Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations for the English-language master's programme in Cognitive Systems at Ulm University of 9 July 2014

Based on § 34 (1) in conjunction with § 19 (1) sentence 2 no 9 of the higher education law of the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz – LHG) in the version of 1 January 2005 (law gazette p 1 ff), amended several times, most recently by article 1 of the third law on changes to higher education regulations (Drittes Hochschulrechtsänderungsgesetz) of 1 April 2014 (law gazette no 6, p 99 ff), the Senate of Ulm University, at the proposal of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, adopted the following Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations for the English-language master's programme in Cognitive Systems in its meeting on 26 June 2014. The President of Ulm University approved these on 9 July 2014 according to § 34 (1) sentence 3 LHG.

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According to article 3 (2) Basic Law, men and women have equal rights; male designations of persons and positions used in these regulations apply equally to men and women.

I. General provisions

§ 1 Scope of application
(1) These Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations contain specific regulations for the English-language master's programme in Cognitive Systems.

(2) The Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations supplement the General Provisions for Study and Examination Regulations regarding Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at Ulm University (General Framework). In case of doubt, the General Framework has priority.

§ 2 Academic degrees, study courses (§ 2 General Framework)
The Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science of Ulm University offers the consecutive master's programme in Cognitive Systems leading to the degree of "Master of Science" (short: "M.Sc.").

§ 3 Commencement of studies (§ 3 General Framework)
The master's programme in Cognitive Systems begins in the respective winter semester.

§ 4 Standard period of study (§ 5 General Framework)
The standard period of study in the consecutive master's programme is two years.

§ 5 Deadlines (§ 6 (8) and (9) General Framework)
By the beginning of the examination period of the seventh subject-specific semester of the master's programme, students must have obtained 120 credit points in the subjects listed in § 16 (1) below. Students who have failed to obtain 120 credit points by the beginning of the examination period of the seventh subject-specific semester lose their right to be examined in this study course unless they are not responsible for exceeding this deadline.

§ 6 Courses and examinations in English (§ 7 General Framework)
(1) Courses (except language courses) are taught in English. It is possible to select modules taught in German.

(2) As a rule, examinations are in the language of the course.

§ 7 Student counselling (§ 9 General Framework)
Students failing to obtain 20 credit points per semester for the first time are invited for student counselling by the academic advisor. Students are notified thereof in writing by the Studiensekretariat (student administration office).

§ 8 Subject-specific board of examiners (§ 10 General Framework)
(1) A subject-specific board of examiners for the master's programme in Cognitive Systems is formed.
The subject-specific board of examiners has seven members. It is composed of four full-time lecturers or full-time professors of Ulm University, two members of scientific staff and one student of the master’s programme in Cognitive Systems in an advisory capacity. The term of office of the student members is one year; that of the other members is three years. Reappointment of members is possible.

§ 9 Courses, examinations, module handbooks

(1) Study objectives and contents are conveyed, in particular, in the following types of courses:
- lectures
- exercises and tutorials
- seminars
- practical courses
- project-related courses

(2) The master’s examination is composed of a master’s thesis with a final presentation and discussion and of written and/or oral module examinations.

(3) According to § 6 (3) General Framework, a module may require the completion of ungraded coursework (Scheine – achievement certificates) in previous courses within the same module, or admission to some module examinations may be subject to the completion of ungraded coursework. Required coursework is defined in the module handbook. Form and scope of the respective coursework are published in good time before the start of the course.

(4) Admission to a module examination may be subject to taking and passing one or several specific other module examination or coursework ensuring that subject-specific requirements are fulfilled. Admission can also be subject to additional criteria, in particular in case of limited places in compulsory elective modules. Current admission requirements are published in the module handbook in good time before the start of the modules.

(5) Examinations may be fully or partially taken via a computer programme; however, confidentiality and data integrity must be ensured.

(6) The current module handbook states which modules may be taken as compulsory electives.

§ 10 Organisation of module examinations (§ 13 General Framework)

(1) As a rule, module examinations follow the recommendations of § 13 (1) General Framework. There must be a minimum period of two weeks between publication of the examination results and the corresponding exam retake.
§ 11 Related study courses (§ 14 General Framework)

Study courses related with the Cognitive Systems programme according to § 14 (3) General Framework are, in particular, psychology, cognitive science and computer science.

