

School of Engineering and Science

# Computer Science (BSc)

Bachelor's Degree Program

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# 1 Computer Science

## 1.1 Concept

Students of Computer Science at Jacobs University will receive an education that covers all modern aspects of this challenging and fascinating discipline, plus they will take courses from neighboring disciplines according to their inclinations.

The courses offered in the first year provide a general overview over a broad range of CS topics, as well as an intensive training of programming skills. Only after the first year of study students have to finalize their choice of major, a liberty uncommon at most state universities in Germany. In years two and three, students will on the one hand increasingly specialize within CS, and on the other hand benefit from the transdisciplinary openness that is the hallmark of Jacobs University and take courses from neighboring disciplines, complementing their in-depth CS training. Students, thus, learn to adapt their knowledge and expertise to a variety of tasks. This is an invaluable asset in a student's future career.

Research is an essential part of student education at Jacobs University. Enabled by a very low student to faculty ratio, students will participate in real research work even during bachelor education. Faculty is working in exciting areas of modern computer science, for example: robotics and embedded systems, motion planning, large-scale data bases, computational logic, semantic web, machine learning, computer networks, distributed systems, or visualization and computer graphics.

# 1.2 Cooperation with Other Universities

The faculty members of the CS Major at Jacobs University have excellent working cooperations with leading Computer Science Departments worldwide. Specifically, students with ambitious academic career plans can be efficiently recommended to renown research labs for their (mandatory) practicals.

Furthermore, the School of Engineering and Science at Jacobs University has an exchange program for second-year CS undergraduate students (or EECS students specializing in CS) with the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University.

# 1.3 Job Prospects and Career Options

It is almost needless to say that the job market for computer scientists has been very good in the last few years, and there is no indication that this will change in the foreseeable future. However, there is no single all-round CS education that qualifies a student for every CS career. Quite to the contrary, because of the rapid changes in the field, it is important to focus one's education in subfields of promising future relevance. Furthermore, cross-disciplinary breadth and flexibility, as well as social and work organization skills, become increasingly important. In addition, the required qualification profiles and personal attitudes differ for academic versus

industrial careers. The CS program at Jacobs University responds to all of these conditions for a successful career.

The main elements to make this possible are:

- The program concentrates on the sub-disciplines that combine a "mainstream" breadth with a high potential for future innovations. It thus focuses on modern aspects of Artificial Intelligence (including robotics, machine learning, and the semantic web), and also databases and networking technologies. Furthermore, there are close affiliations with other majors, allowing the student to include into their syllabus courses in computational science, bioinformatics, mathematical modeling, and communication technology. Some of the more traditional fields (like compiler design or theory of programming languages) will be limited to short overviews.
- CS faculty was carefully recruited from modern, integrative areas of computer science, and for a record of interdisciplinary research.
- Extensive laboratory courses for practical CS training and the acquisition of social and workflow skills enable the student to work in large-scale joint project teams.
- Jacobs University is generally an exquisite place to acquire great social skills, simply because our undergraduate students come from more than 80 countries and live together in college buildings. This unique circumstance can hardly be over-rated.
- Since mathematical tools are at the core of today's CS applications and research, an early (and tough) systematic training in the relevant mathematical disciplines is ensured.
- The practical aspects of training are deepened in the mandatory 2-3 months industry or academic internship. Students are helped to find a host organization with computer science as its core competency.

As to the academic vs. industrial career decision, there are two principal career options for a student graduating in computer science. The first option is entering a non-academic position directly. In line with the expectations and demands of a majority of potential employers, Jacobs University computer science graduates will be able to start a career in industry / business / the public sector after studying for three years. Our graduates will enter their job at a young age of 21-22, so that there is ample time for job specific training at the future employer.

The alternative option is to continue on the academic track with graduate studies, possibly with a long-term goal of a higher entry qualification for industry positions. The CS major will prepare students for graduate studies, in particular for

- the Smart Systems graduate program in Computer Science at Jacobs University,
- the same subject at other institutions of higher education,
- more business oriented fields for those seeking a management career in high-tech enterprises.

At the time of writing, the fifth generation of Jacobs University EECS undergraduates have just obtained their B.Sc. degrees. The majority went on to study for a Master's degree. The best among them could promptly enlist in the world's leading institutions in their specialization areas (EPF Lausanne, ETH Zürich, Urbana-Champaign, Cornell, University of Montreal),

witnessing the high quality of the training they received at Jacobs University. The ones who opted for a direct industrial career faced no difficulties in finding qualified employments, a gratifyingly large portion among them in the wider Bremen area.

Students with a degree in CS will find themselves at the very heart of modern developments in industry and commerce. There is hardly a field which has not been affected by the revolutionary development of information technology and micro-electronics, which has for example resulted in the ubiquitous use of computers, the omni-presence of telecommunication devices and the rapidly expanding use of the numerous network-based services offered. The pace of change will not slow down. It is predicted that the share of the electronics and information technology industries in the gross national product will further increase. Hence there is, from a national economics perspective, an urgent need for excellent CS graduates, and it appears certain that job prospects will remain excellent for at least more than a decade.

