Master program in Informatics: Information Systems

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— Welcome event for new Master's students with major Informatics

IfI: The Department of Informatics

— Founded in 1970 (IfI = Institut für Informatik)

— Part of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics

— Focus on human-centered informatics

— 19 Professors, 130 PhD students and Post-Docs

— 550 Bachelor's students

— 650 Master's students

— Campus Oerlikon

You!

IfI Professors

Alberto Bacchelli
Zurich Empirical Software Engineering Team

Jürgen Bernard
Interactive Visual Data Analysis Group

Abraham Bernstein
Dynamic and Distributed Information Systems Group

Michael Böhlen
Data-Base Technology Group

Ivan De Oliveira Nunes
Security and Privacy of Information, Networks, and Systems

Thomas Fritz
Human Aspects of Software Engineering

Harald Gall
Software Evolution and Architecture Lab

Manuel Günther
Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Group

Anikó Hannák
Social Computing Group

Elaine Huang
Zurich People and Computing Lab

Lena A. Jäger
Digital Linguistics

Dan Olteanu
Data Systems and Theory Group

Renato Pajarola
Visualization and Multi-Media Lab

Giorgia Ramponi
Autonomous Sequential Learning and Predictive Intelligence Lab

Davide Scaramuzza
Robotics and Perception Group

Gerhard Schwabe
Information Management Research Group

Burkhard Stiller
Communication Systems Group

Claudio Tessone
Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies

Martin Volk
Computational Linguistics

General Information Online

Dean's Office: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies.html

➢ Study Regulations, Admission, Enrollment, Changing Programs, Course Booking, Important Dates, Petitions/Appeals, …

IfI: https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/studies/msc-info.html

➢ Specific to Informatics: Fact Sheets (legally binding!), Topics/Professors, Tutors/TAs, also these slides for later reference

Please read the regulations and fact sheets!

The presentations held at the **Faculty's Master Welcome Day** are available from:
https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/events/mwd.html

Structure of the MSc Programs

All programs comprise…

— a compulsory module

— a Master's Project (group work!)

— modules from core/elective areas

— a Master's Thesis at the end

More on these components on the next slides…

Five Major MSc study programs				90 ECTS credits
Information Systems IS	Software Systems SOSY	People-Oriented Computing POC	Artificial Intelligence AI	Data Science DS
Compulsory module 6 ECTS	Compulsory module 6 ECTS	Compulsory module 6 ECTS	Compulsory module 6 ECTS	Compulsory module 6 ECTS
Master's project 15 ECTS				
Core elective area 18 ECTS	Core elective area 18 ECTS	Core elective area 18 ECTS	Core elective area 18 ECTS	Core elective area 18 ECTS
INF elective area 15 ECTS				
WWF elective area 6 ECTS				
Master's thesis 30 ECTS	Master's thesis 30 ECTS	Master's thesis 30 ECTS	Master's thesis 30 ECTS	Master's thesis 30 ECTS

Compulsory Module

The compulsory module is specific to your study area.

In Information Systems it is the lecture „Information Management":

Topic: Managing an IS Department in an Organization

Requires prior knowledge on IT, IS and Business administration from the Bachelor

It is a "filter course" that tests whether the students are fit for the study area

→ Systematic Problem Solving knowledge

Other courses build on the knowledge of this course

Master's Project

The Master's Project…

— is a **group project** (= at least 2 students)

— is an **intensive and demanding** project worth 15 ECTS credits

— best time: During semester break

— max. 12 months to complete

— must be supervised by an IfI professor

➤ **Check the fact sheet!**

IfI organizes a **Master's Project Market** each semester

➤ Some open projects are presented and you can find peers

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Elective Areas

Core elective area

Specific to your Major study program (IS, SOSY, POC, AI, or DS).

INF elective area

All modules offered by IfI on the Master's level (definition in the Study Regulations, p. 31)

WWF elective area

All modules offered by WWF on the Master's level (definition in the Study Regulations, p. 31)

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Core Elective Area: Information Systems

Core IS	Business - oriented IS	Other
CSCW*	Blockchain and Crypto Economics	Network Science
How to manage an IT company	Blockchain Technologies	Artificial Intelligence: Technology and Law
Enterprise IT Architecture	Crunchpoints in seriously large banking/payment-IT-projects	Optimizing Digital Therapeutics
Watsonx – genAI Challenge (new)	Digital Marketing	Digital Health in Practice
Seminar: Information Systems	Fintech & InsureTech	
Seminar: Digital Platforms for Resilience in Crisis	Management and Economics of Digital Platforms	
Global Software Management (new)	Seminar: Blockchain Platforms	
Digital Business Innovation	Organizational Economics	
Enterprise Packaged Software		
Seminar Prompt Engineering: Innovation Through Generative AI		
IT Security		

Master's Thesis

The Master's Thesis…

— must be written in your **Major area**

— is a **full-time endeavor** worth 30 ECTS credits (i.e., no significant side jobs or other study activities possible)

— max. 6 months to complete

— can only be started once the Master's Project has been successfully completed

— must be supervised by an IfI professor

➢ **Check the fact sheet!**

➢ Find topics on the IfI website (check the individual group pages) or contact the groups directly.

