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Human Computer Interaction (HCI) • University of Siegen • Siegen ................................................................. 2
## Overview

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<th><strong>Degree</strong></th>
<th>Master of Science (MSc)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Teaching language</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
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**Languages**
The study programme can be completed completely in English. Additionally, several elective courses are available in German.

German language courses are available at the language centre at University of Siegen. A German certificate is not necessary.

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Programme duration</strong></th>
<th>4 semesters</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning</strong></td>
<td>Winter and summer semester</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**More information on beginning of studies**
1 October (winter semester); 1 April (summer semester)

**Application deadline**
Application start: 1 May; deadline: 15 July for winter semester
Application start: 1 November; deadline: 15 January for summer semester

**Tuition fees per semester in EUR**
None

**Combined Master’s degree / PhD programme**
No

**Joint degree / double degree programme**
No

**Description/content**

In the field of interactive technologies, specific methods and approaches are necessary in order to design IT artefacts for use in areas of human practice, mainly for mobile and ubiquitous applications. These encompass interface design, user-centred design, usability engineering, qualitative empirical methods, and the integration of organisational and technology development processes, all of which constitute the core elements of the HCI Master’s programme. Anyone looking for successful socio-technical systems (i.e., humans and machines) will discover that good, long-term interactive design geared to humans is essential. The key to the HCI Master’s programme in Siegen is to provide students with a solid, broad grounding in methods and techniques. This is the basis for well-founded conception, design, and implementation as well as for testing IT systems for humans.

Classic usability often centres on (quantitative) lab studies. In Siegen, we are convinced this is simply not enough because it reduces human involvement to a minimum. This is the reason why our work is particularly embedded in the qualitative ethnographic field, i.e., directly in user practice. One main focus is on the involvement of users when designing systems. We refer to this as Grounded Design.
In Siegen, research and teaching go hand in hand. Students often work directly on research projects that are commonly conducted in partnership with industry. Not only does this signify high research relevance and the possibility of genuine scientific work but it also provides a very close link to practice.

**Course Details**

### Course organisation

The course of study includes the following: the Basics of HCI (18 ECTS), one of two modules from Consolidation (9 ECTS), three practical projects (27 ECTS), three modules from Current Research of HCI (18 ECTS), and two modules (with 9 ECTS each) or three modules (with 6 ECTS each) from Interdisciplinary Contexts (18 ECTS). The taught part of the programme will be followed by the Master’s thesis (30 ECTS).

**Basics of HCI (18 ECTS):**
- Humans & Technology (9 ECTS): Human Computer Interaction / Analysis & Evaluation
- Design & Psychology (9 ECTS): User Experience Design / Psychology

**Consolidation (9 ECTS), one of two modules has to be selected:**
- Ubiquitous Computing & Usable Security (9 ECTS)
- Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning (9 ECTS)

**Practice (27 ECTS):**
- Project A (9 ECTS, regularly changing projects)
- Project B (9 ECTS, regularly changing projects)
- Project C (9 ECTS, regularly changing projects)

**Current Research in HCI (18 ECTS):**
- Current Research in HCI I (6 ECTS): two seminars from a pool of regularly changing offers
- Current Research in HCI II (6 ECTS): two seminars from a pool of regularly changing offers
- Current Research in HCI III (6 ECTS): two seminars from a pool of regularly changing offers
- HCI Internship (6 ECTS) can be taken instead of Current Research in HCI III

**Interdisciplinary Contexts (18 ECTS), either two modules with 9 ECTS each or three modules with 6 ECTS each have to be selected:**
- Embedded Control (6 ECTS, teaching language: English)
- Introduction to Programming (6 ECTS, teaching language: English)
- Process Management (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Introduction to E-Business (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Statistics (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Media Law (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Decision Support Systems (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Information Management (9 ECTS, teaching language: German)
- Data, Platforms and Digital Methods (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)
- Histories of Digital Media (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)
- Science, Technology and Media Studies (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)
- Digital Anthropology (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)
- Politics and Economies of Digital Media (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)
- Digital Explorations Lab (9 ECTS, teaching language: English, starting in winter semester 2020/21)

