

Subject-Specific Admission Regulations for the Consecutive Master's Degree Program *Cognitive Science* at the Uni- versity of Potsdam

Dated January 31, 2024

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Human Sciences at the University of Potsdam has approved on January 31, 2024, the following regulations on the basis of Section 9 subsection 5 sentence 2 in conjunction with Section 19 subsection 3 in conjunction with Section 72 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] I/14, [no. 18]), last amended by the Act of September 23, 2020 (GVBl. I/20, [no. 26], p. 1) in conjunction with Section 5, Section 7 subsection 2, Section 8 subsection 2 and Section 16 subsection 2 of the Brandenburg University Admissions Act (BbgHZG) of July 1, 2015 (GVBl. I/15, [no. 18]), last amended by Section 3 of the Act of June 19, 2019 (GVBl. I/19, [no. 35], p. 10) in conjunction with Section 2, subsections 1-3, 5, Section 19 subsection 1 and Section 20 of the University Admissions Ordinance (HZV) of February 17, 2016 (GVBl. II/16, [no. 6]), last amended by the ordinance of July 11, 2023 (GVBl. II/23, [no. 46]), and according to Section 21 subsection 2 no. 1 of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 17, 2009 (Bulletin UP no. 4/2010, p. 60) in the Seventh Amended Version of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 14, 2022 (Bulletin UP no. 8/2023 p. 318) as well as the General Rules and Regulations on Access and Admission to Non-Teaching-Oriented Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam (ZulO) of February 24, 2016 (Bulletin UP no. 3/2016, p. 76), in the Third Amended Version of the ZulO of May 12, 2021 (Bulletin UP no. 12/2021, p. 441):¹

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Section 1 Applicability

These admission regulations, combined with the General Admission Regulations for Master's Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related

to Teacher Education (Zulassungsordnung – ZulO), govern the admission requirements and the university selection process for the master's degree program in *Cognitive Science* at the University of Potsdam. In all other respects, the Admission Regulations (ZulO) shall apply.

Section 2 Assignment of Tasks in the Procedure

In the case of a transfer of responsibility in accordance with Section 2 subsection 2 ZulO, the Examining Board can assign specific tasks of a purely administrative nature to qualified employees of the degree program who are not members of the Examining Board in order to conduct the admission and selection procedure.

Section 3 Admission Requirements

The following special admission requirements apply to the master's degree program in *Cognitive Science*:

- a) a university degree in a subject or program that is relevant to the master's program, e.g. cognitive sciences, psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, or computer science, amounting to at least 180 credit points (CPs).
- b) sufficient basic knowledge in the areas of "Experimental Psychological Training", "Foundations of Mathematics", and "Programming of Experiments" amounting to 6 CPs each, as defined within the bridge modules CSE-MA-004: Experimental Psychological Training, FM1: Foundations of Mathematics, and CSE-MA-026: Programming of Experiments subject to Section 7 of the Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations for the Consecutive Master's Program in Cognitive Science at the University of Potsdam. Evidence of this is usually provided by successful participation in courses amounting to 6 CPs. Applicants who cannot prove that they have sufficient knowledge in either "Experimental Psychological Training", "Foundations of Mathematics", or "Programming of Experiments" are obliged upon admission to complete the corresponding bridge module as part of the master's program to acquire the necessary knowledge. If knowledge is lacking in more than one of the areas mentioned above, admission will not be granted.
- c) proof of English language skills that correspond at least to level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The required English-language proficiency is to be proven by one of the certificates listed in Section 4 subsection 1 of the ZulO. The Examining Board decides on equivalents

¹ Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on February 26, 2024.

to the certificates listed on a case-by-case basis.

Section 4 Subject-Specific Test

(1) The subject-specific test gauges applicants' skills in the field of cognitive science, which are proof of their particular qualification for the Cognitive Science degree program.

(2) The Examining Board is responsible for the content of the test. The Faculty of Human Sciences makes the subject-specific test available to applicants on its website.

(3) The language used in the test is English.

Section 5 Application Deadlines and Documents

(1) Applications for the first semester of study in the master's degree program in *Cognitive Science* can only be submitted for the winter semester. It is possible to apply for a more advanced semester of study in the master's degree program in *Cognitive Science* for the winter or summer semester.

(2) Section 6 of the ZulO governs application deadlines.

(3) In addition to the application documents specified under Section 5 subsection 3 and subsection 4 of the ZulO, the following documents need to be handed in:

- evidence of the required language skills in accordance with Section 3 letter c) hereof.

(4) If the degree program has restricted admissions, the following documents must be submitted in addition to the documents listed in Section 5 subsection 4 of the ZulO:

- proof of the results obtained in a subject-specific test in accordance with Section 4 hereof.

Section 6 University Selection Process

(1) If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions, a university selection procedure is implemented in accordance with Section 9 of the ZulO as part of the allocation procedure detailed in Section 8 of the ZulO. Its objective is to rank the applicants according to the following guidelines.

(2) To establish the ranking, a total point value is calculated in accordance with Section 9 of the ZulO. To calculate the total point value in accordance with Section 9 of the ZulO, the following criteria are weighted as described:

- a) average grade or current average grade of the qualifying degree in accordance with Section 3 (a) hereof: 51%,
- b) subject-specific test in accordance with Section 4 hereof: 49%.

(3) The Examining Board will assign a grade for the subject-specific test in the selection process. The grade is determined as follows:

> 87.5% points achieved:	1.0
> 75-87.5%:	2.0
> 62.5-75%:	3.0
> 50-62.5%:	4.0
< 50%:	5.0

If the test is not taken, then the criterion receives a 5.0 grade for the calculation of the total point value.

Section 7 Entry into Force

(1) These regulations take effect on the day after their publication in the Official Announcements of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations first apply to all admission procedures for the master's degree program carried out for the winter semester 2024/2025.