



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



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# Master's degree

Technology  
Arts Sciences  
TH Köln

## Digital Sciences (MSc)

Technische Hochschule Köln (University of Applied Sciences) •  
Gummersbach



## Overview

Degree	Master of Science in Digital Sciences – Specialisation in Business Information Systems Master of Science in Digital Sciences – Specialisation in Data and Information Science Master of Science in Digital Sciences – Specialisation in Software Architecture
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>English</li></ul>
Languages	Courses are held in English: >60%.  The specialisations <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business Information Systems</li><li>Data and Information Science</li><li>Software Architecture</li></ul> can be pursued completely in English.  The IT Management specialisation cannot be pursued completely in English though.
Programme duration	3 semesters, 4 semesters
Beginning	Winter and summer semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	The duration of study can be three or four semesters. This depends on how uni-assist evaluates the undergraduate course of study. If uni-assist assesses the undergraduate course of study as equivalent to a three-year study programme in Germany, the study duration will be four semesters. If uni-assist rates the undergraduate degree as equivalent to a three-and-a-half-year degree programme in Germany, the duration of study will be three semesters.
Application deadline	Please check the "How to Apply" section of the individual TH Köln programme websites for current application deadlines. See: <a href="http://www.th-koeln.de/programs">http://www.th-koeln.de/programs</a>
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No

Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	The Digital Sciences Master's programme at the TH Köln offers a diverse range of courses in the disciplines of Computer Science, Information Science, and Data Science. The programme is designed for students who wish to build upon a completed Bachelor's degree from one of the above-mentioned disciplines (e.g. Computer Science, Business Information Systems, Media Information Systems, IT Management, Code and Context, Data and Information Science, etc.). It is designed to address individual student goals, support tailored personalised learning paths, and create space for interdisciplinary and agile learning projects as well as appropriate didactic-methodological approaches across disciplinary and faculty boundaries.

## Course Details

Course organisation	<p>A flexible and highly customisable course of study in three or four semesters is possible, depending on how uni-assist assesses the equivalence of the applicant's Bachelor's degree compared to German degrees. In this programme, the standard case for international applicants comprises a four-semester programme to earn the Master's degree. Large parts of the study programme can be completed in English due to a broad range of English-language modules. An overview of the teaching language of the modules can be found here: <a href="https://digital-sciences.de/en/overview/modules/">https://digital-sciences.de/en/overview/modules/</a>.</p> <p>Three of the four specialisations of the study programme are available to international students. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Information Systems</li> <li>• Data and Information Science</li> <li>• Software Architecture</li> </ul> <p>Only the IT Management specialisation is restricted to German-speaking students.</p> <p>The courses are held at two locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51643 Gummersbach</li> <li>• 50678 Cologne</li> </ul> <p>Although the course of study can be individually constructed by choosing from a large set of electives, the profiling according to the specialisation is steered by the fulfilment of minimum amounts of passed ECTS in six focus areas (see diagram). These threshold amounts of credits and a detailed explanation as well as a tool supporting the study planning can be found here: <a href="https://digital-sciences.de/en/planning_tool/overview/index.html">https://digital-sciences.de/en/planning_tool/overview/index.html</a>.</p>
A Diploma supplement will be issued	Yes
Integrated internships	Our instruction philosophy emphasises real-life experiences through extensive, hands-on, laboratory-based training, cooperation projects, and internships. Project work forms part of the course in research projects as well as in projects with industry.
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	Approx. 305 EUR per semester  Included in the semester fee is the "semester ticket" for public transport throughout Germany.
Costs of living	The cost of living for your stay largely depends on your personal needs. When planning your stay, you should calculate monthly costs of approx. 1,000 EUR in Cologne.
Funding opportunities within the university	Yes
Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university	International students are eligible to apply for the "Deutschlandstipendium". The scholarship holders receive approx. 300 EUR per month for the duration of one year.