§ 12 Provisions regarding the module master’s thesis (§ 16c General Framework)

(1) The master’s thesis corresponds to 30 credit points. The period from the assignment of the topic to the submission of the master’s thesis is six months.

(2) The master’s thesis comprises a presentation on the project followed by a discussion. This accounts for one of the credit points corresponding to the master’s thesis.

(3) As a rule, the master’s thesis is written in English. § 16 c (4) General Framework applies accordingly. The master’s thesis must be submitted to the Studiensekretariat (student administration office) in time in two bound copies. One further electronic copy (PDF) must be submitted to the Studiensekretariat and the examiners.

§ 13 Assessment of module examinations

(1) All graded (partial) module examinations taken by students in the subjects listed in § 16 (1), weighted according to their corresponding credit points, count towards the final mark of the master’s programme.

(2) Where compulsory elective modules exceeding their minimum volume are taken, these count towards the final mark with their actual weight. If in one compulsory elective area the minimum number of credit points has been fulfilled, no further modules or examinations can be counted in this area.

(3) In cases justified by their subject-matter, written exams may also be done by way of multiple choice. In such case, the module examination is deemed to have been passed if the student answered a minimum of 60 % of the total achievable points correctly or if the number of points achieved by the student falls not more than 20 % below the examination average of all examinees in this examination and the examinee achieved a minimum of 50 % of achievable points.

(4) All modules require a module examination or several partial module examinations.

(5) If a module requires one or several ungraded coursework assignments without these being an admission requirement for such module examinations and if students fulfil the minimum requirements for such coursework, this coursework is deemed to have been passed. If students then pass the (partial) module examination, this passed coursework results in an improvement of the grade to the nearest intermediate grade, i.e. by up to 0.3 or 0.4 respectively. The module handbook states which modules require coursework as mentioned in sentence 1 above. An improvement of the grade from 5.0 to 4.0 is not possible.

§ 14 Retake of module examinations (§ 20 General Framework)

(Partial) module examinations can be retaken twice.
II. Master’s programme in Cognitive Systems

§ 15 Study objectives

(1) The master’s examination in the Cognitive Systems programme is a professional academic degree in the fields of psychology and computer science. By passing the master’s examination students show that they have in-depth subject knowledge, are able to work independently following scientific principles and contribute to the development of cognitive systems as well as apply scientific methods and findings.

(2) Successful completion of the master’s programme qualifies the graduate
a) to design cognitive systems based on theoretical knowledge
b) to implement and assess methods and proceedings used in the planning, development and implementation of cognitive systems
c) to assess fundamental cognitive mechanisms in the subject complementary to the respective bachelor’s programme (psychology for computer science bachelors and computer science for psychology bachelors)
d) to form part of interdisciplinary teams
e) to do doctoral studies in psychology or computer science.

§ 16 Study contents and modules in the Cognitive Systems master’s programme

(1) The following modules must be completed as part of the master’s programme in Cognitive Systems:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module group</th>
<th>Credit points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Basic Subject Psychology or Basic Subject Computer Science</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Core Subject</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Special Subject</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Interdisciplinary Subject</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Applied Subject</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Master’s Thesis and Defence</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) Computer science bachelors select the basic subject psychology according to paragraph 1 no 1 above; psychology bachelors select the basic subject computer science according to paragraph 1 no 1 above. For graduates of any other bachelor’s programmes (e.g. cognitive science) an individual module and examination plan is created in consultation with the academic advisor; this plan corresponding to 18 credit points considers students’ subject-specific requirements and is based on the modules taught as basic subjects as defined in paragraph 1 no 1 above.

(3) The range of modules offered according to paragraph 1 no 3, 4 and 5 can be expanded and modified by resolution of the study commission and in agreement with the subject-specific board of examiners.
§ 17 Subject-specific requirements for admission to the master's thesis
Admission to the master's thesis is subject to having passed the subjects named in § 16 (1) no 1 and 2 and having obtained a total minimum of 60 credit points.

III. Final provisions

§ 18 Effective date
These study and examination regulations come into force with effect from winter semester 2014/15. They are published in the Official Bulletin of Ulm University.

Ulm, 9 July 2014

signed

Professor Karl Joachim Ebeling
- President -