



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## MSc Cognitive Science – Embodied Cognition

University of Potsdam • Potsdam

### Overview

Degree	Master of Science in Cognitive Science with the option to continue to obtain a PhD degree
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	English (100%)
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	For current application deadlines, please refer to: <a href="http://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master">www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master</a>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>This research-oriented Master's degree programme opens up new perspectives on addressing questions related to cognitive science and embodied cognition. Under the two keywords of interdisciplinarity and internationality, young scientists are given the opportunity to develop promising concepts and technologies and to test them in a state-of-the-art research environment.</p> <p>The Master's course of study serves to extend and deepen the discipline-specific and methodological knowledge and skills you have already acquired in your Bachelor's degree programme on the topic of human cognition. On the basis of a specific and interdisciplinary array of methods, you will be placed in a position to formulate questions pertaining to cognitive process analysis and to develop solutions. Discussions of the most recent research results will enable you to work towards modelling neurocognitive processes and systems. Aside from learning to present complex stimuli and measure human responses, you will also acquire broad and fundamental skills in experimental and psychophysical methods, especially pertaining to computer-based implementations of experimental designs with programming languages and their application for data collection.</p> <p>You will learn to identify new areas of research and to study these areas experimentally, and you will be enabled to further develop existing analytical approaches in an appropriate manner. In collaboration with other team members, you will be able to present your research results so that they will be ready for international dissemination.</p> <p>The second segment of the degree programme focuses on independent planning and implementation of a PhD project. Following the successful completion of your PhD project, you will</p>

be awarded a “Doctor of Philosophy” (PhD) degree.

Graduates of this degree programme will be able to work scientifically in the cognitive and neurosciences. They will also be qualified for research and leadership positions in corresponding industrial sectors. Based on their deep knowledge of cognitive processes and their neuronal foundations as well as mathematical and methodological skills, the graduates of this programme will be able to conceptualise complex projects and experiments in various subfields of the cognitive sciences, formulate hypotheses and examine them quantitatively.

## Course Details

### Course organisation

The degree programme has two components: in the first segment, you will earn a total of 120 credit points in the four-semester Master's programme. The second segment, the PhD programme, includes another four semesters. The following overview provides information about the weighting of individual modules and the types of courses. For additional information, please consult the subject-specific [degree regulations](#) or the [Departmental Advisory Office](#).

#### FIRST SEGMENT (120 CP)

##### Mandatory modules (63 CP)

Cognitive Science and Embodied Cognition (15 CP)  
Mathematical Modelling in Neurocognitive Psychology (9 CP)  
Neuroscience of Embodied Cognition  
Advanced Methods: Experimental Programming (6 CP)  
Advanced Methods: Multi-Variate Statistics (9 CP)  
Individual research module (15 CP)

##### Optional mandatory modules (18 CP)

(Modules adding up to 18 credit points must be selected and successfully completed.)

Developmental Science and Embodiment (6 CP)  
Language and Development (6 CP)  
Cognitive and Sensorimotor Development (6 CP)  
Neurolinguistic Perspectives (6 CP)  
Philosophy of Neuroscience and Embodied Cognition (6 CP)  
Cognitive Neuroscience, Neuropsychology, and the Body (6 CP)

##### Bridge modules (9 CP)

Experimental Psychological Internship (9 CP) or  
Bridge module: Applied Mathematics (9 CP) or  
Laboratory internship (9 CP)

##### Master's thesis (30 CP)

#### SECOND SEGMENT (120 CP)

Progress reports (12 CP)  
Colloquium for doctoral candidates (12 CP)  
Cognitive Science colloquium (12 CP)  
Potsdam Graduate School courses (24 CP)  
Dissertation and defence (60 CP)

A Diploma supplement will be issued

Yes

Course-specific, integrated German language courses

No

Course-specific, integrated English language courses

No

## Costs / Funding

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Tuition fees per semester in EUR

None

Semester contribution

No tuition is charged for studying at the University of Potsdam (with the exception of a few continuing education courses). There is only an administrative fee of currently 316 EUR. This semester contribution includes a semester ticket entitling you to free use of public transport all over Brandenburg and Berlin.

