

Please note that the English language version of the terms of study is merely intended for information purposes. Only the German version is legally binding.

**Regulations for the amendment of the
Terms of Study
for the Master's Program in Data Science
at the Faculty of Statistics
in cooperation with the Faculties of Mathematics and Computer Science
at TU Dortmund University
from November 24th, 2020**

TU Dortmund University has enacted the following regulations. They are in accordance with article 2, paragraph 4 in conjunction with article 64, paragraph 1 of the Higher Education Act for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia from September 16th, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette of North Rhine-Westphalia, p. 547), last amended by law by article 10 of the law concerning the consistent and solidarity-focused management of the COVID-19 pandemic in North Rhine-Westphalia and the adaptation of state law with regards to the effects of a pandemic from April 14th, 2020 (Law and Ordinance Gazette of North Rhine-Westphalia, p. 218b).

Article I

The Terms of Study for the Master's Program in Data Science at TU Dortmund University from September 23rd, 2020, published in the Official Announcements of TU Dortmund University (No. 20/2020, pages 35 et sqq.), are amended as follows:

[changes in red]

§ 3

Conditions for Admission

- (1) The conditions for admission into the Master's program in Data Science at TU University Dortmund are one of the following:
 - a) A Bachelor's degree in Data Science at TU University Dortmund
 - b) A Bachelor's degree in Data Analysis and Data Management at TU University Dortmund
 - c) Another degree in a study program which fulfils the following criteria. It must be a study program in statistics, computer science or mathematics with an empirical application. It must be at least a three-year (six semester) program. It must be at a state university or a university accredited by the state within or outside the purview of German Basic Law. **The examining board must have determined that the study program has no essential differences to the degrees and study programs mentioned in paragraph 1.a or 1.b.**
The comparability of the study program mentioned in paragraph 1.c with the Bachelor's degree in Data Science mentioned in paragraph 1.a or in Data Analysis and Data Management mentioned in paragraph 1.b is generally given if the study program has the following subject-related scientific contents:

1) Performances in the core fields of mathematics and computer science amounting to at least 32 credit points, composed of performances in computer science in the fields of "Algorithms", "Data Structures", "Object-Oriented Programming" and "Software Engineering" amounting to at least 8 credit points, and performances in mathematics in the fields of "Analysis", "Linear Algebra", "Differential Equations", "Discrete Mathematics" and "Numerics" amounting to at least 8 credit points, as well as

2) performances in computer science from the field of "databases" amounting to at least 4 credit points as well as

3) performances in statistics amounting to at least 20 credit points, composed of performances in basic courses in the fields of "Introduction to (Descriptive) Statistics" and "Introduction to Probability" amounting to at least 4 credit points, from performances in advanced statistics courses in the field of "Inference", in particular concerning "point estimation", "interval estimation", "hypothesis testing" and "stochastics", amounting to at least 8 credit points, and from performances in data modelling courses in the fields of "(generalized) linear models", "statistical / machine learning methods", "time series" and (practical) optimization, amounting to at least 8 credit points, and

4) performances in subject-specific practical courses or internships in the field of applied data analysis amounting to at least 4 credit points.

(2) In addition to the conditions in paragraph 1, students applying for the Master's program must meet the following criteria:

a) The required degree was completed with a final grade of "good" (2.5) or, in case of a degree from another country, with a final grade that is equivalent to at least a 2.5.

b) The applying student must demonstrate an English language proficiency on at least the level of B2 according to the Common European Frame of Reference for Languages. The school diploma qualifying a student for university is generally sufficient as a certificate. If the school diploma does not document an English language proficiency, alternative documents of certification may be accepted, such as an internationally recognized language certificate, a diploma from an English-speaking school or a degree from an English-speaking university study program.

c) The applying student has to **attach to the application a certificate of attendance of an Online Self Assessment to reflect her or his own professional knowledge and the professional requirements in the Master's program in Data Science. Further information on the Online Self Assessment can be found on the website of the Faculty of Statistics.**

(3) The examining board is responsible for evaluating the conditions for admission. It determines whether the conditions in paragraph 1.c have been met by comparing the respective study program to **those from the paragraphs 1.a and 1.b**. The examining board will consider the contents, scope and requirements of the relevant courses, the degree earned and the study program itself. Depending on its evaluation, the examining board may admit a student under the condition of earning still missing qualifications, it may waive this condition, or it may decline to admit a student. Missing qualifications may consist of a maximum of 30 credit points and such conditions must be met at the start of the course "Case Studies" in module 4 ("Project Work"). The rules for repeating exams from § 12 apply to the exams required in the context of these conditions.

[...]

§ 7

Admission to the Courses of a Module; Admission to Courses with Limited Numbers of Participants

[...]

- (4) If the number of applying students exceeds the capacity of a course, access to the course is decided on the basis on special considerations regarding the students. At the request of the lecturer, this decision may be made by the dean of the department or by an appointed lecturer assisted by the **advisory board**. Student access will be considered as follows, in a descending order:

[...]

§ 8

Exams

[...]

