FAQ Computer Science Master Summer Term 2021

1 General Term of Use

This documents addresses course questions related to the courses and examinations for the Computer Science Master in Summer Term 2021 with a focus on complications due to the Corona pandemic.

For general questions not related to Computer Science courses and examinations we refer to

https://www.uni-siegen.de/nt/start/news/archiv/information_sheet_for_incoming_students2.pdf

This specifically refers to questions related to visa, travelling to Siegen, registration at the Rathaus or enrolment at the University. Please be aware that the Computer Science Department is not directly involved in these processes, so we can offer only very limited support. If you need assistance, please check the above document to identify the appropriate contact.

For further questions, please refer to the following website and documents:

- **General information about the Computer Science Master**
  http://www.master-cs.eti.uni-siegen.de/
- General introduction to **standard procedures in Computer Science courses and examinations** for newcomers
  http://www.master-cs.eti.uni-siegen.de/en/first-semester-information

Relevant contacts:

- Examination office Computer Science: pruefungsamt-inf@uni-siegen.de
- Mentors and their mail addresses
  - Study focus Embedded Systems: Prof. Roman Obermaisser,
    roman.obermaisser@uni.siegen.de
  - Study focus Visual Computing: Prof. Andreas Kolb
    andreas.kolb@uni-siegen.de

2 Questions and Answers

Q: Which courses can be attended (partially) remotely, e.g. in case I cannot make it to Siegen for the start of the summer term?
A: The majority of the Computer Science Master courses can be attended entirely remotely. Some of these courses are hybrid, i.e., parts of the course can be taken either in physical presence or remotely. So there is no problem in switching between either type of attendance during the semester. Please note, that seminars, practical courses and project groups may (partially) require physical presence. For these courses contact the lecturer as early as possible in case you want to attend remotely.
Please check the course list

http://www.master-cs.eti.uni-siegen.de/sites/www.master-cs.eti.uni-siegen.de/files/Dateianhaenge/modulliste-2103.pdf

Q: Is it possible to attend exams remotely?
A: As long as there are restrictions in travelling to Siegen or in entering the University, we offer remote oral exams. Regarding written exams, currently different formats including remote (or take-home) exams are used. It is not foreseeable how the situation evolves during the summer term. However, in case the written exam is announced to be held in presence and you provably cannot be in Siegen, contact the examiner as soon as possible.

Q: What kind of support will be provided for late beginners this summer term (due to late visa approval)?
A. In any case, students are highly recommended to take part in the courses from day one. There will be no specific support students that start attending courses later. It is, however, no problem in hybrid courses to join in the physical part later on.

Q: Will there be any problem to postpone the registration of examinations of the winter semester?
A: Formally, there is no problem. However, in order to prevent any possible future problem (e.g. with visa extension), we highly recommend to study as regular and as intensive even if you are not physically present in Siegen.

Q: Are there student workplaces or access to laboratories?
A: Yes, there are, for instance, PC labs that can be used for study purposes. However, they are only available once the general access to University building is granted again, which is not foreseeable.

Q: In case of failure how many additional attempts are allowed?
A: In general, if you fail an exam, you can have a maximum of two additional tries. You also have a limited possibility for "free trials": You can repeat up to three exams that you took within the regular study period, if you are not happy with the result. In this case, the better result counts. However, you must repeat the exam within 6 months (or at the next regular offer for written exams).

Q: Will there be orientation courses/events at the beginning?
A: Yes, there will be an (online) information meeting at the beginning of the semester. All students will be informed about date/time and access data in due time.

Q: How to register to the online lectures?
A: The first step is to register to a course in UNISONO using your student account you get after enrolment. Any further information will be communicated afterwards via this registration. Note, that this communication will always be using your student mail address.

Q: Are tutors or senior students available for the course?
A: There are facebook groups for international students in the Faculty of Science and Technology, which serve as exchange platforms between students
- https://www.facebook.com/groups/2595186154075602 only for the junior international students
- https://www.facebook.com/groups/255026918833105 for all the international students.

Q: If the summer semester is completely online due to the corona regulations, will it be counted as a full semester?

Q: According to the enrolment certificates of the university, it is said that due to the corona pandemic, the standard study period of a student will be increased by one or two semesters who are enrolled from winter term 2020 online. Is that the case?

A: The university and the examination offices will account for the specific situation by extending the standard period of studies. However, the decision on the extension of a visa is done by the immigration authorities on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, we highly recommend to study as regular and as intensive as possible, even if you are not present in Siegen.