Costs of living

Living in Germany is rather cheap compared to other countries in Northern and Western Europe. Monthly living expenditures of students at the University of Potsdam vary between 870 and 1,200 EUR, largely depending on accommodation. A more detailed list of the average monthly expenditures of our students can be found [here](#).

Funding opportunities within the university

No

## Requirements / Registration

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Academic admission requirements

A good foundation for being accepted into the programme is provided by your continued interest in the mathematical and natural sciences as well as your curiosity to establish neuronal foundations of human behaviour. In contrast, an interest in clinical psychology and an interest in psychiatric problems and the therapies designed to treat such problems are clear contraindications – these topics are not relevant to this degree programme.

A general prerequisite for the Master's degree at University of Potsdam is a first professional qualification, e.g. a Bachelor's degree. Your first degree should come from a discipline that is relevant to the cognitive sciences, such as cognitive psychology, cognitive neuroscience, or cognitive science. Alternatively, your first degree may come from a discipline such as informatics, medicine or human biology with strong cognitive focus, or it may come from a discipline such as philosophy and linguistics with a clear link to human thinking and knowledge. Degrees in engineering without clear cognitive focus or in pedagogy are normally not sufficient qualifications.

Your previous studies should already demonstrate your interest in cognitive sciences and embodied cognition. This should also be highlighted in your motivation letter, in which you can also list other relevant qualifications you may have (such as research internships, programming skills, or knowledge of specific literature). You should specifically describe whether you have already completed an experimental internship course and also state your knowledge of calculus and linear algebra because these qualifications are relevant for your admission.

You can read more about the subject-specific admission requirements in the respective [admission regulations](#).

Language requirements

English language proficiency requirements correspond to the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Application deadline

For current application deadlines, please refer to: [www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master](http://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/studium/application-enrollment/application-master)

Submit application to

University of Potsdam  
c/o uni-assist eV

11507 Berlin  
Germany

## Services

### Possibility of finding part-time employment

Job opportunities for students alongside their studies are numerous. Depending on personal and professional skills, students can find jobs in the service sector (e.g. in restaurants, supermarkets, cinemas, museums, theatres, etc.) or work as student assistants at the University of Potsdam or at one of the many non-university research institutions located in the area. The German capital, Berlin, is located just around the corner, and students can also find jobs there. Please see [this website](#) for further information.

### Accommodation

There are several student dormitories in Potsdam. These are administered exclusively by Potsdam's Association for Student Affairs ("Studentenwerk Potsdam"). You can apply for a room in one of these dormitories if you are under the age of 30. If you are a Master's student, you can only apply if the degree at the University of Potsdam is your first Master's programme. Additionally, there are also a few private dormitories in Potsdam, to which these conditions do not apply. However, many students prefer to find an apartment in Potsdam or Berlin, which they often share with fellow students. The housing market is tight, so please start looking for an accommodation as early as possible.

For information on how to register for a dorm room or find accommodation elsewhere, please click [this link](#).

### Career advisory service

The Career Service of the University of Potsdam supports students and graduates who want to actively shape their careers. The aim is to ensure comprehensive career orientation and to provide opportunities for the development of professional skills. The Career Service offers workshops, seminars, and individual counselling. There are information pages on a wide range of occupational fields as well as a database of internships and jobs. Many of the services are also available in English.

### Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Buddy programme
- Welcome event
- Specialist counselling
- Visa matters

# Contact

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Psychology

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.uni-potsdam.de/de/studium/studienangebot/masterstudium/master-a-z/cognitive-science>

📘 <https://de-de.facebook.com/unipotsdam/>

🐦 <https://twitter.com/unipotsdam>

🌐 <https://de.linkedin.com/school/university-of-potsdam/>

📷 <https://www.instagram.com/unipotsdam>

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

[www.daad.de/international-programmes](http://www.daad.de/international-programmes)  
[www.daad.de/sommerkurse](http://www.daad.de/sommerkurse)

## Editor

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## GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing  
[www.gate-germany.de](http://www.gate-germany.de)

## Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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