



COGNITIVE SCIENCE

Master of Science



Program Content

The master's course of study serves to extend and deepen the discipline-specific and methodological knowledge and skills you have already acquired in your Bachelor's degree on the topic of human cognition. On the basis of a specific and interdisciplinary array of methods you will be placed in a position to formulate questions pertaining to cognitive process analysis and to develop solutions. Discussion of the most recent research results will enable you to work towards modelling neuro-cognitive processes and systems. Aside from learning to present complex stimuli and to measure human responses you will acquire broad and fundamental skills in experimental and psychophysical methods, especially pertaining to computer-based implementations of experimental designs with programming languages and their application for data collection.

You will learn to identify new areas of research and to study these experimentally, and you will be enabled to appropriately develop existing analytical approaches further. In collaboration with other team members you will be able to present your research results with a view towards international dissemination.



Course Objective and Future Career Options

Graduates of this degree program will be able to work scientifically in the cognitive and neurosciences. They are also qualified for research and leadership positions in corresponding industrial sectors. Based on their deep knowledge of cognitive processes and their neuronal foundations as well as mathematical and methodological skills the graduates of this program can conceptualize complex projects and experiments in various subfields of the cognitive sciences, formulate hypotheses and examine them quantitatively.

Program Structure and Curriculum

As part of the four-semester master's degree program, you will earn a total of 120 credit points. The following overview provides information about the weighting of individual modules and types of courses. The following overview provides information about the weighting of individual modules and types of courses.

Modules	Credit points
Mandatory modules	54 CP
Cognitive Science	15 CP
Mathematical Modeling in Cognitive Science	6 CP
Cognitive Neuroscience	9 CP
Individual Research Module	12 CP
Introduction to statistical data analysis	12 CP
Elective modules¹	36 CP
Bayesian Statistics	12 CP
Advanced Methods: Experiment Programming	6 CP
Cognitive Development	6 CP
Current Topics in Cognition	6 CP
Advanced Topics in Cognition	9 CP
Cognitive Modelling	6 CP
Current Topics in Cognitive Neuroscience	6 CP
First Language Acquisition	6 CP
Advanced Topics in First Language Acquisition	12 CP
Language Processing	6 CP
Advanced Topics in Language Processing	12 CP
Advanced Natural Language Processing	9 CP
Evidence Bases for Language Disorders	6 CP
Advanced Topics in Evidence Bases for Language Disorders	12 CP
Bridge Modules²	6 CP
Experimental Psychological Training	6 CP
Foundations of Mathematics	6 CP
Programming of Experiments	6 CP
Master's Thesis	30 CP
Total	120 CP

¹ Modules adding up to 36 - 39 credit points must be selected and successfully completed.

² The required bridge modules are decided by the examining board upon admission. Each module completed here will reduce the amount of CP required in the optional mandatory modules accordingly.

Entry Requirements

Your continued interest in the mathematical and natural sciences, as well as a curiosity to establish neuronal foundations of human behaviour, provide a good foundation for being accepted into the program. In contrast, an interest in clinical psychology, psychiatric problems and their therapy, are clear contra-indications – these topics play no role in the degree course.

In general, the prerequisite for master's studies at the University of Potsdam is a first academic degree, such as a bachelor's degree. Your first degree should be in a subject relevant to the program, such as cognitive sciences, psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, or computer science. In addition, students must have sufficient basic knowledge in the areas of "Experimental Psychological Training", "Foundations of Mathematics" and "Programming of Experiments" amounting to 6 CP each, as defined within the bridge modules.

As the course is offered in English, we expect you to document very good English language skills, at least at the C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference.

You can read more about the subject-specific admission requirements in the respective Admission Regulations:

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/studying/legal-foundations/zulassungsordnungen-fuer-master

Application

The course of study starts in the winter semester only. Information about the current application and immatriculation procedures can be found here: www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master



Further Information

Degree Regulations: www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/studying/legalfoundations/studyregulations

Consultation & Contact

Departmental Student Advisor

The Departmental Student Advisor is there for you. You can find our current contact information here:

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/advising-and-services/index-a-z/psychologie



Central Student Advisory Service

Division of Student Affairs

Campus Am Neuen Palais, Building o8

Phone: +49 331 977-1715

E-mail: studienberatung@uni-potsdam.de

www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/advising-and-services/zsb



Last updated: April 2024

Image sources: Thomas Roesé (Title), StockAdobe.com 728335528 (2), 357468772 (3), Sören Stache (6)