Universität Stuttgart

Institut für Maschinelle Sprachverarbeitung

Stefanie Anstein
& student representatives

**WELCOME
to the program
Master of Science
*Computational Linguistics***

October 2021

Overview

1. Introduction – who we are …

2. Program of study: M.Sc. CL

3. Further useful information

4. Next steps

Introduction – who we are …

IMS chairs / departments / research clusters

- **Prof. Sebastian Padó**, PD Dr. Klinger, Ms. Troiano & many more:
  semantics / (word) meaning, multilinguality, text mining, social media analysis, computational social science & much more

- **Prof. Jonas Kuhn**, Prof. Reyle, Prof. Schulte i. W. & many more:
  structural processing / syntax, text studies, digital humanities, research infrastructure & much more

- **Prof. Thang Vu**, Dr. Schweitzer, Dr. Wokurek & many more:
  digital phonetics, speech recognition/synthesis, spoken language understanding, dialogue systems, deep learning & much more

- **Jun.-Prof. Carina Silberer** & her group:
  semantic models via machine learning, language and vision, grounding & much more

More IMS research groups and associated teams

- **Emmy Noether Group** 'Computational Models of Misunderstanding':
  Dr. Michael Roth

- **BMBF group E-DELIB**
  'Powering up E-DELIBeration: towards AI-supported moderation':
  Dr. Gabriella Lapesa

- **Junior professorship** 'Psycholinguistics and Cognitive Modeling':
  Jun.-Prof. Dr. Titus von der Malsburg
    - human sentence comprehension
    - experimental research using eye-tracking, large-scale crowdsourcing, electric brain potentials etc.
    - computational cognitive modeling

- **SimTech Tenure-Track Professorship** 'Computational Cognitive Science':
  Jun.-Prof. Dr. Benedikt Ehinger
    - visual cognitive science
    - behavioral, EEG and eye-tracking experiments
    - statistical modelling

- … and many more

Student representatives MSV / CL

www.msv-cl.de

Program of study:
M.Sc. CL

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Program of study

- regular duration: 4 semesters (max. duration: 9 sem.)
- consists of several **modules**
  - module duration: 1-2 semesters
  - can contain 1 (or more) **course(s)**
    (= lectures, seminars, lab sessions …)
- module descriptions: module handbook, see C@MPUS
- ECTS credit point (CP) = *Leistungspunkt* (LP)
  - measurement of working load (1 CP = 30h) & weight for the calculation of the final M.Sc. grade
  - 2 SWS = 1,5h/week = usually 3 CP/semester
    (there are exceptions, e.g. the "Project Seminar CL" or modules from the linguistics department)
  - 120 CP needed for M.Sc. degree;
    30 CP per semester = 20 SWS = 10 x 1,5h per week
  - are given for complete modules

Catalogs vs. modules vs. courses

- [976-2017] Computational Linguistics 📖
  - [100] Compulsory modules ⏰ 🔳
  - [300] Elective Modules ⏰ 🔳
    - [310] Computational Linguistics ⏰ 🔳
      - [3101] Core Computational Linguistics ⏰ 🔳
        - **M** [13270] Parsing ⏰ 🔳
        - **M** [35210] Topics in Computational Semantics ⏰ 🔳
        - **M** [35280] Grammar Formalisms and Grammar Engineering ⏰ 🔳
          - **P** [35281] Grammar Formalisms and Grammar Engineering ⏰ 🔳
          - **P** [35282] Vorleistung
          - **LV** [352801] Seminar course Grammar Formalisms and Grammar Eng

Lehrveranstaltungen im Studienjahr ◀ 2021/22 ▶
401317000 21W 4SSt VU H: Syntax
403528000 21W 4SSt VU H: Grammar Formalisms and Grammar Eng

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Catalogs vs. modules vs. courses

Important: course-module mapping

2 SWS
3 CP

(Project Seminar CL)

Study plan suggestion (flexible!)

program structure MSc CL PO 2017, Uni Stuttgart

Semester	Obligatory modules	Elective modules	Other	ETCS Credit Points
1 (WiSe)*	Methods in CL ** [8SWS*** 12CP]	Elective courses worth ca. 18CP		30
2 (SoSe)*	CL Team Lab ° [4SWS 6CP]	Elective courses worth ca. 18CP	Key competences °° [2SWS 3CP]	27
3 (WiSe)*	CL Research Module ** [4SWS 9CP]	Elective courses worth ca. 24CP		33
4 (SoSe)*	Master's thesis [30CP]			30
Colour key:	IMS	IMS & Computer Science / Linguistics Departments	across UniS	

*)   For a start in the summer semester, it is recommended to interchange obligatory modules.
     However, the CL Team Lab is not recommended for 1st semester students without background in CL.
**) Offered in winter semesters
***) 2 SWS = 1,5h/week
°)   Offered in summer semesters
°°) Is also possible in any other semester

Program of study ctd.