## 1.4 Curriculum Development Process

This curriculum has been developed from the CS specialization of the existing EECS curriculum, which has been very successfull over the last few years. The greatest challenge for curriculum design was to bind into a short 3-year program all the requirements of practical and theoretical training, social and work organization skills, as well as interdisciplinary openness, coverage of all essential CS basics, and offering a broad scope of specialization courses. This led to the following general design of the program:

- In the first year, the program offers (i) overview lectures and lab courses that expose the student to (almost) all CS aspects at a simple level, (ii) a training in standard programming languages, (iii) an essential mathematical training in calculus and linear algebra, (iv) introductory courses and labs from other natural science fields. For (i) (iii), all courses are mandatory.
- After the first year, the student may ultimatively enroll in CS if s/he meets threshold marks in mandatory courses. A change of major is possible at this point at the latest.
- In the second year, the program offers an in-depth treatment of carefully selected mainstream topics of CS and it enables a first specialization by allowing choices. The programming and mathematical education (probability and statistics, advanced linear algebra, numerics) is continued while leaving room for transdisciplinary courses.
- During the summer break after the second year, a 2-3 month internship in industry or academic labs is mandatory.
- From the second year onward, students are offered ample opportunities to work in (paid) student assistant jobs within funded projects or as teaching assistants.
- In the third year, the program offers a choice of specialization courses that lead the student close to the frontier of research. Again, the program leaves room for transdisciplinary courses. In the second half of the third year, the student has to participate in a guided research project and produce a research report.

The curriculum will be continuously scrutinized as to whether it ensures a sound academic education (i.e., successful applications of students at graduate schools) and also fulfills the expectations of potential employers (i.e., rate to find a job in the field within a few months).

The adaptation of the curricula of the individual lectures will not be left to the instructor of record alone. In yearly reviews, the faculty members of the EECS group agree and commit on necessary changes and updates.

Specifically, the third year specialization courses are directly linked to ongoing research of faculty members. By their nature, they will continuously change, always reflecting the most recent advances in research.

# 2 Modules: Computer Science

For greater transparency of the logics and as guidance for the (prospective) student, we have structured the respective major programs in terms of modules. A module is defined as a combination of courses (lectures, lab units or other types of courses) interconnected by the same learning goals (Lernziel). Before listing the individual courses and describing their contents, these modules are presented and characterized by the skills and abilities that the student is expected to acquire. But irrespective of this overarching modular structure, the learning progress will be documented with credit points and grades attributed to the individual courses or lab units. This facilitates the control of the student's progress through the student as well as the university on a semester basis, while the modules may extend over a year or, in exceptional cases, even over longer periods. Only the core content of a major program is suited for modularisation. The freely choosable Home School Electives and transdisciplinary courses fall outside this structure.

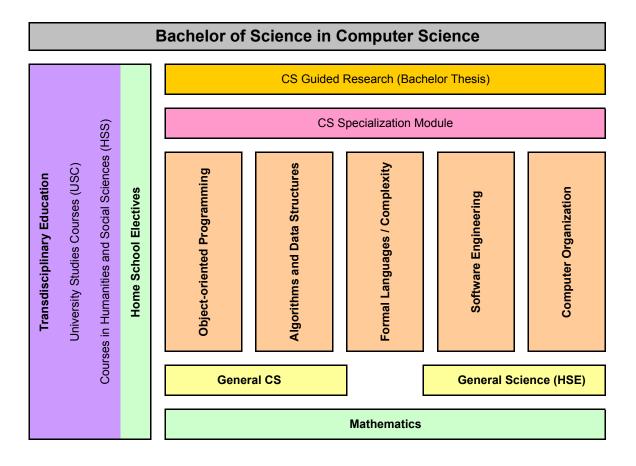


Figure 1: CS Module Structure

Subsequently the individual modules are being defined with respect to learning goals and acquired competencies. The listed course numbers constitute a reference to the individual courses and the descriptions of their contents.

### 2.1 General Science

Home School Electives and transdisciplinary courses are not listed as modules. In the second year, home school (Engineering and Science, ECs) courses are required which is shown in the figure, but are not separately listed since they are electives. In the 3rd year, all courses are for further specialization in a direction chosen by the student and modules there directly represent single courses. We represent them as a CS specialization module.

### 120130 – ESM FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE

Short Name: ESM for CS

Semester: 1-4Credit Points: 20 ECTS

**General Information** Students of Computer Science are required to take four semesters of Engineering and Science Mathematics; the courses listed below are mandatory for the CS major.

### **Learning goals**

- Working skills in differential and integral calculus, linear algebra, probability, and statistics, Fourier methods, and numerics.
- Problem solving skills
- Training in abstract reasoning and symbolic manipulation
- Ability to turn real-world problems into a concise mathematical question
- Ability to interpret mathematical statements back into the problem domain

### **Courses**

**120101** ESM 1A – Single Variable Calculus

**120112** ESM 2B – Linear Algebra, Fourier, Probability

**120201** ESM 3A – Advanced Linear Algebra, Stochastic Processes

**120202** ESM 4A – Numerical Methods

### **Elective – NATURAL SCIENCE MODULE**

Short Name: ModGenSES

Semester: 1-2Credit Points: 15 ECTS **General Information** This module includes two first year natural science courses and associated lab units. These are required for all students majoring in the School of Engineering and Science.

### **Learning goals**

• This should offer the student an introduction into other sciences offered within the School of Engineering and Science (SES).