More modules are upcoming.
## Costs / Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuition fees per semester in EUR</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester contribution</strong></td>
<td>Approx. 270 EUR per semester for a public transport ticket (valid for six months in the entire state of North Rhine-Westphalia), social services contribution and student activities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Costs of living</strong></td>
<td>The city of Siegen is one of the German cities with very moderate costs for accommodation, offering attractive living conditions. Living expenses including accommodation and health insurance range from only 600 EUR to 750 EUR per month, depending on personnel living preferences. Students can choose to apply for the dormitories or to look for off-campus housing that is privately owned.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding opportunities within the university</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university</strong></td>
<td>University scholarships for students are available for the individual programmes: <a href="https://www.uni-siegen.de/hty/young_academy/scholarships/index.html.en?lang=en">https://www.uni-siegen.de/hty/young_academy/scholarships/index.html.en?lang=en</a>. Furthermore, individual scholarship programmes for students and early stage researchers exist at the central scientific research institutes (e.g., ZESS).</td>
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## Requirements / Registration

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<td><strong>Academic admission requirements</strong></td>
<td>To apply for the HCI Master’s programme, you need to have an appropriate first degree (BA or BSc) covering at least six semesters of study in Business Information Systems, Computer Science, Business Administration, Design, Psychology or Sociology or a comparable programme. If you have completed a different study programme, you must be able to provide proof of prior knowledge in these areas. This knowledge has to be proved by academic test results (transcript of records) with at least 60 ECTS credit points from the above-mentioned subject areas. Furthermore, you must have completed your undergraduate studies with a cumulative grade point average of minimum 2.5 or higher using the German GPA scale (please refer to <a href="https://hci-siegen.de/applying/">https://hci-siegen.de/applying/</a>). To convert your national grade into a grade compatible with the German grading system, please use the Bavarian Formula. Please note that 1 equals the highest grade and 4 equals the lowest grade in the German grading system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language requirements</strong></td>
<td>The following certificates are recognised for applicants who have not acquired their study qualification at an exclusively English-speaking institution (i.e., not an English-speaking degree programme) or who have learned English as their mother tongue:</td>
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<td>• TOEFL (Test of English as a foreign language) iBT (Internet-based test) with a score of at least 94 points</td>
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- IELTS test with a score of at least 6.5
- Cambridge B2 First, Grade B (173+ points)
- PTE Academic with a minimum score of 58 points
- A certificate attesting that English language skills are at level B2 of the "Common European Framework of Reference for Languages" (CEFR)

For more information, see [https://hci-siegen.de/applying/](https://hci-siegen.de/applying/)

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<th>Application deadline</th>
<th>Application start: 1 May; deadline: 15 July for winter semester</th>
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<td>Application start: 1 November; deadline: 15 January for summer semester</td>
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Submit application to [http://hci-siegen.de/applying/](http://hci-siegen.de/applying/)

Information in advance: [https://hci-siegen.de/1199-2/](https://hci-siegen.de/1199-2/)

## Services

### Possibility of finding part-time employment

Students can easily find part-time jobs with the help of the job placement service of the university. Siegen and the surrounding area are home to a large number of medium-sized industrial enterprises (SMEs) or hidden champions in electrical and mechanical engineering, some bigger examples being the companies [SMS](#) and [Achenbach Buschhütten](#). A lot of smaller but very successful and quickly growing high-tech companies are located here as well, for instance, [PMD Technologies](#) and [Asentics](#), which are spin-off companies of the university. As a result, employment opportunities are very good, especially for jobs during the semester breaks and after graduation.

### Accommodation

There are student residences (dormitories) of the [Studierendenwerk](#) (student services) close to the university. The rent for a room is between 200 and 300 EUR. Please be aware that German universities do not usually have campus systems like universities in some other countries where all students can find accommodation directly on the university property. Therefore, some students might have to find rooms on their own. The private accommodation costs per room are 280 EUR on average. Detailed information concerning general accommodation can be found [here](#). Early application/search is advisable.

### Career advisory service

For students of our university, our ISA (International Student Affairs) offers specific career support for the German market: [https://www.uni-siegen.de/isa/sieguver/index.html.en?lang=en](https://www.uni-siegen.de/isa/sieguver/index.html.en?lang=en)

### Specific specialist or non-specialist support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Buddy programme
- Tutors
Contact

University of Siegen
Faculty III: Information Systems and New Media

Margarita Grinko
Kohlbettstr. 15
57072 Siegen

✉ margarita.Grinko@uni-siegen.de
Course website: https://hci-siegen.de/1199-2/
🌐 http://www.facebook.com/siegenhci

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Editor
DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V.
German Academic Exchange Service
Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany
(responsible: Esther Kirk)
Kennedyallee 50
D-53175 Bonn
www.daad.de

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