.
- (3) In the case of courses that have been completed at other recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institutions, the responsible university body will decide whether recognition as an open elective for the chosen programme of study makes sense academically or with regard to professional activities.

Section 11 Courses with a Limited Number of Participants

- (1) The maximum number of participants permitted on each of the following types of course is as follows:
 - Lecture with course: a maximum of 60 participants
 - Lecture with exercise class/Exercise class: a maximum of 25 participants
 - Course: a maximum of 40 participants
 - Seminar: a maximum of 40 participants

For courses from other curricula, the maximum numbers found in the respective curricula apply.

- (2) If the number of applications for these courses exceeds the number of places available, students will be accepted in accordance with the following procedure:
 - (a) Students for whom the course is a required subject or guided elective according to their curriculum are given priority.
 - (b) If the number of registrations still exceeds the number of available places, the students are ranked based on the previously acquired ECTS credits for the curriculum that stipulates the course in question as a required subject/ guided elective. Students with a higher total are ranked higher. If the number of ECTS credits is the same, students will be drawn at random.

Section 12 Courses with Special Registration Requirements

In order to register for the courses listed in the left-hand column of the table below, students must first successfully complete the courses and examinations listed in the right-hand column.

Course	Registration Requirements
All courses assigned to the guided electives (§ 9)	CBK1 and CBK2
Seminar accompanying the Master's Thesis (§ 5 Abs. 4)	All courses from the guided elective subject to which the topic of the Master's thesis is assigned.

Section 13 Master's Thesis

- (1) The Master's thesis is the academic paper that demonstrates the student's ability to achieve adequate standards of content and methodology when independently addressing scholarly topics. The assignment for the Master's thesis must be chosen in such a way that it is reasonable to expect the student to complete the work within six months. A number of students may jointly address a topic, provided that the performance of each individual student can be assessed.
- (2) The topic of the Master's thesis must be assignable to one of the chosen guided electives (Section 9).
- (3) The Master's thesis comprises 19 ECTS credits. A phased assessment of the Master's thesis is possible in accordance with Part B, Section 18 (7a) of the University Statute.
- (4) Pursuant to Part B, Section 18 (4) and (2a) of the Statute, the topic and the Master's thesis supervisor must be approved by the Rector of Studies. The application must be made prior to starting work. A change of supervisor is permitted up until the submission of the Master's thesis. Supervision by two persons who are authorised to supervise is permissible on a case-by-case basis, where there is good reason to do so (interdisciplinary focus of the topic).

Students can notify the Rector of Studies of the topic and supervisor of their Master's thesis once they have successfully completed courses in the Master's degree programme amounting to at least 60 ECTS credits (including 30 ECTS credits in required subjects: Common Body of Knowledge). Students are responsible for providing this proof.

- (5) The completed Master's thesis must be submitted to the Rector of Studies in electronic format. On the request of the supervisor, the author must provide them with a bound copy of the thesis. The supervisor will have two months from the date of submission to assess the Master's thesis.
- (6) The Master's thesis is accompanied by a seminar which is allocated 4 ECTS credits.

Section 14 Use of Languages Other than English

The courses as well as oral and written examinations of the Master's degree programme are held in English. By way of exception, courses held in the scope of the open electives in accordance with Section 10 and in the context of study-related periods abroad may be completed in a language other than English. The Master's thesis and other written work must be delivered in English.

Section 15 Examination Regulations

- (1) To graduate from the Master's degree programme in *Management, Economics, and Data Science*, students must successfully complete the following components:
 - (a) The courses assigned to the required subjects (Section 8), guided electives (Section 9) and open electives (Section 10);
 - (b) the seminar accompanying the Master's thesis;
 - (c) the Master's thesis and
 - (d) the final board examination according to para. 5
- (2) Completion of the required subjects in accordance with Section 8, of the guided electives in accordance with Section 9, of the open electives in accordance with

Section 10 and of the seminar accompanying the Master's thesis in accordance with Section 13 is achieved by successfully completing courses to the extent required.

(3) (a) Course examinations for lectures are taken at the end of or after the course in the form of a single examination.

(b) Lectures with a course (VC), lectures with an exercise (VU), courses (KS), exercise classes (UE) and seminars (SE) involve ongoing assessment and attendance is mandatory. In addition, students are expected to actively participate in the discussion and reflection process as well as examinations, written assignments and/or oral presentations.

(c) Attendance is not compulsory for interactive lectures (VI), but students and teaching staff are obliged to interact via e-learning platforms. The lecturer must inform students about the respective examination and assessment modalities of the course prior to the start of each semester in accordance with the University Statute.

- (4) The regulations of the Statute of the University of Klagenfurt, Part B (Regulations relating to study matters) and the Austrian Universities Act as amended from time to time apply to the organisation and repetition of examinations.
- (5) The final board examination is an oral examination and is conducted by an examination board consisting of three members. The examination is assigned 1 ECTS credit and it comprises the following:
 - (a) The subject that the topic of the Master's thesis is assigned to (in the form of a presentation and defence of the Master's thesis)
 - (b) Another subject from the Master's degree programme which was completed as a guided elective and which is different to lit. a.
- (6) Registration for the final board examination concluding the degree programme is subject to successfully completing the components listed in para. 1 (a) to (c).
- (7) The composition of the examination board, the organisation and the repetition of the final board examination are governed by the provisions of the Statute of the University of Klagenfurt, Part B (Regulations relating to study matters) and the Austrian Universities Act as amended from time to time.
- (8) Examinations that have already been counted in order to complete the degree programme serving as prerequisite for admission cannot be re-used in this Master's degree programme for the purpose of obtaining the degree.
- (9) An examination taken as part of the Master's degree programme can only be assigned to one position in the curriculum.

Section 16 Effective Validity

This curriculum will enter into force after announcement in the University of Klagenfurt university bulletin as of 1 October 2023 and will apply to all students who commence their Master's degree programme from the 2023/24 winter semester onwards.

APPENDIX Non-binding Recommended Course of Study

The non-binding recommended course of study presented in the Appendix serves as a basis for the individual organisation of the Master's degree programme, which is typically started in the winter semester. Students who commence their Master's degree programme in the summer semester are advised to bear in mind that some of the courses offered will vary between the winter and summer semesters.

Non-binding Recommended Course of Study^{1) 2)} APPENDIX

Subject/ Academic achievement	Designation	ECTS credits	Recommended semester
Required subjects	CBK 1: Mathematical Methods	8	1
	CBK 2: Statistical Methods	8	1
	CBK 3: Bridging Computing	4	1
	CBK 4: Bridging Business	2	1
	CBK 5: Bridging Economics	2	1
	CBK 6: Ethics and Diversity Management	6	1-4
Guided electives	Major: Combination of three minitracks	36	2-3
	Two supplementary minitracks	24	2-4
Open electives		6	1-4
Master's thesis	Master's thesis	19	3-4
	Seminar accompanying the Master's thesis	4	3-4
Final board examination		1	4
	Total:	120	

The recommended course of study is designed for students starting their studies in the winter semester.
The recommended mobility window within the meaning of Section 6 (1) is the 2nd or 3rd semester.