- (14) Modules which conclude with an exam may also require additional work as part of the individual courses. This may include written or oral presentations, academic papers, internships, exercises, written or oral tests, written records of a lecture, or portfolios. Such qualifications may be graded or evaluated as “passed” or “not passed” (§ 19, paragraph 4.b does not apply here). All work that was part of a course must be completed before a student is admitted to the module exam. **In modules for which the Faculty of Computer Science is responsible and which are offered by it, all such qualifications submitted for examination registration must have been completed in the current or one of the two previous semesters. In all other respects, such qualifications have an unlimited period of validity.**

[...]

§ 11

Dates and Deadlines

- (1) Students must apply for every exam no later than two weeks before the date of the exam. The examiner may determine a different deadline for applications. She must inform the examinations office of the new date. The time period in which applications are accepted must be at least two weeks long. A student may cancel an application for an exam without stating a reason until up to one week before the exam date in case of an oral exam, or until up to one day before the exam date in case of a written exam. Within these deadlines, a student is treated as if she had not applied for the exam. For courses at the Faculty of Economics at TU Dortmund University, the starting time of an exam is determined by the legally binding declaration of taking the exam, given to the examiner. **In the case of examinations offered by a faculty other than the Faculty of Statistics within the framework of the Master's program in Data Science, different regulations may apply. In the case of seminars offered by the Faculty of Business and Economics of TU Dortmund University, the examination begins at the time of the binding declaration of participation to the examiner.**
- (2) The dates for written exams are decided by the head of the examining board **in agreement with the examiner** and must be announced publicly as soon as possible, but no later than four weeks before the end of the lecture period. The time period for oral exams will be announced publicly no later than four weeks before the date of the first exam. Individual exam dates will be announced publicly one week before the **exam or decided individually in agreement between the student and the examiner.**

[...]

§ 14

Examiners and Qualified Assistants

- (1) The examining board will appoint examiners and qualified assistants in accordance with the legal requirements. It may delegate this to the head of the examining board. An examiner must be a faculty member at TU Dortmund University, or another person authorized to take exams (according to article 65, paragraph 1 of the Higher Education Act) ~~who is or has been in a teaching position in the Bachelor's or Master's Program in Data Science, or in a similar program~~. Assistants must have at least completed the degree that the exam leads to, or an equivalent qualification (qualified assistant).

[...]

§ 19

Evaluating Exams, Earning Credit Points, Grading

[...]

- (6) If a written exam only partially consists of a multiple-choice test, the work from the multiple-choice test will be evaluated according to paragraphs 4 and 5. The remaining work will be evaluated in the regular manner. Both grades will be combined to determine the total grade of the written exam, while considering the proportions of total possible points awarded by each part. Paragraph 7 applies here. Paragraphs 4 and 5 do not apply if the exam is evaluated by examiners specified by § 14.

[...]

§ 20

Master's Thesis

[...]

- (2) A Master's thesis may be issued and supervised by a university lecturer or a habilitated member of the departments cooperating in the study program. ~~As far as it is necessary or appropriate to achieve the purpose of the examination, persons experienced in professional practice and training can also issue and supervise the Master's thesis according to article 65, paragraph 1 of the Higher Education Act.~~

[...]

- (8) When handing in the Master's thesis, a candidate must sign an affidavit stating that she is the sole author of the paper, that she has used no tools or materials except those listed therein, and that all citations and references have been marked as such. The works cited must include unpublished sources. The general template of the Central Examination Administration Office must be used for the affidavit and it must be signed by the candidate and included into the Master's thesis in a fixed manner ~~or uploaded as a file together with the thesis in accordance with the digital submission procedure according to § 21 paragraph 1.~~

§ 21

Submission and Evaluation of the Master's Thesis

[...]

- (3) The Master's thesis must be reviewed and evaluated by two examiners. One of the examiners must be the supervisor of the Master's thesis (primary reviewer). The second examiner (secondary reviewer) will be appointed by the head of the examining board. **Examiners in this sense may also be persons experienced in professional practice and training if this is necessary or appropriate to achieve the purpose of the examination (article 65, paragraph 1 of the Higher Education Act).**

[...]

[end of changes]

Article II

- (1) These regulations for the amendment of the terms of study will be published in the Official Announcements of TU Dortmund University and enter into force on October 1st, 2020.
- (2) These regulations apply to all students of the Master's Program in Data Science at TU Dortmund University who are first enrolled into the study program in the winter semester of 2020 / 2021.

These regulations were drafted according to the decision of the board of the Faculty of Statistics dated from November 11th, 2020, in cooperation with the Faculty of Mathematics and the Faculty of Computer Science by decision of the respective boards dated from November 18th, and according to the decision of the rector's office of TU Dortmund University dated from November 11th, 2020.

Note

According to article 12, paragraph 5 of the Higher Education Act for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, any violations of formal or procedural requirements of the university's regulatory or other autonomous laws may not be asserted after one year from when this declaration was made, unless:

1. The terms of study were not made public properly,
2. The rector has previously issued a complaint against the decision of the body responsibly for the terms of study,
3. There has been a complaint about the formal or procedural violation to the university which pointed out the violated legal requirements and the issue resulting in the violation, or
4. The publication of the terms of study have failed to note the legal consequences of the complaint exclusion.

Dortmund, November 24th, 2020

The rector of TU Dortmund University

University Professor Dr. Manfred Bayer