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Further Modules

Seminar

— one seminar is mandatory

— recommended from 2nd semester

— check the Course Catalogue early and register for the seminar within the seminar's application deadline

➢ **Note: this deadline is shorter than the regular module booking deadline!**

Independent Study

— Optional module

➢ **Check the fact sheet!**

External Modules

— ETH: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/credits/external-eth.html

— Mobility within Switzerland: https://www.uzh.ch/cmsssl/en/studies/application/chmobilityout.html

— International exchange: https://www.int.uzh.ch/en/out.html

— Partner universities: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/international/engagement.html

Information Systems

What else do you need to know about Information Systems?

Keep checking at the course catalogue: There is more to come

Look for Master Thesis and Master Projects in time (as the IMRG has a big load)

Check ETH MTEC Website for interesting courses

There is an opportunity for Individual Learning Units. Approach teachers

Do not work too much

It is possible to change the Major under certain conditions: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/enrollment/change.html

Minor

Available Minor programs are listed in the Course Catalogue:

https://studentservices.uzh.ch/uzh/anonym/vvz/index.html

➢ Master of Science UZH in Informatics (RVO22) > Minor 30

Note: Modules in the *Minor area Informatics (INF)* are offered only in the Fall semester. There are no modules in the *Minor area Informatics* in the Spring semester. Take this into account when planning your next few semesters.

You can change your Minor under certain conditions:

https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/enrollment/change.html

Hints (1/3)

— **Focus on the compulsory modules** in your Major and Minor programs

— **Make a study plan**

➢ Check course schedule of previous years for planning. Courses often stay in the same slot. Suggested order:

1st semester:
Compulsory module and course work

2nd semester:
Course work, Master's Project

3rd semester:
Remaining course work, finish Master's Project

4th semester:
Master's Thesis

— **Read the fact sheets** well before starting the respective module or thesis

— All legally binding information regarding modules, incl. exam dates, are in the UZH Course Catalogue. Most modules additionally have a website or OLAT course, but **the Course Catalogue is binding**

Hints (2/3)

— **Check the study websites** of the Faculty and the Department:

    — https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies.html

    — https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/studies/msc-info.html

— Note that **booking/cancellation deadlines** may vary between faculties.

— Working at IfI: Some modules/courses seek **Tutors or Teaching Assistants**.

➢ Check out https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/studies/msc-info.html and the individual group pages.

— Mentoring, social events, representatives: Informatics **student association ICU**: https://icuzh.ch

Hints (3/3)

— **Consider the policies on plagiarism and scientific integrity.** You find the fact sheet on plagiarism on this website:

  — https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/studies/msc-info.html

  — The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences issued a Code of conduct for scientific integrity: https://swiss-academies.ch/publications/kodex-fur-wissenschaftliche-integritat

— UZH provides a number of **advice and support services** for topics such as Gender Equality and Diversity, Disability, or Psychological Counseling:

  — https://www.students.uzh.ch/en/advice.html

— **Practise passive and active English without tools** (in exams, no translation tools are permitted)

  — UZH offers English courses: https://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch/en/Sprachkurse/Englisch.html

Questions/Whom to Contact

If you have questions, please follow these steps:

1. Read the Study Regulations: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/studies/regulations.html

2. Read the IfI's study information and fact sheets: https://www.ifi.uzh.ch/en/studies/msc-info.html

3. Check information in the Course Catalogue: https://studentservices.uzh.ch/uzh/anonym/vvz/index.html

4. Send e-mail to the respective person:

For questions about
— Master's Project
— Independent Studies
— Master's Thesis
— Informatics studies in general

Contact the IfI's Study Coordinator, Daniela Bärtschi: studies@ifi.uzh.ch

For questions specific to a course: Contact the **instructor (not the module Coordinator)**.

For everything else, contact the Dean's Office: https://www.oec.uzh.ch/en/staff/team.html (Student Affairs)

And of course you can ask your fellow students, for example by joining the student association ICU: https://icuzh.ch

Did you know?

**The Informatics Library is part of the UB Sciences
on the Irchel campus!**

Books can be delivered to Oerlikon free of charge:
Simply select "UB Psychology" as pick-up location in swisscovery.

https://t.uzh.ch/1mr
or https://www.ub.uzh.ch/en

Universität Zürich UZH

Department of Informatics

IfI Master Welcome Event
for incoming MSc Informatics students

Monday, 22 September 2025, 12:15 in BIN 2.A.01

No registration necessary