### **Courses**

elective General Engineering and Science Subject I (lecture)

elective General Engineering and Science Subject II (lecture)

elective Natural Science Lab Units Subject I

elective Natural Science Lab Units Subject II

## 2.2 CS Major

### 320100 – GENERAL COMPUTER SCIENCE

Short Name: ModGCScs

Semester: 1-2Credit Points: 15 ECTS

**General Information** This module familiarizes students with general concepts of Computer Science. Two lecture and two accompanying lab units are provided. The lectures, based on a clear mathematical foundation, introduce abstract and concrete notions of computing machines, information, and algorithms. They also introduce basic concepts of logic, boolean circuits up to very elementary computer architectures. The lab units are more oriented towards the practical side of computer science and provide an introduction to programming as well as a hands-on experience on how to implement basic algorithms and data structures.

### **Learning goals**

- Understanding of the mathematical foundation of computer science and core concepts such as computation or complexity
- Introduction to procedural, object-oriented and functional programming concepts
- Enabling students to solve simple programming problems

#### **Courses**

**320101** General Computer Science I (lecture)

**320102** General Computer Science II (lecture)

**320111** Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in C I

**320112** Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in C II

### 320200 – ALGORITHMS AND DATA STRUCTURES

Short Name: ModADScs

Semester: 3

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

**General Information** Understanding of basic algorithms and data structures and their properties is essential in every computer science program. This module introduces these concepts from the theoretical as well as the practical point of view.

### Learning goals

- Understanding of core algorithms and data structures.
- Ability to analyze algorithms or data structures in terms of their complexity.
- Ability to apply data structures and algorithms to problems based on a sound understanding of their properties.

#### **Courses**

**320201** Algorithms and Data Structures (lecture)

### 320210 – FORMAL LANGUAGES AND COMPLEXITY

Short Name: ModFLCcs

Semester: 3 – 4 Credit Points: 10 ECTS

**General Information** This module deepens the theoretical foundation of computer science by introducing the theory of formal languages, their relationships to automata in more depth. The module also covers first-order logic which is the mathematical basis of many areas in computer science.

### Learning goals

- Understanding of the theoretical foundations of computer science.
- Abstract thinking skills.
- Introduction and training of prove techniques.
- Developing an understanding of the fundamental limitations of computational models.

#### **Courses**

**320211** Formal Languages and Logic (lecture)

**320352** Computability and Complexity (lecture)

### 320240 - OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING

Short Name: ModOOcs Semester: 2 – 3 Credit Points: 10 ECTS

**General Information** This module introduces object-oriented programming techniques. Concepts such as classes, inheritance, exceptions, templates are introduced using two popular programming languages. The courses combine lecture and lab sessions.

### **Learning goals**

- Understanding of object-oriented programming and the construction of object-oriented class libraries.
- The combination of a lecture and lab sessions allows students to deepen theoretical concepts while obtaining hands-on experience.
- Students develop a self-directed working style in groups after having received the theoretical basis.

#### Courses

**320142** Programming in C++ (lecture / lab)

**320341** Programming in Java (lecture / lab)

### 320220 - SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Short Name: ModSEcs

Semester: 4

Credit Points: 10 ECTS

**General Information** The development of large software systems requires to know a set of techniques to support the various stages of a software development project. This module introduces key software engineering topics such as process models, data modeling techniques, object-oriented design techniques and tools relevant for implementation, testing, and verification.

### Learning goals

- Familiarity with fundamental software engineering techniques.
- Application of these techniques in a concrete software development project.
- Experience with software development, documentation, and testing tools.
- The combination of a lecture with a lab course allows students to deepen theoretical concepts while obtaining hands-on experience.
- Students develop a self-directed working style in groups after having received the theoretical basis.
- Students practice the documentation of lab results in reports.

#### **Courses**

**320212** Software Engineering (lecture)

**320222** Software Engineering Lab

### 320230 - COMPUTER ORGANIZATION

Short Name: ModCORGcs

Semester: 1, 4

Credit Points: 15 ECTS

General Information This module introduces fundamental knowledge about the organization of digital computers. It covers hardware concepts such as instruction sets and processor designs and fundamental principles of memory systems and system busses. The module also covers operating systems, which are complex software systems with non-sequential flows of control implementing several resource management algorithms to make effective use of the hardware components. Operating systems form a good basis to study concurrency and synchronization problems, scheduling algorithms, and resource allocation algorithms in general. The module also introduces core network programming interfaces provided by operating systems.

### Learning goals

- Familiarity with computer architectures and fundamentals of basic components of digital computing systems.
- Understanding of core concepts underlying operating systems and data networks.
- Familiarity with the programming abstractions provided by operating systems.
- Ability to write simple concurrent and communicating programs.

#### **Courses**

320241 Computer Architecture (lecture)320202 Operating Systems (lecture)

320232 Operating Systems Lab

## 320300 - CS SPECIALIZATION MODULE

Short Name: ModCSSPcs

Semester: 5 – 6 Credit Points: 20 ECTS

**General Information** During the third year, students can specialize in the areas of their specific interests. This module gathers all CS specialization courses offered in the third year.

### **Learning goals**

- Students specialize in their chosen fields of interest.
- Courses familiarize students with the basic knowledge and skills needed to understand and reflect state-of-the-art research and development in the choosen areas.
- Students are prepared to either enter graduate research and development programs or to acquire the knowledge necessary to successfully enter the job marked in the chosen focus areas.

