

**Subject-Specific Regulations Governing the Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at Saarland University Supplementing the Joint Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science**

**25 April 2019**

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**Note:** This translation is provided for information purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between the translation and the original German version published in the Official Bulletin (*Dienstblatt der Hochschulen des Saarlandes*), the provisions of the latter shall take precedence.

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Pursuant to the Saarland Higher Education Institutions Act (Official Gazette of Saarland, p. 1080) and to the Joint Examination Regulations for the Consecutive Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of 2 July 2015 (Official Bulletin No. 72, p. 616) and with the consent of the University Senate and the University Board, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science at Saarland University hereby issues the following Subject-Specific Regulations Governing the Bachelor's and the Master's Degree Programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence of the Department of Computer Science.

**Section 27**

**Scope**

**(cf. Sec. 1 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

These subject-specific regulations apply to the Bachelor's and the Master's degree programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at Saarland University.

**Section 28**

**General information**

**(cf. Sec. 2 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

Both the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence are research-focused while giving equal weight to practical applications of the subject.

**Section 29**

**Types of degree programmes**

**(cf. Sec. 3 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

The Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence are single-subject degree programmes within the meaning of the Framework Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes at Saarland University (BMRPO).

**Section 30**

**Student workload**

**(cf. Sec. 4 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

Course attendance may be compulsory for certain seminars, project seminars, exercise and

problem-solving classes and practical skills classes. Students will be notified of this by the instructor at the beginning of the course.

**Section 31**  
**Examiners; thesis examiners; supervisors, observers**  
**(cf. Sec. 8 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

(1) The Examination Board shall appoint examiners, thesis examiners and/or thesis supervisors drawn from the groups in Section 8(1), items 1 to 7 of the Joint Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science and, additionally, from  
8. the group of mid-level academic staff with the right to supervise doctoral candidates.

(2) In addition to the examiners, thesis examiners and thesis supervisors specified in Section 8(2) of the Joint Examination Regulations, the Examination Board may in individual cases and with the consent of those members of professorial staff with responsibility for the relevant subject area also appoint heads of independent junior research groups, members of mid-level academic staff qualified to doctoral level, members of staff qualified to doctoral level at the on-campus research institutes DFKI (German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence), MPI-I (Max Planck Institute for Informatics) or MPI-SWS (Max Planck Institute for Software Systems), as well as other qualified and experienced professionals working in the relevant field.

**Section 32**  
**Admission to the Master's programme**  
**(cf. Sec. 12 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

(1) Students seeking admission to the Master's programme shall:

1. have a Bachelor's degree from a German university or an equivalent qualification from a foreign university in computer science, informatics or a related field
2. demonstrate particular academic aptitude (see Section 69(5) of the Saarland University Act).

(2) The criteria used to assess particular academic aptitude are:

- a. Proof of advanced proficiency in English (typically level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)
- b. Sufficient merit in the applicant's previous academic record and appropriate curricular content of the Bachelor's degree. Applicants should demonstrate a level of knowledge and competence that corresponds to that acquired in the Bachelor's degree programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence taught at Saarland University. Specifically, this requires applicants to show that they have the necessary level of expertise in the following areas:
  - I. Mathematics (discrete mathematics, real analysis and multivariable calculus, linear algebra, stochastics, statistics)
  - II. Theoretical informatics (complexity theory, computability)
  - III. Practical informatics (functional and object-oriented programming, data structures and algorithms, database technology)
  - IV. Machine learning, artificial intelligence, data mining
- c. Evidence of particular interest in the subject by submission of a personal statement written by the applicant and two letters of recommendation written by referees who know the applicant academically.

The criteria listed above are used to assess the aptitude of the applicant in terms of the academic profile and requirements of the Master's degree programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. The Examination Board shall decide whether the programme admission requirements have been met.

**Section 33**  
**Procedural elements, presentation and layout of the thesis**  
**(cf. Sec. 23 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

A colloquium lasting 30 minutes shall be held in order to establish that the Bachelor's or Master's thesis is the candidate's own original work. The colloquium shall be held no later than six weeks after the candidate has submitted the printed version of their Bachelor's or Master's thesis. One of the colloquium examiners shall be the person who set the candidate's thesis topic.

**Section 34**  
**Successfully completing the Bachelor's or Master's programme and overall grade**  
**(cf. Sec. 24 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

To graduate 'with distinction', a candidate must have attained a final overall grade of 1.1 or better and must have met all of the programme requirements within the standard period of study.

**Section 35**  
**Degree qualification and documentation**  
**(cf. Sec. 25 of the Joint Examination Regulations)**

In addition to the information presented in Section 25(1) of the Joint Examination Regulations for Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programmes of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, the certificate may also list the areas of specialization studied, other student attainments and the results achieved.

**Section 36**  
**Commencement**

These regulations shall come into force on the day after they are announced in the Official Bulletin of the Institutions of Higher Education in Saarland (*Dienstblatt der Hochschulen des Saarlandes*).

Saarbrücken, 30 July 2019

President of Saarland University  
(Univ.-Prof. Dr. Manfred J. Schmitt)