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## Requirements / Registration

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Academic admission requirements	<p>For admission to the Digital Sciences Master's programme, applicants are required to have successfully completed studies in the field of Computer Science (Bachelor's or comparable degree) or a similar programme. The following criteria are expected with regard to the completed programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A student workload of at least 80 ECTS has been passed in the area of Computer Science or Information and Data Science.</li><li>• A final grade of "good" or "better" has been achieved.</li><li>• A further specialisation-specific condition of earned ECTS regarding the focus areas is described here: <a href="https://digital-sciences.de/en">https://digital-sciences.de/en</a></li></ul> <p>All three conditions have to be fulfilled for admission. Professional experience does not count towards eligibility.</p> <p>Please find deadlines and further details here: <a href="#">Digital Sciences (Master's programme) – How to Apply</a>.</p>
Language requirements	<p>Applicants to Digital Sciences must provide proof of their English language skills. Certified proficiency in English: TOEFL paper-based (550 points), TOEFL computer-based (213 points), TOEFL Internet-based (80 points), IELTS (band 6.0), Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (level C1), or equivalent certificate</p> <p>Alternatively: preceding school education taught entirely in English (at least one year) or preceding German school education with at least six school years with English as a subject</p> <p>A German language level of C1 is only required for the IT Management specialisation.</p>
Application deadline	<p>Please check the "How to Apply" section of the individual TH Köln programme websites for current application deadlines.</p> <p>See: <a href="http://www.th-koeln.de/programs">http://www.th-koeln.de/programs</a></p>

**Submit application to**

If you are a prospective international student, the way to apply is determined by your citizenship, your desired degree programme, and your previous academic qualifications.

Further information on how to apply: [www.th-koeln.de/howtoapply](http://www.th-koeln.de/howtoapply)

## Services

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**Possibility of finding part-time employment**

Taking on a part-time job while studying has lots of benefits. Students can earn some extra money and gain valuable professional experience, and they might even take a first step up on the career ladder. Gaining a first insight into the German corporate world is especially beneficial for international students.

Many students partially fund their studies at TH Köln by taking on a part-time job in or outside the university.

**Accommodation**

Being Germany's fourth largest city, Cologne is a highly attractive place to live. The increasing influx of people can make the search for adequate accommodation quite difficult. Dozens of apartment hunters often compete for one single apartment. This is why we strongly recommend that you start looking for a place to live as soon as possible. Cologne's most convenient and economical housing option is often a student dormitory. A public student services association called "Kölner Studierendenwerk" (KSTW) operates 88 student dorms offering roughly 4,800 rooms. The seemingly large number of dorm rooms is misleading; as the dormitories are open to the roughly 90,000 students enrolled at all Cologne universities, they are in extremely high demand. Please be aware that TH Köln does not allocate the rooms in these dorms. Please apply directly to the KSTW: <https://www.kstw.de/wohnen>. You do not yet need a letter of admission in order to apply.

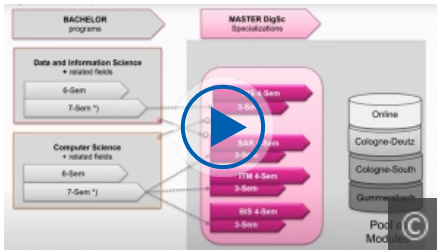
The fierce competition on the private housing market has resulted in above-market rents – particularly in proximity of the city centre. We therefore encourage you to be flexible. Try to look for apartments outside the centre or share an apartment – and the cost of rent – with other students.

Finding accommodation in Gummersbach is more relaxed than in Cologne. This applies to both the availability of apartments and the price level. KSTW operates three dorms near the Gummersbach Campus. One of them is located directly in the centre next to campus. Demand for rooms there is very high, and the likelihood of securing a place is lower than in the other two dorms. Gummersbach is situated around 50 km east of Cologne and has a population of around 54,000. The train journey from the main station in Cologne to Gummersbach takes around 1 hour and 15 minutes. Good alternatives for accommodation are also towns such as Rösrath, Overath, and Engelskirchen. These are located between Gummersbach and Cologne along the regional train line (RB 25). This way, you'll be connected to both cities while enjoying lower rent prices compared to Cologne. The demand for accommodation in these towns is not as high as in Cologne.

[www.th-koeln.de/accommodation](http://www.th-koeln.de/accommodation)

**Support for international students and doctoral candidates**

- Welcome event
- Tutors
- Accompanying programme
- Visa matters



## Information about the Master of Digital Sciences, 7 April 2022

The concept and the programme organisation as well as the educational goals and entry requirements for the Digital Sciences programme are explained.

» more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvWvpEQvY0s>

## – Technische Hochschule Köln (University of Applied Sciences)



Main building, Südstadt Campus, TH Köln

© TH Köln

Technische Hochschule Köln – abbreviated as TH Köln – University of Applied Sciences – sees itself as a university of technology, arts, and sciences. With its disciplinary and cultural diversity and openness, TH Köln's activities are aimed at cultural and technological breakthroughs of high societal relevance. Thus, TH Köln contributes substantially to resolving social challenges. As a community of faculty and students, we see ourselves as a learning organisation forging new paths. For instance, TH Köln is one of the pioneers in the field of development and formation of concepts for higher education didactics.

