

Entry Requirements

Your interest in applied mathematics and the biological sciences, as well as curiosity about the neuroscientific and cognitive foundations of human behavior, constitute a solid foundation for beginning your master's studies.

In general, the prerequisite for master's studies at the University of Potsdam is an academic degree, such as a bachelor's degree. Your first degree should be in a subject that is relevant to your course of study, for example in psychology, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive science, computer science, or linguistics. Bridge modules at the start of the master's degree provide missing mathematical or experimental training. Therefore, graduates of other related disciplines (e.g., neurobiology, philosophy of mind, biomechanics and sport sciences) might also qualify.

Because this degree program is taught in English, we expect good English skills that correspond at least to the B2 level of the Common European Reference Framework for Languages.

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

Have you decided to study the English-language master's degree in Cognitive Science – Embodied Cognition at the University of Potsdam? Then you should take the next step and get more information about the current application and immatriculation procedures at the application website www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master

The course of study starts in the winter semester only.



Further Information

Degree Regulations:

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

Counselling and Contact

Academic counselling

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Faculty of Human Science

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



Program Focus

The master's course of study serves to expand and deepen the specialized and methodological skills and knowledge that you attained in your bachelor's studies. Working on the basis of a subject-specific and interdisciplinary spectrum of methodologies, you are in a position to understand the issues in cognitive process analysis and to develop proposals for solutions. While immersed in a discussion of the latest research findings on embodied cognition, you will work on the modeling of neurocognitive processes and systems. In addition to the mastery of time-controlled stimulus presentation and response measurement, and the computational modeling of intervening bio-cognitive processes, you will gain broad and well-founded knowledge in experimental psychology and psychophysics, especially in the computer-aided implementation of computational models and experimental designs.

You will learn to identify and to experimentally investigate problem fields such as action simulation, attention allocation, interoception, numerical cognition, microsaccades, motor control, postural sway, and reading. You will also develop analytical and computational approaches in a way that is adequate to your inquiry. Working together with other team members, you can prepare your research results appropriately for presentation to an international audience.

In the second segment of this program, the focus is on the independent planning and realization of a dissertation project related to cognitive science and embodied cognition. Once this project is completed, the Faculty of Human Sciences awards the candidate the "Doctor of Philosophy" (Ph.D.) degree.

Course Objective and Future Career Options

Graduates from our program are ready for scientific careers in the many disciplines that encompass the cognitive sciences, and are also qualified for research and management activities in related scientific fields. Equipped with a broad basis of current knowledge about cognitive processes and their biological and computational foundations, as well as advanced mathematical and methodological skills, they can design complex research projects and experiments, develop hypotheses, and evaluate them on a quantitative basis.

Program Structure and Curriculum

The degree program has two components: In the first segment, you earn a total of 120 credit points in the four-semester master's program. The second segment, the Ph.D. program, includes another 4 semesters. The following overview provides information about the weighting of individual modules and types of courses.

Modules	Credit Points
First Segment	
Mandatory Modules	63 CPs
Cognitive Science and Embodied Cognition	15 CPs
Mathematical Modeling in Neurocognitive Psychology	9 CPs
Neuroscience of Embodied Cognition	9 CPs
Advanced Methods: Experimental Programming	6 CPs
Advanced Methods: Multivariate Statistics	9 CPs
Individual Research Module	15 CPs

Modules	Credit Points
Optional mandatory modules Modules adding up to 18 credit points must be selected and successfully completed.	18 CPs
Developmental Science and Embodiment	6 CPs
Language and Development	6 CPs
Cognitive and Sensorimotor Development	6 CPs
Neurolinguistic Perspectives	6 CPs
Philosophy of Neuroscience and Embodied Cognition	6 CPs
Cognitive Neuroscience, Neuropsychology and the Body	6 CPs
Bridge Modules*	9 CPs
Experimental Psychological Training	9 CPs
Applied Mathematics for Cognitive Sciences	9 CPs
Laboratory Internship	9 CPs
Master's Thesis	30 CPs
Total	120 CPs
Second Segment	
Progress Reports	12 CPs
Colloquium for Doctoral Candidates	12 CPs
Cognitive Science Colloquium	12 CPs
Potsdam Graduate School Courses	24 CPs
Dissertation and Defense	60 CPs
Total	120 CPs

* For additional information about the Bridge Modules, please consult the Degree Regulations.