### **Courses**

320301 Networks and Protocols

320302 Databases and Web Applications

320331 Artificial Intelligence

**320312** Distributed Systems

320322 Graphics and Visualization

**320311** Robotics

320321 Image Processing

**320351** Medical Image Analysis

**300341** Information Theory

300362 Coding Theory

### 320310 - CS GUIDED RESEARCH MODULE

Short Name: ModGRcs Semester: 5 – 6 Credit Points: 10 ECTS

**General Information** Guided research projects are designed to get students involved into research activities. The topics are posted by faculty members and usually related to their specific research activities. The deliverables produced by the students are a research proposal, an oral presentation of the topic and the achieved results, and the final guided research report (B.Sc. thesis).

### **Learning goals**

- Students get involved in ongoing research activities.
- Ability to independently work on a given problem.
- Students learn to organize their work and time.
- Training of writing and presentation skills.

#### Courses

**320371** Guided Research in Computer Science

**320342** Guided Research in Computer Science + Thesis

# 3 Requirements for a B.Sc. in Computer Science

# 3.1 General Requirements

To obtain a B.Sc. degree at Jacobs University, a minimum of 180 ECTS credit points must be earned over a period of 6 semesters.

- A minimum of 140 ECTS credits must be earned in the School of Engineering and Science.
- 30 ECTS credits must be earned through transdisciplinary courses, comprised of courses in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) and University Study Courses (USC). Students can choose how many USCs or S HSS courses they take.
- 10 ECTS credits (4 courses) are accredited either for language courses or additional Home School electives. Students can decide whether they take language courses or not.

University requirements outside of the school of the major are type-coded "u" in the recommended course plan below.

## 3.2 Requirements of the Major

Students choose 140 ECTS credits in Engineering and Sciences out of the following courses:

Year 1 Level Courses	Course Numbers	<b>ECTS Credits</b>	
Engineering and Science Mathematics I A / II B	120101, 120112	10	
General Computer Science I/II	320101, 320102	10	
NatSciLab Units Programming in C I/II	320111, 320112	5	
Computer Architecture	320241	5	
Programming in C++	320142	5	
First year Engineering and Science subject I/II	n/a	10	
NatSciLab Units Engineering and Science subject I/II	n/a	5	
Year 2 Level Courses	Course Numbers	ECTS Credits	
Engineering and Science Mathematics III A / IV A	120201, 120202	10	
Algorithms and Data Structures	320201	5	
Formal Languages and Logic	320211	5	
Computability and Complexity	320352	5	
Programming in Java	320341	5	
Software Engineering / Software Engineering Lab	320212, 320222	10	
Operating Systems / Operating Systems Lab	320202, 320232	10	
Year 3 Level Courses	Course Numbers	ECTS Credits	
CS Specialization Area Courses	n/a	20	
Guided Research and BSc Thesis	320371, 320342	10	
<b>Additional Courses</b>	Course Numbers	ECTS Credits	
Two Home School electives	n/a	10	

Students with special interests in certain subject areas can, with the approval of the instructor of record, choose courses offered as part of the CS graduate program as specialization area courses.

# 4 Recommended Course Plan

This course plan has been compiled based on the assumption of no previous knowledge when entering Jacobs University. Although not binding, it is highly recommended since it ensures an even workload, optimum efficiency and maximum congruence with the objectives of the curriculum.

Year 1 Courses	Fall	C	T	Spring	C	T
ESc Mathematics I A / II B	120101	5	m	120112	5	m
General Computer Science I/II	320101	5	m	320102	5	m
Programming in C (NatSciLab CS I/II)	320111	2.5	m	320112	2.5	m
Computer Architecture	320241	5	m			
Programming in C++				320142	5	m
First year courses in ESc subject		_	e		5	e
Associated NatSciLabs I/II		2.5	e		2.5	e
Transdisciplinary Courses		5	u/e		5	u/e
Running Total / Semester Total	30.0	30.0		60.0	30.0	
Year 2 Courses	Fall	C	T	Spring	C	T
ESc Mathematics III A / IV A	120201	5	m	120202	5	m
Programming in Java	320341	5	m			
Formal Languages and Logic	320211	5	m			
Algorithms and Data Structures	320201	5	m			
Software Engineering				320212	5	m
Software Engineering Lab				320222		
Operating Systems				320202		
Operating Systems Lab				320232		
Computability and Complexity				320352	5	m
Language Courses or Home School Electives		5				
Transdisciplinary Courses		5	u/e			
Running Total / Semester Total	90.0	30.0		120.0	30.0	
Year 3 Courses	Fall	С	T	Spring	С	T
CS Specialization Area Courses		3*5	m		5	m
Three ESc Subject Courses		2*5	e		5	e
Guided Research and BSc Thesis CS	320371	2.5	m	320342	7.5	m
Transdisciplinary Courses		5	u/e		10	u/e
Running Total / Semester Total	152.5	32.5		180.0	27.5	

C = ECTS credit points, T=type (m=mandatory, e=elective, u=university)
Transdisciplinary Courses are School of Humanities and Social Sciences and University Studies
Courses

### 4.1 Professional Skills

The SES highly recommends attending the Professional Skills seminars offered by the Career Services Center. Those seminars include soft skills development seminars and application training which will help you to cope with your studies and master your internship and job search.

All undergraduate students are required to complete an internship, normally to be accomplished between the second and third year of study. Information about the internship will be listed on the transcript. The internship must last at least two consecutive months. No credits are connected to the internship requirement. For more information on internships see:

http://www.jacobs-university.de/career-services/internship

### 4.2 Selection of Elective Courses

The following recommendations should be considered for the selection of elective courses.