Our subject range includes the fields of applied natural sciences, architecture and construction, information and communication, computer science, engineering, culture and society, and social sciences as well as business studies. More than 100 degree programmes are

offered as full-time programmes or, in some cases, as career-integrated or part-time programmes. As a place where research-based learning and academic education take place, the university nurtures prospective scholars through cooperative dissertations. Annually, more than 5,000 students take up their studies at TH Köln. Overall, 23,500 students from about 120 different countries along with 430 professors and 2,000 staff members apply their potential.

Research mainly focuses on future-related issues, including climate change, energy supply, health, and food safety as well as demographic changes. While developing solution strategies for the most important questions of our time, researchers offer their professional expertise in interdisciplinary interaction. At the same time, they collaborate closely with local, national, and international cooperation partners, including 350 international institutions of higher education. The university offers its researchers an attractive sphere of activity. The quality seal "HR Excellence in Research" awarded by the European Commission certifies that TH Köln meets international standards in the field of human resources development.

TH Köln's campuses are located in Cologne, Gummersbach, and Leverkusen.

**Technology**  
**Arts Sciences**  
**TH Köln**

## University location

Its metropolitan vibe, diverse student scene and a cityscape abounding with cultural and historical treasures make Cologne one of Europe's prime university cities. Cologne's origins date back to the Roman Empire more than 2,000 years ago. Today, Cologne is Germany's fourth largest city with a population of just over one million and has evolved as an economic and cultural metropolis at the heart of Europe. The city's characteristic landmark and source of pride for every inhabitant is without a doubt the magnificent Cologne Cathedral, locally known as the "Kölner Dom". Towering over the quaint Old Town of Cologne at 156 metres, this masterpiece of Gothic architecture is the world's third-highest cathedral and attracts around six million visitors a year, making it Germany's most popular tourist attraction. Visitors from all over the world are bound to feel at home immediately, as Cologne is a true melting pot of cultures. Close to one-fifth of its inhabitants have an international background. Cologne's economy is characterised by its amalgamation of different industries and trades. Home to the country's most influential television and radio stations, Cologne is unquestionably Germany's media capital and host to some of the continent's biggest trade fairs. Quite a few of the world's most renowned enterprises call the metropolitan region their home, in particular, corporations operating in the automobile industry, biotechnology and life sciences, chemicals and pharmaceuticals as well as commerce and banking.

Please note that TH Köln also has two remote campuses outside Cologne, which are located in the towns of Gummersbach and Leverkusen.

Gummersbach is a town with 50,000 inhabitants located 55 km east of Cologne, surrounded by a hilly landscape which is a recreational area for residents from Cologne and other cities nearby. The campus can be reached in a few minutes from Gummersbach train station. A train ride to Cologne, which is the largest city in the region, takes one hour and ten minutes and will be covered by the semester ticket, which is included in the semester fee. Students will be able to find affordable accommodation in Gummersbach and focus on their studies in the great environment of a modern campus.

The Leverkusen campus is located 15 km north of Cologne in the Neue Bahnstadt Opladen and was opened in 2022. It is close to the CHEMPARK in Leverkusen, which is one of the largest chemical parks in Europe. Global players from the chemical and pharmaceutical industry, such as Bayer and LANXESS, are located there. With 160,000 inhabitants, Leverkusen is a smaller industrial city that has plenty of opportunities for relaxation, thanks to its location in the foothills of the Bergisches Land region. In Leverkusen, you can find urban buzz and village-like tranquillity in close proximity. The campus can also be reached with TH Köln's semester ticket.

# Contact

**Technische Hochschule Köln (University of Applied Sciences)**  
Department of International Affairs

51643 Gummersbach

 Course website: <https://digital-sciences.de/en/>

 <https://www.facebook.com/technischehochschulekoeln>

 <https://de.linkedin.com/school/cologne-university-of-applied-sciences/>

 [https://www.instagram.com/th\\_koeln/](https://www.instagram.com/th_koeln/)

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# International Programmes in Germany - Database

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

DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V.  
German Academic Exchange Service  
Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany  
Kennedyallee 50  
D-53175 Bonn  
[www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)

## GATE-Germany

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

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