

UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ  <b>Appendix B of the Study and Examination Regulations for the Master of Arts Programmes in the Humanities</b>  <b>Programme Speech and Language Processing</b>	<b>B 6.5.6</b>
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(as of 20 March 2017)

The German version of this document is the *only legally binding version*. This English translation is for your convenience only.

## Master's Programme Speech and Language Processing

### § 1 Programme requirements

For the Master's Programme *Speech and Language Processing*, 120 ECTS<sup>1</sup> credits (cr) must be earned, of which 102 cr shall be obtained in the core area and 18 cr in the supplementary area.

### § 2 Subject Areas

The Master's Programme *Speech and Language Processing* covers the (impaired and healthy) human and machine processing of spoken and written language, with an emphasis either on human language processing (HLP) or on machine language processing (MLP). The knowledge to be gained will be conveyed in a practice-based and application-oriented way.

The Master's Programme *Speech and Language Processing* comprises eight modules. Modules 1-6 and 8 represent the core area, module 7 the supplementary area. The programme can be studied in English.

Acquiring competences in statistical methods and programming is required. Statistical methods classes are offered in Module 2. A programming language can be learned as part of Modules 2, 4 or 7.

#### Module 1: Core Areas of Linguistics, 18 cr

Course	P/WP	Art	PL	cr	ENR	Sem
Core Components of Language A	P	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	1-2
Core Components of Language B	P	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	1-2

This module provides linguistic information in the fields of phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. The courses can be taken in any

<sup>1</sup> Explanations of the abbreviations:

ECTS = European Credit Transfer System; P/WP = required/elective; Art = type of course (with VL = lecture, Sem = seminar; Ü = practice tutorial); PL = performance assessment (with HA = term paper; KI = written exam; Ref = oral presentation; So = other form of written/oral performance assessment; var = variable: the performance assessment will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of the course); SL = coursework; cr = ECTS credits; ENR = relevant for final grade; Sem = semester in which the course is offered.

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order. The module is completed when 18 cr from different module units have been earned.

**Module 2: Methods, 12 cr**

Course	P/WP	Art	PL	cr	ENR	Sem
Statistics	P	S	KI	6	yes	1-2
Experimental Methods	WP	S	var	6	yes	1-2
Text Processing/Corpus linguistics (e.g., with Perl/Python)	WP	S	var	6	yes	1-2
Further current linguistic methodology (e.g., logic, language documentation)	WP	S	var	6	yes	1-2

Module 2 provides methodological competence for research into language processing. The module is completed when 12 cr from different module units have been earned.

**Module 3: Foundations, 18 cr**

Course	P/WP	Art	PL	cr	ENR	Sem
Machine Language Processing	P	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	1-2
Human Language Processing	P	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	1-2

In this module students become acquainted with foundational methods and questions in the areas of human and machine language processing. The module is completed when 18 cr have been earned, i.e. 9 cr per module unit.

**Module 4: Machine Language Processing (MLP), 18/9 cr**

Course	P/WP	Art	PL	cr	ENR	Sem
Grammar Development	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	2-3
Computational Semantics	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	v	2-3
Topics in Current Research	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	v	2-3

Students pursuing the MLP track have completed this module when 18 cr have been earned from different module units. Students pursuing the HLP track have completed this module when 9 cr have been earned.

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**Module 5: Human Language Processing (HLP), 18/9 cr**

Course	P/WP	Art	PL	cr	ENR	Sem
Language Acquisition	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	2-3
Psycholinguistics	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	v	2-3
Neurolinguistics	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	yes	2-3
Topics in Current Research	WP	S	HA/KI/Ref/So	9	v	2-3

Students pursuing the MLP track have completed this module when 9 cr have been earned. Students pursuing the HLP track have completed this module when 18 cr have been earned from different module units.

**Module 6: Practical/Experimental Applications and Research, 6 cr**

Courses	P/WP	Art	StL	cr	ENR	Sem
Research Colloquium	P	S	Ref/So	3	no	3-4
Practical/Experimental Research or Internship	P	S	Written report	3	no	3-4

In this module, students are given the chance to work on research projects and to conduct practical/application-oriented work. The module is completed when 6 cr have been earned, i.e.3 cr per module unit.