Details about modules

- "Methods in Computational Linguistics"
  (12 credit points; first (winter) semester; highest priority!
  option for CL graduates: choose advanced courses, see C@MPUS)

- "Computational Linguistics Team Laboratory"
  (6 credit points; second semester)

Program of study ctd.

Elective modules (60 credit points)

- choose 1 primary sub-catalog (at least 18 credit points) and 2 secondary catalogs (at least 6 credit points each) from the "Computational Linguistics" catalog
- choose primary/secondary catalogs from
    - Core Computational Linguistics
    - Applied Natural Language Processing
    - Speech Processing
- the remaining modules (30 credit points) can be choosen freely from all offered catalogs (largest choice: Computer Science)

Program of study ctd.

Elective modules (60 credit points)

- if a module is not (yet) listed in our module handbook, ask S. Anstein if it can be imported
- special module: "Project Seminar Computational Linguistics" (2 SWS → 6 CP by doing additional project on top of an IMS seminar)
- special module: "R&D Practical Project for CL" (6 CP for external internship or independent research project)
- Erasmus CPs can also be used as electives

Please note: Each course can be used only once – to prove this and to help us entering your grades, you'll need to submit your course-module mapping each semester (see email reminder). You can find the possible mappings in C@MPUS.

Program of study ctd.

Key competences (3 credit points)

- modules for general competences ("Schlüsselqualifikation" = SQ)
  - e. g. presentation modalities,
    time / project / knowledge management, …
  - can be done in any semester; only online registration possible
    before semester start: `http://www.uni-stuttgart.de/sq`
  - can be found in C@MPUS at "Central facilities – Central Facility
    Zentrum für Lehre und Weiterbildung der Universität Stuttgart –
    Central office Fachübergreifende Schlüsselqualifikationen – Courses"
  - possible at the Language Center: advanced language courses
  - Language Center also offers SQ courses during semester breaks
  - You'll get an email with the registration dates!

Program of study ctd.

Later obligatory modules

- Research module (9 credit points)
    - Research seminar
        - preparation for Master's thesis: read research papers / books, find a topic for your thesis, write proposal, present your thesis topic and pass oral exam
        - can be taken "remotely" (studying abroad, internship)
        - should be taken in 2nd semester by students who started in summer term
- Master's thesis (30 credit points)
    - need at least 60 credit points to start with Master's thesis

Please note: This is an idealised scheme of the program – you can do it differently, just don't exceed the maximum duration of 9 semesters!
For students who start in summer term, an individual plan can be developed together with S. Anstein (according to your background).

Further useful information

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Useful information

- German language course / "tandem" advisable
    - binding version of University documents: in German
    - to make the most of your life in Germany :)
    - check C@MPUS > Central Facilities > Language Center > German > Section I: German as a Foreign Language: Interdisciplinary Key Qualifications (FSQ) > German as a Foreign Language: Special offer for study programs
- some students got a "conditional admission" (*Auflagen*)
    - see C@MPUS account; recommended to take the oral exam asap / programming course available in winter (no credits)
    - please register in Nov/May; you will get another email with more information
- please participate in evaluations
    - course evaluations, carried out during semester
    - module evaluations, carried out after end of semester/exams (by email)

Useful information ctd.

- exam regulations (binding version: German; indicative translation link see handout)
  - important information is also available in English on the websites and on the handout (if in doubt, please ask!)
  - describe obligatory modules & define electives
  - determine number of possible repetitions and maximum length of the study, extensions and exceptions etc. (for academic accommodations due to special circumstances see also `https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/organizing-studies/disability`)

- exams
  - oral or written exam (during the semester or at the end of the semester)
  - ungraded exam: passed / failed
  - graded exam:
    1,0 (excellent) / 1,3 / 1,7 …– 4,0 (acceptable)
  - hint: there might be some preconditions to fulfill in order to be allowed to take part in an exam, e.g. exercises etc.