- Students who are strong in Mathematics and interested in the more formal aspects of Computer Science should consider to select the General Mathematics and Computational Science I/II courses in the first two semesters.
- Students who like to be able to change easily to the programs Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) or Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) at the end of the first year should consider to select the General Electrical Engineering I/II courses in the first two semesters and the associated NatSciLab units Electrical Engineering I/II.

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# 5 Courses: Computer Science

### 5.1 1<sup>st</sup> Year Courses and Labs

After the first year, the students should be conversant in the general principles of Computer Science and, since Computer Science makes use of advanced mathematical tools, with the most important mathematical concepts needed. All courses listed here are mandatory for CS students. For the inter- and transdisciplinary education, the students are furthermore required to take two electives from each of the schools and one University Studies course.

## 320101 – General Computer Science I

Short Name: GenCS I Type: Lecture

Semester: 1

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The course covers the fundamental concepts and techniques of computer science in a bottom-up manner. Based on clear mathematical foundations (which are developed as needed) the course discusses abstract and concrete notions of computing machines, information, and algorithms, focusing on the question of representation vs. meaning in Computer Science.

To have a theoretical notion of computation, we introduce inductively defined structures, term representations, abstract interpretation via equational substitution. This is contrasted with a first concrete model of computation: Standard ML, which will also act as the primary programming language for the course. We cover a basic subset of ML that includes types, recursion, termination, lists, strings, higher-order programming, effects, and exceptions. Back on the theoretical side, we cover string codes, formal languages, Boolean expressions (syntax) and Boolean Algebras (semantics). The course introduces elementary complexity theory (big-O), applying it to analyzing the gate-complexity of Boolean Expressions (prime implicants and Quine McCluskey's algorithm).

**Topics** Discrete mathematics, terms, substitution, abstract interpretation, computation, recursion, termination, complexity, Standard ML, types, formal languages, boolean expressions.

# 320111 - Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in C I

Short Name: NatSciLabCS I

Type: Lab Semester: 1

Credit Points: 2.5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This lab unit is a first introduction to programming using the programming language C. The course covers fundamental procedural programming constructs and simple algorithms in a hands-on manner.

## 320241 - Computer Architecture

Short Name: CSCA Type: Lecture

Semester: 1

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** Starting from essential logical circuits, this course introduces core components (processors, memory systems, buses) and architectures of modern computing systems.

**Topics** Computer architectures, processors, instruction sets, memory systems, system busses, parallel processing.

# 320102 – General Computer Science II

Short Name: GenCS II Type: Lecture

Semester: 2

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320101
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

Course contents The course continues the introduction of the fundamental concepts and techniques of Computer Science. Building on Boolean Algebra, it introduces Propositional Logic as a model for general logical systems (syntax, semantics, calculi). Based on elementary graph theory, combinatory circuits are introduced as basic logic computational devices. Interpreting sequences of Boolean values as representations of numbers (in positional number systems, twos-complement system), Boolean circuits are extended to numerical computational machines (presenting adders, subtracters, multipliers) and extended to basic ALUs. The course introduces very elementary computer architectures and assembly language concrete computational devices, and compares them to Turing machines to fathom the reach of computability.

In a final part of the course, two topics of general Computer Science are covered in depth, for instance "search algorithms" and "programming as search" to complement the rather horizontal (i.e. methods-oriented) organization of the course with vertically (i.e. goal-oriented) organized topics.

**Topics** Propositional logic, calculi, soundness, completeness, automated theorem proving, combinatory circuits, assembler turing machines, search, logic programming.

# 320112 – Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in C II

Short Name: NatSciLabCS II

Type: Lab Semester: 2

Credit Points: 2.5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320111
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This lab unit is a continuation of the first year CS lab unit and deepens the basic programming skills from the first lab. It covers advanced topics of C programming such as data structures, file handling, libraries, and debugging techniques.

# 320142 - Programming in C++

Short Name: CSPCPP
Type: Lecture / Lab

Semester: 2

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320111
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

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**Course contents** The course is an introduction into object-oriented programming using the programming language C++. The unit covers the object-oriented programming constructs in C++ in a hands-on manner.

**Topics** C++ programming language, practical implementation of algorithms.

## **5.2 2**<sup>nd</sup> **Year Courses and Labs**

In the second year, the focus areas are computer architecture, operating systems, formal languages, discrete automata, first-order logic, and software engineering.

The mathematical training is mandatory for all students and the transdisciplinary education is continued by one University Studies course.

## 320201 – Algorithms and Data Structures

Short Name: CSAD Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 3

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: (320112 or 350112) and 120112

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This course introduces a basic set of data structures and algorithms that form the basis of almost all computer programs. The data structures and algorithms are analyzed in respect to their computational complexity with techniques such as worst case and amortized analysis.

**Topics** Fundamental data structures (lists, stacks, trees, hash tables), fundamental algorithms (sorting, searching, graph traversal).

# 320211 - Formal Languages and Logic

Short Name: CSFLL Type: Lecture

Semester: 3

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320102
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This course gives an introduction to the most basic themes of theoretical computer science. Formal languages and discrete automata are the foundations of programming languages and their parsing and compiling. First-order logic is the basis of artificial intelligence, program verification and advanced data base systems.

**Topics** Formal languages, discrete automata, first-order logic.

## 320341 – Programming in Java

Short Name: CSPJ

Type: Lecture / Lab

Semester: 3

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: (320102 and 320112) or (350102 and 350112)

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** Java is an object-oriented programming language which is very widely used for the development of applications running on the Internet, and in particular electronic commerce applications. Java has some unique features such as platform independence and a very rich set of reusable class libraries. This course introduces the core language and the most important core Java packages.