**Module 7: Neighbouring Areas, 18 cr**

Course	P/WP	Art	StL	cr	ENR	Sem
Linguistics	WP	S	var	3-18	no	1-4
Related disciplines (e.g., Computer Science, Psychology, Philosophy)	WP	Sem/VL	var	3-18	no	1-4
Language Courses and Key Qualifications	WP	Ü	var	max. 6	no	1-4

This module extends the interdisciplinary dimension of the programme. Students are given the opportunity to take relevant courses in other master's programmes in linguistics or in other areas, or to learn a foreign language or acquire further key skills (on master level). Courses from Computer Science, Mathematics, Philosophy and Psychology are particularly recommended. The module is completed when 18 cr have been earned.

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**Module 8: Master's Thesis and Oral Examination, 21 cr**

Exam component	P/WP	Art	PL/SL	cr	ENR	Sem
Thesis	P		Master's thesis	18	yes	4
Oral Examination	P		Oral examination	3	yes	4

In the final module of the programme, students write their master thesis and take the final oral examination.

**§ 3 Programme Structure**

The following table shows a typical distribution of modules and examinations across the four semesters of the programme *Speech and Language Processing*. Modules 1, 2 and 3 should be completed in the first year. Modules 4 and 5 should be completed in the 2nd and 3rd semesters. Module 6 is designed as an accompanying course for the preparation of the master's thesis and can therefore be taken in the 3rd or 4th semester. Module 7 can extend over all 4 semesters. Module 8 is scheduled for the 4th semester.

Semester	Courses	cr
1.	1 Course from Module 1	9
	2 Courses from Module 2	12
	1 Course from Module 3	9
	$\Sigma$	30
2.	1 Course from Module 1	9
	1 Course from Module 3	9
	1 Course from Module 4	9
	Course from Module 7	3
	$\Sigma$	30
3.	2 Courses from Modules 4 und 5	18
	Courses from Module 7	9
	1 Course from Module 6	3
		30
4.	1 Course from Module 6	3
	Courses from Module 7	6
	Module 8 (master's thesis, final oral examination)	21
	$\Sigma$	30
	Total ECTS credits to be provided	120

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#### **§ 4 Languages of instruction and examination**

Courses are held in English or German. The programme can be completed in English. The language for performance assessments and coursework will be announced by the instructor at the beginning of each course; as a rule this will be English or German; however, in some courses English may be determined as the only language for performance assessments.

#### **§ 5 Master's examination**

(1) Performance assessments and coursework in the core area and in the supplementary area in Modules 1 through 5 in accordance with § 2.

(2) Final examination

In addition to the examinations in the modules, a final examination (Module 8) in the core area is required, consisting of:

1. The master's thesis in accordance with § 22 of the Study and Examination Regulations for the Master of Arts Programmes. The master's thesis must be written in English or German.

For the successful completion of the master's thesis 18 credits are awarded.

2. The final oral examination (3 credits, 30 minutes)

The oral examination is held in English or in German. The examination takes the form of a colloquium on the topic of the master's thesis.

#### **§ 6 Calculation of the final grade**

The overall grade is calculated as follows:

Module grades for each of the modules 1 through 5 are calculated as the arithmetic means of the grades from the relevant module units weighted by the number of ECTS credits awarded for each unit.

The module grades for modules 1 through 5 and module 8 count towards the overall grade and are weighted according to the corresponding number of ECTS credits for each module.

The grade for module 8 is calculated as follows: The grade for the master's thesis is weighted three times; the grade for the oral examination is weighted one time.

Modules 6 and 7 do not count towards the overall grade.

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### **§ 7 Effective date and transitional provisions**

- (1) These examination regulations go into effect on 01 October 2017. At the same time, the previous regulations as of 20 October 2006 (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen (official announcements) 63/2006), amended on 9 October 2012 (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen 47/2012) become invalid, except in cases described in para. 2.
- (2) Students who began their study programme before these new examination regulations became effective, continue their studies in accordance with the regulations that have applied so far.

#### **Note**

These examination regulations were published in the Amtlichen Bekanntmachungen (official announcements) of the University of Konstanz No. 14/2017 of 20 March 2017.