



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree



## Master Cognitive Neuroscience

Freie Universität Berlin • Berlin

### Overview

Degree	Master of Science in Cognitive Neuroscience
In cooperation with	<a href="#">Center for Cognitive Neuroscience Berlin (CCNB)</a>
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	All of the courses are held in English.
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	More information can be found on the <a href="#">department website</a> .
Application deadline	<b>Application period:</b> 15 April – 31 May
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The <b>MSc in Cognitive Neuroscience (MCNB) Master's Degree programme</b> is an international programme offered by the Department of Education and Psychology at Freie Universität Berlin.</p> <p>MCNB is a research-focused consecutive Master's programme that aims to provide students with the theoretical and methodological skills to qualify for a career in applied research in general and neurocognitive psychology, biological psychology, and cognitive neuroscience.</p> <p>Candidates complete <b>9 compulsory modules</b> (75 ECTS) + <b>elective modules</b> (15 ECTS) and a <b>Master's thesis</b> (30 ECTS).</p> <p>The programme is divided into <b>two phases, study and research</b>, which correspond to the two years of the programme.</p> <p>During the first year, in the <b>study phase</b>, the students are expected to take courses covering the programme's core themes. The study phase aims to provide an in-depth theoretical introduction to</p>

the three research themes and equip the students with appropriate methodological skills for the research phase.

In the **research phase**, the students will have the opportunity to pursue their own research projects under the supervision of the programme's faculty members. In the second year of the programme, the class schedule will be reduced to a week of class or one or two sessions a semester.

## Course Details

### Course organisation

Regulations for structure and sequence of studies are provided by the study regulations. They contain detailed descriptions of the contents and qualification goals of each individual module and provide an exemplary study plan. The examination regulations define the type and requirements of the module examinations and the Master's thesis. The regulations specify the credit points (LP) for each module or course as well as the workload in time hours for the entire study programme.

The Master's thesis is intended to demonstrate that students are able to independently work on and present a research problem using scientific methods. Upon successful completion of the study programme, the university degree Master of Science (MSc) is awarded.

Modules:

- (1) Cognitive Neuroscience: Perception, Attention, Action, and Cognitive Control (10 LP)
  - (2) Cognitive Neuroscience: Memory, Emotion, Language, and Consciousness (10 LP)
  - (3) Cognitive Neuroscience: Research Practice (10 LP)
  - (4) Neurocognitive Methods and Data Analysis (10 LP)
  - (5) Probabilistic and Statistical Modelling (10 LP)
  - (6) Introduction to Programming (5 LP)
  - (7) Neurocognitive Methods Practical (5 LP)
  - (8) Research Workshop (5 LP)
  - (9) Research Experiences (10 LP)
- + Elective module (15 LP)
- + Master's thesis and oral examination (30 LP)

### International elements

- International guest lecturers

### Integrated internships

The **Research Experience** module comprises an internship of 300 hours.

### Course-specific, integrated German language courses

No

### Course-specific, integrated English language courses

No

## Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	In total, the semester contribution amounts to 312.89 EUR. It includes a fee of 198.80 EUR for the transportation ticket contribution. This allows you to use public transportation in Berlin for free. Other costs covered by the semester contribution include a 50 EUR enrolment fee, a 54.09 EUR semester contribution to the student support service ("studierendenWERK Berlin"), and a 10 EUR contribution to the student union.
Costs of living	Compared to other European countries, the cost of living in Germany is quite reasonable. However, the cost of living has also risen somewhat in Germany in recent years. The prices for food, accommodation, clothing, cultural events, etc. are slightly above the EU average. You will need around 950 to 1,200 EUR each month to cover your living expenses. The biggest expense is monthly rent, which is between 400 and 700 EUR in Berlin.
Funding opportunities within the university	No

## Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	<p>Admission to the MCNB programme is highly competitive and bound to a series of necessary preconditions. Applicants necessarily need to meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor's degree in psychology, neurosciences, cognitive science, data science, mathematics, physics, biology, computer sciences, or first two parts of the Certificate of Physician Exam (Ärztliche Prüfung) or equivalent</li><li>• Proof of English language proficiency</li></ul> <p>The admission process consists of three steps, from the initial application in April/May to a final admission decision by the end of July (tentatively).</p> <p>Admission to the MCNB programme follows a downward point-based ranking ranging from 100–0 selection points (SP), with 100 being the top score.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grades of the undergraduate programme will be transferred to a point score of up to 60 SP. (see the <a href="#">grade conversion table</a>)</li><li>• Promising applicants will be invited to personal interviews. The admission committee will evaluate the motivation and qualification of prospective students by means of these interviews and award them up to another 40 SP leading to a maximum amount of 100 SP.</li></ul> <p>Please visit our <a href="#">department website</a> for more information.</p>
Language requirements	English ( <a href="#">C1 level</a> ), if not a native speaker (e.g. <a href="#">TOEFL</a> or <a href="#">IELTS</a> test score)
Application deadline	<b>Application period:</b> 15 April – 31 May
Submit application to	<p>Applicants who hold a German Bachelor's degree or are currently enrolled in a Bachelor's programme at a German university should directly apply to <a href="#">Freie Universität Berlin</a>.</p> <p>Applicants who do not fulfil the aforementioned criteria should submit their applications via <a href="#">uni-</a></p>

## Services

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### Possibility of finding part-time employment

There are many ways of earning money while you study, for example as waiting staff, academic assistants, or private tutors. Knowledge of German will improve your chances of finding a part-time job, but it isn't necessarily required. However, it is important to be aware of the legal regulations.

The student support service at the university, called studierendenWERK Berlin, and the local representative of the "Bundesagentur für Arbeit" (Federal Employment Agency) can provide information about jobs for students. When searching for a job, look at online job boards, ads in local newspapers, and notice boards on campus.

### Accommodation

You have the option to stay in a public/private student dormitory or in a private (shared) apartment. Student dormitories are not administrated by the university itself, so Freie Universität Berlin does not have any on-campus housing. However, it works together with "[studierendenWERK Berlin](#)" regarding student accommodation.

If you do not wish to stay in a student dormitory, you can try to find a room or an apartment on the private housing market. Many students in Berlin live in shared apartments ("WGs"). You can find these offers online (e.g. [WG-gesucht](#) or [Craigslist](#)) or on notice boards on campus.

Available rooms/apartments near the university are rare. Therefore, students mostly commute from other parts of the city. The commute via public transportation usually takes between 30 minutes and an hour, which is considered a normal travel time in Berlin due to the city's size.

### Career advisory service

Freie Universität Berlin offers [career services](#) and [language courses](#).

### Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Buddy programme
- Tutors
- Accompanying programme
- Visa matters
- Welcome event
- Cultural and linguistic preparation

### Supervisor-student ratio

MCNB benefits from small classrooms with around 20 seats for each cohort. Depending on availability there is one lecturer for 5-10 students. Master's thesis supervision outside of faculty is also possible.

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# Contact

## Freie Universität Berlin

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.ewi-psy.fu-berlin.de/mcnb>

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/freieuniversitaetberlin/>

🐦 [https://twitter.com/fu\\_berlin](https://twitter.com/fu_berlin)

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/school/freie-universitat-berlin/>

📷 [https://www.instagram.com/fu\\_berlin/](https://www.instagram.com/fu_berlin/)

📺 <https://www.youtube.com/c/FreieUniversitaetBerlin>

Last update 24.04.2024 08:22:11

# 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".

The publication is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and by contributions of the participating German institutions of higher education.



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research