**Topics** Java Virtual Machine, object-oriented programming in Java (types, objects, interfaces, abstract classes, etc.), Java threads, core packages (java.net, java.io, java.sql), Java web programming (servlets, JSP, beans, enterprise beans).

# 320202 – Operating Systems

Short Name: CSOS Type: Lecture

Semester: 4

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: 320201 and 320112 and 320241

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This course provides an introduction to the concepts underlying operating systems. Students will develop an understanding how operating systems realize a virtual machine that can be used to execute multiple concurrent application programs. The course discusses resource allocation algorithms and how concurrency problems can be solved.

**Topics** Operating system architectures, system calls and interrupts, concurrent processes and threads, scheduling, synchronization, deadlocks, virtual memory, file systems, inter-process communication, socket programming interface.

## 320232 – Operating Systems Lab

Short Name: CSOSLAB

Type: Lab Semester: 3

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

*Prerequisites:* 320201 and 320112

Corequisites: 320202 Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This lab complements the Operating Systems course. Students will gain practical experience with systems programming above and below the system call interface of operating systems. Students will learn how to write concurrent programs and gain understanding how kernel programming differs from normal application development.

## 320212 - Software Engineering

Short Name: CSSE Type: Lecture

Semester: 4

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: (320201 and 320142) or (320201 and 350112)

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

Course contents This course is an introduction to software engineering (SE) and object-oriented software design. At the core of the lecture is the notion of software quality and the methods to achieve and maintain it. Based on their pre-existing knowledge of an object-oriented programming language, students are familiarized with software architectures, design patterns and frameworks, software components and middleware, UML-based modelling, and validation by code analysis and testing. Both classical development and modern variants, in particular: Web Engineering, are covered.

Further, the course addresses the more organizational topics of project management and version control.

**Topics** Software quality, process models, design patterns and frameworks, components and middleware, UML, testing, tools, project management, version control.

### 320222 – Software Engineering Lab

Short Name: CSSELAB

Type: Lab Semester: 4

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320142
Corequisites: 320212
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The Software Engineering Lab course ends the series of courses on software development basics, placing particular emphasis on programming-in-the-large, i.e., "multiperson construction of multi-version software". Project work encompasses team-oriented specification, implementation, documentation, and compliance tests of some non-trivial software system.

**Topics** Team-oriented software development project.

## 320352 – Computability and Complexity

Short Name: CSCC Type: Lecture

Semester: 4

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320211
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

Course contents This lecture presents one half of the core material of theoretical computer science (the other half is covered in the lecture "Formal Languages and Logic"). The question: "What problems can a computer possibly solve?", is fully answered (by characterizing those solvable problems, equivalently, through Turing machines, random access machines, recursive functions and lambda calculus). A full answer to the related question, "how much computational resources are needed for solving a given problem" is not known today. However, the basic outlines of today's theory of computational complexity will be presented up to the most famous open problem in computer science, namely the famous "P = NP" question: if a computer can guess the answer to a problem (and only needs to check its correctness), does that really help to speed up computation?

**Topics** Computable functions and complexity, lambda calculus, functional programming.

## 5.3 $3^{rd}$ Year Courses and Labs

In the third year, the specialization lectures will bring the student "up to speed" to the frontiers of research and technology and provide the theoretical groundwork for the guided research work (see section 5.4) which has to be completed in the third year.

The mathematics training has been completed in the first two years. The transdisciplinary education is completed by two University Studies courses and two courses from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS).

### 320301 - Networks and Protocols

Short Name: CSNP Type: Lecture

Semester: 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320202
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The course discusses network protocols in some depth in order to enable students to understand the core issues involved in network protocol design. The fundamental algorithms and principles are explained in the context of existing IEEE / Internet protocols in order to demonstrate how fundamental principles are applied in real-world protocols. This course is recommended for all students with a strong interest in communication networks.

**Topics** Local area networks (IEEE 802), Internet protocols, routing algorithms and protocols, flow and congestion control mechanisms, data representation, application layer protocols, remote procedure calls, network security.

## 320302 – Databases and Web Applications

Short Name: CSDBWA Type: Lecture

Semester: 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320201
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This course introduces (relational) database systems in theory and practice, with special emphasis on Web-based information services. In the accompanying project, design and implementation of database and Web service components will be addressed, culminating in

a sample database-enabled Web service based on the LAMP open source package. This course is recommended for all students specializing in computer science.

The course requires basic knowledge about algebraic expressions and laws, basic data structures like trees, object-oriented concepts, as well as – for the lab work – HTML and Linux.

**Topics** Database design (ER, UML), SQL, relational design theory, transaction management, security, web applications, n-tier architectures, HTML, PHP, XML, XPath/XQuery.

## 320331 – Artificial Intelligence

Short Name: CSAI Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

*Prerequisites:* 320201 and 320211

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

Course contents Among the disciplines of CS, Artificial Intelligence is one of the most interdisciplinary, with connections to robotics, pattern recognition, machine learning, high-level programming, databases, software engineering and many more. AI techniques today form crucial (albeit often invisible) constituents of almost all larger software systems. The course enables students to understand the links between many different CS and some EE techniques, and to develop heterogeneous software systems for intelligent information processing. The course involves extensive programming homework assignments with realistic data-sets.

**Topics** Overview of AI research fields, problem solving and search, logical agents, probabilistic reasoning, inference in Bayesian networks, information entropy and decision trees, parameter estimation and model-selection, applications of AI in robotics and perception.