Useful information ctd.

- registration for exams / **modules**
  - exact exam dates are announced in the lectures (can also take place in lecture-free period!)
  - register online in C@MPUS
  - each exam has to be registered during the registration period (as announced by the University: May/June & November/December) – otherwise participation is not possible (screenshot of registrations recommended)
  - info meeting: Dec 1, 1-2pm
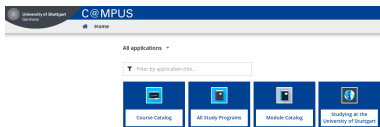
Useful information ctd.

- postponing / repeating exams
  - you can only repeat exams you have failed
  - you can withdraw from an exam until 7 days before the exam takes place (otherwise, a medical certificate is needed as soon as possible in order for the exam not to count as "failed")
  - failed exams can be repeated once; this has to be done within 2 semesters; re-registration necessary!
  - 2 failed modules can be dropped
  - a second repetition of a module exam (type "PL", see module handbook) is only allowed in 3 cases in total

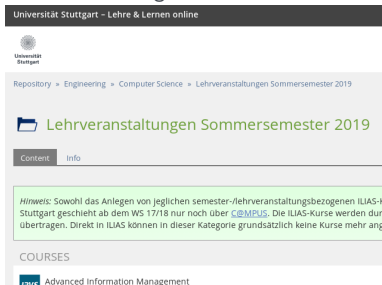|	
15. Lehrveranstaltungen und -formen:	• 723801 Lectures with exercises Methods in Computational Linguistics
16. Abschätzung Arbeitsaufwand:	lecture and exercises
17. Prüfungsnummer/n und -name:	• 72381 Methods in Computational Linguistics (PL), , Gewichtung: 1 • V Vorleistung (USL-V), • Methods in Computational Linguistics, Prüfungsleistung (PL), Schriftlich oder Mündlich, Gewichtung: 1

Useful information ctd.

- C@MPUS online portal
    - contains all currently offered courses ($+$ descriptions) and the modules ($+$ descriptions) they can be used for
    - personal timetable can be created (by registering for courses: non-binding)
    - (de-)registration for exams (binding)
    - `https://campus.uni-stuttgart.de`

Useful information ctd.

- ILIAS platform
  - is used to share information (slides, literature, …) for courses (provided by the lecturers)
  - when you register the course in C@MPUS you will automatically be in the corresponding ILIAS course (if there is one for this course)
  - please also join the group "Studying @ IMS" for various useful information (including forum "Ask me anything"): path: Repository – Engineering – Maschinelle Sprachverarbeitung / Computational Linguistics – Arbeitsgruppen – Studying IMS
  - http://ilias3.uni-stuttgart.de

Useful information ctd.

- more important information on the IMS website
  `http://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de`
  - student FAQs
  - lecturers / staff contact data
  - projects & publications
  - events & news
  - …

- more space in (computer) working areas in Pfaffenwaldring 5c and in Universitätsstraße 38

- honor code: not to plagiarize (worst case: plagiarism can lead to exmatriculation)

- please read the IMS code of conduct:
  `www.msv-cl.de/code-of-conduct`

Useful information ctd.

Further institutions at the university to get information & help:

- International Service Point of faculty 5 for general questions
  - `www.f05.uni-stuttgart.de/studium/international-service-point`
- Examination Office (*Prüfungsamt*)
  - Pfaffenwaldring 5c, 3rd floor
- Admissions Office (*Studiensekretariat*)
  - German students: Pfaffenwaldring 5c, 2nd floor
  - foreign students: Pfaffenwaldring 5c, 1st floor
- Centre for International Students (*Internationales Zentrum*)
  - welcome service – get your welcome package!
  - international mentoring, learning groups, student associations, leisure activities, help with German forms etc.
  - Pfaffenwaldring 60 /
    `www.uni-stuttgart.de/en/university/international/service`
- contact persons for maternity protection
  - `https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/counseling/children/maternity-protection`

Useful information ctd.