# 320322 - Graphics and Visualization

Short Name: CSGV Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: 320202 and 320222

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This is an introductory class into the concepts and techniques of 3D interactive computer graphics and visualization. Mathematical foundations, basic algorithms and principles, and advanced methods of real-time rendering and visualization are being taught. This course is recommended for all EECS students with an interest in data visualization and computer graphics.

**Topics** Geometric foundations, object representation, raster graphics, color models, shading and lighting, textures, animation and modelling, scientific visualization.

## 320312 – Distributed Systems

Short Name: CSDS Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 6

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320301
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The first part of the course focusses on distributed file systems and generic middleware systems such as CORBA or Web Services. The second part of the course focusses on distributed algorithms that are the foundation for complex and fault-tolerant distributed systems. The material covered has been selected to provide a solid overview over the key algorithms and to develop an understanding of the issues that influence solutions for a certain problem in a distributed system.

**Topics** Middleware systems, distributed file systems, clock synchronization, logical and vector clocks, reliable, causal and atomic multicasts, virtual synchrony, election algorithms, voting algorithms, consistent snapshots, security.

## **320311 – Robotics**

Short Name: CSR Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 6

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: 320331 and 320222

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** Robotics is a field that spans the entire range from low-level mechatronics and signal processing to high-level cooperation protocols of intelligent agents, and thus touches large portions of both CS and EE. Correspondingly, the course aims at an integrative, practically oriented education that enables students to practically combine methods he/she has encountered in various more specialized courses before. An active robotics lab and participation in international robot contests give additional substance and motivation to this course.

**Topics** Embedded hardware and networking, mobile energy supply, sensors, motors, mechanics, mechatronics, manipulation, locomotion, control and modeling, cooperation of multiple systems.

## 320321 - Image Processing

Short Name: CSImgProc Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

*Prerequisites:* 320222 or 300221

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

Course contents The course is read biannually (alternating with "Medical Image Analysis") and provides a foundation in the theory and applications of digital image processing. The first part will concentrate on morphological image processing, which is one of the most powerful tool sets in dealing with digital images and it is the backbone of many of today's high-performance image analysis systems. We will start on basic concepts of dilation, erosion, geodesic transformations, morphological filtering, and watershed transform, and will develop into advanced strategies for image segmentation and texture analysis. The second part of the course will concentrate on solving problems from biomedical, environmental, and industrial imaging, and will provide an overview of the broader field of image processing.

**Topics** Morphological image processing, distance transformations, geodesic transformations, reconstruction based operators, image segmentation, watershed transformation, automated threshold selection, advanced image processing, motion analysis, image registration, pattern recognition, texture analysis, selected applications

## 320351 – Medical Image Analysis

Short Name: CSMedIA Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

*Prerequisites:* 320222 or 300221

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

Course contents The course provides a foundation in the theory and methods of digital image processing with applications in medical imaging. We start with morphological image processing, which is one of the most powerful tool sets in dealing with digital images and it is the backbone of many of today's high-performance image analysis systems. After basic concepts of image-to-image transformations, morphological and Fourier filtering, and the watershed transform, we develop into advanced strategies for image segmentation, image registration, and pattern recognition. Not least, we concentrate on solving problems from diagnostic and therapeutic medical imaging, and will provide an overview of the broader field of medical image analysis. The course also addresses practical implementation aspects of specific image processing tasks. To this end, knowledge in C or C++ will be required.

# 300341 – Information Theory

Short Name: EEIT Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 5

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

Prerequisites: 120112 and 120201

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** Information Theory serves as the most important foundation for communication systems. The course provides an analytical framework for modeling and evaluating point-to-point and multi-point communication.

The key concept of information content of a signal source and information capacity of a transmission medium are precisely defined, and their relationships to data compression algorithms and error control codes are examined in detail. The course aims to install an appreciation for the fundamental capabilities and limitations of information transmission schemes and to provide the mathematical tools for applying these ideas to a broad class of communications systems. Information Theory is a standard in every communications-oriented Bachelor's program.

# 300362 – Coding Theory

Short Name: EECT Type: Lecture

*Semester:* 6

Credit Points: 5 ECTS

*Prerequisites:* 120112 and 120201

Corequisites: None Tutorial: None

**Course contents** Error correcting codes (convolutional codes, block codes, Turbo codes, LDPC codes, etc.) play an essential role in modern digital high data-rate transmission systems. They are part of almost every modern communication and storage/recording device, like your CD player, your DSL home Internet access, and your mobile phone, to name just a few. This course will focus on theory, construction, and algorithms for error correcting codes, and will highlight the application in communication systems. For modern communications, coding knowledge is a must.

### 5.4 Guided Research in CS

Guided research is part of the undergraduate program in CS. The guided research courses are offered by all professors of Computer Science jointly. The professors propose a number of research projects, which will be posted on a dedicated guided research website. Students interested in particular projects should get in touch with the professor in charge of that project.

Guided research in CS will usually be organized in the form of research seminars held by the professors. These seminars are attended by undergraduate students supervised by the faculty member and by graduate students from the CS graduate programs. They serve as a forum for discussing research goals, methods and results.

# 320371 – Guided Research in Computer Science

Short Name: CSGRP Type: Project

Semester: 5

Credit Points: 2.5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The purpose of this course is to let students choose a topic for the bachelor thesis and to work out a proposal which introduces the field of study, states the research questions/hypotheses, surveys the expected results, and sets up a work plan with timetable.

The course is offered by all professors of Computer Science jointly. Topics are offered by the individual faculty members.

# 320342 - Guided Research in Computer Science + Thesis

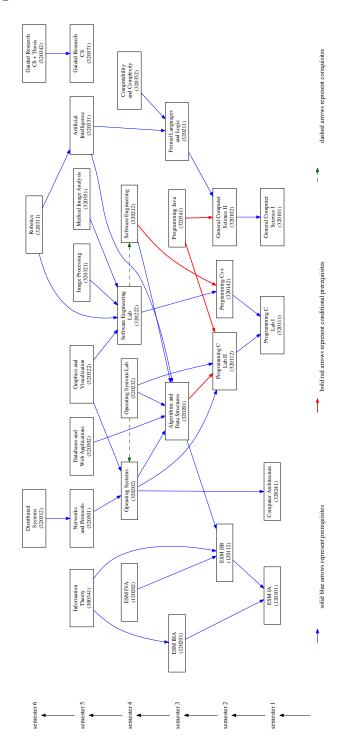
Short Name: CSGR Type: Project

*Semester:* 6

Credit Points: 7.5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 320371
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The course is offered by all professors of Computer Science jointly. The purpose of this course is to engage the students in a research project under the close supervision of a CS faculty member. Topics are offered by the individual faculty members. Upon completion of the research, the student will prepare a final report (20 pages) and present the project in a seminar during the last 2 weeks of the semester. Both the presentation and the final report will count towards the final grade.

# 5.5 Course Dependencies



# **6 Courses: Computer Science Service Courses**

## **6.1** 1<sup>st</sup> Year Courses Service Courses

The  $1^{st}$  year Computer Science service courses provide an introduction to information and communication technology (ICT) for students who want to learn the basics of Computer Science from an applied perspective. The courses also prepare students to take selected  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  year Electrical Engineering and Computer Science courses.

At the time of this writing, the General Information and Communication Technology (GenICT) service courses as well as the Natural Science Lab Units Programming in Python are mandatory in the Logistics undergraduate program.

# 350101 - General Information and Communication Technology I

Short Name: GenICT I Type: Lecture

Semester: 1

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The course introduces fundamental concepts underlying today's information and communication technology. The course is designed to provide an applied introduction to Computer Science concepts and information and communication technology. The course is open to all students except students enrolled in the CS and EECS majors who are required to take the more formal General Computer Science I course.

The course starts with introducing basic computer science terms and concepts and different programming paradigms. Afterwards, the basic components of computer systems will be introduced as well as boolean logic, number representations, character sets their representation, and structured document formats. Finally, some key concepts of theoretical computer science such as complexity, correctness, and computability will be introduced.

**Topics** Algorithms and different classes of algorithms, programming models (imperative, object-oriented, functional, declarative), basic computer architecture, boolean logic and basic laws, number representation, character sets, structured document formats, data conversion, theoretical concepts (complexity, correctness, termination of algorithms, computability).

## 350111 – Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in Python I

Short Name: NatSciLabPy I

Type: Lab Semester: 1

Credit Points: 2.5 ECTS
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** This lab unit is a first introduction to programming using the programming language Python. The course covers fundamental programming constructs and simple algorithms in a hands-on manner.

This lab is open to all students except students enrolled in the ECE, CS, or EECS majors. These students are required to take the Natural Science Lab CS I instead. Students enrolled in the ECE/CS/EECS majors, who successfully complete the lab unit Programming in Python I, receive credits that do not count towards the 180/185 ECTS-credits required by their major.

**Topics** installation and first steps in python, built-in data types, operators and expressions, control flow, functions, modules, problem solving and simple data structures

## 350102 - General Information and Communication Technology II

Short Name: GenICT II Type: Lecture

Semester: 1

Credit Points: 5 ECTS
Prerequisites: 350101
Corequisites: None
Tutorial: None

**Course contents** The course continues the applied introduction to Computer Science concepts and information and communication technology. The course is open to all students except students enrolled in the CS and EECS majors who are required to take the more formal General Computer Science II course.

The course introduces database systems, network and communication technology, software engineering concepts, and data security and data protection mechanisms.

**Topics** relational database model, query languages, Internet protocols, wireline and wireless communication technologies, unified modeling language, software development processes, cryptographic algorithms, key management, authentication protocols and authorization models.

# 350112 – Natural Science Lab Unit Programming in Python II

Short Name: NatSciLabPy II

Type: Lab Semester: 1

Credit Points: 2.5 ECTSPrerequisites: 350111Corequisites: NoneTutorial: None

**Course contents** This lab unit is a continuation of the first semester lab Programming in Python I. It covers advanced topics of Python programming such as object oriented programming, advanced data structures, file handling, debugging techniques and problem solving using frameworks.

This lab is open to all students except students enrolled in the ECE, CS, or EECS majors. These students are required to take the Natural Science Lab CS II instead. Students enrolled in the ECE/CS/EECS majors, who successfully complete the lab unit Programming in Python II, receive credits that do not count towards the 180/185 ECTS-credits required by their major.

**Topics** debugging techniques, object-oriented programming, advanced data structures, python frameworks

# **6.2** Course Dependencies Service Courses

The CS service courses can be integrated into other programs as an Information and Communication Technology (ICT) track. The following diagram shows the course dependencies and identifies the CS courses that can be taken as part of an ICT track of other study programs.