Further institutions at the university to get information & help:

- Student Counseling Center (*Zentrale Studienberatung*)
  - general questions
  - courses on studying efficiently etc., see `https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/en/counseling/zsb/learning-counseling/`
  - Pfaffenwaldring 5c
- Student Services (*Studierendenwerk*)
  - housing (make sure you stay on waiting list!), childcare, legal advice, social advice, psychological support, finances, disabilities, …
  - Rosenbergstraße 18 (Stuttgart centre)
- open learning space for maths and computer science questions: `www.mint.uni-stuttgart.de/angebote/offener-lernraum`

Useful information ctd.

Further institutions outside the university to get information & help:

- Welcome Center Stuttgart
  (`https://welcome.stuttgart.de/welcomecenter/en/`)
    - help in many areas for new students: Welcome Club, Job Centre etc.
- Nightline Tübingen: an anonymous, confidential, unprejudiced and independent evening hotline (also available in English): `https://nightline-tuebingen.de/`
- German job centre 'Agentur für Arbeit': https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/en/welcome (student job board etc.)

Next steps

For you to do ...

- take a look at
    - the current course offerings for CL in CMPUS (P/O/H tag refers to teaching format)
    - in the curriculum tree view, click on the calendar icons to see all current courses in that catalog
        - choose around 30 CP / 20 SWS / 10 slots (check course combinations for modules)
        - hint for non-CL graduates: rather choose „lectures" and overview / introductory courses in the beginning and „seminars" on very specific topics only in the later course of studies (courses show specific prerequisites in CMPUS; default: basic CL skills)
        - if you plan to focus on machine learning, work on your maths ...
        - before your (first) on-site course(s), visit one of the "3G" verification centers (Universitätsstr. 38 opens Oct. 12 at 2pm)

Some dates to save ...

- open question session / informal social meeting series: Wednesdays, 1-1:30pm, see IMS website news item
- Erasmus exchange semester – info meeting: November 16, 7pm
- IMS Student Meeting with Prof. Padó:
  Wednesday, Nov 24, 1:10-1:50pm
- exam registration info meeting: Wednesday, Dec 1, 1-2pm
- public holiday (shops etc. closed!): Monday, November 1, 2021
- winter break 2021/22: Thursday, December 23, 2021 to Saturday, January 08, 2022 (inclusive)
  (see also
  www.uni-stuttgart.de/en/study/application/academic-calendar/

Communication …

- all enrolled students will get an IMS user account
  (linux tutorial see `https://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/documents/team/schweitz/docs/linux.tutorial.pdf`)
  including an email account: firstname.lastname@ims.uni-stuttgart.de
- info e-mail and default forwarding to st12345 address
- We rely on you reading all your emails!

In case of any questions ... (1/3)

... please ask:

- **Stefanie Anstein**
  degree program manager, student advisor &
  contact person examination committee
  - office: 01.006 in Pfaffenwaldring 5b
  - stefanie.anstein@ims.uni-stuttgart.de
  - +49 (0)711 68581387
  - www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/institut/team/Anstein-00002
  - open office hour online every Wednesday lunch break, see IMS website
  - IMS FAQ page: www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/en/teaching

  If in doubt, please ask – the sooner the better ... :)
  (... and please use cc instead of single e-mails
  whenever you contact several persons, thanks.)

In case of any questions ... (2/3)

... please ask:

- the coordinators of the International Service Point (ISP)
  Annette Maske & Meta Geisbüsch –
  you can contact them with questions regarding the start of your
  studies and for any concerns & issues you might have during
  your studies via
    - E-Mail: internationalstudents@f05.uni-stuttgart.de
    - Phone: +49 (0)711 685 67277 (Annette) / +49 (0)711 68567926
      (Meta)
    - in person during their office hours - Faculty 5, Pfaffenwaldring 47,
      Room 4.270 / or online (on appointment)
- In addition, you'll find important & interesting information
  (e. g. on services such as German courses and social events) on
  the official ISP website:
  www.f05.uni-stuttgart.de/en/faculty/international-students

**Meta and Annette are looking forward to getting to know you
and helping you to get started!**

In case of any questions ... (3/3)

... please ask:

- our student representatives (room 00.015; fscl@listserv.uni-stuttgart.de; msv-cl.de – facebook groups and discord server)
- your IMS student mentors (study buddy / open group mentoring: see IMS website)

And now …

- Follow us on our little virtual guided tour – see the student representatives' room and take a look into the computer lab!
  `https://youtu.be/W-jEeIyjrUE`
- Ask questions, if there are any …

Welcome at the IMS!