

DON'T PANIC



INFORZ 2025

MASTER | WINTER

Preface

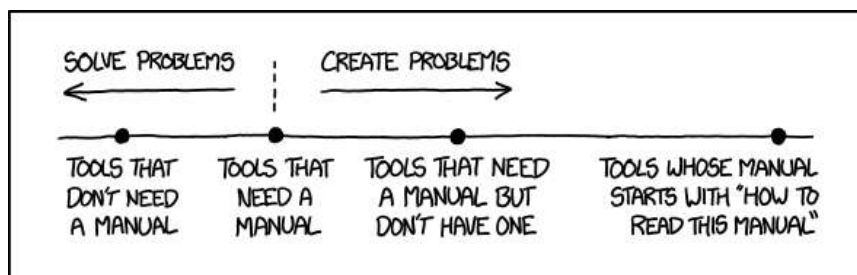
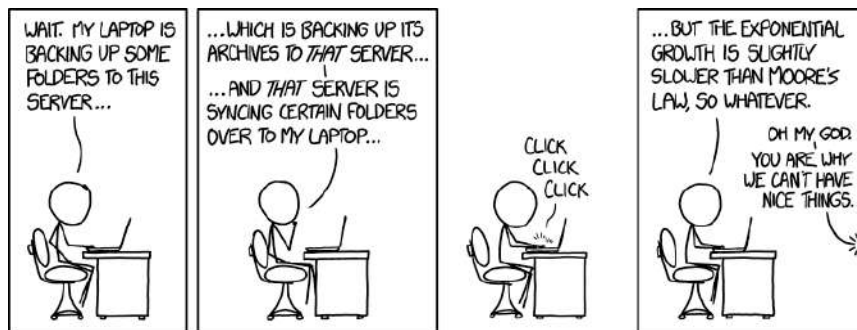
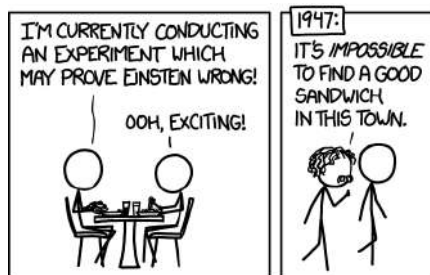
The Computer Science Student Council welcomes you to your first semester in Darmstadt. You will have probably already read and heard it in several places, and you will not be spared it here either: Welcome to your studies, welcome to the Technical University of Darmstadt, welcome to the beginning of a new phase of your life!

A lot of things will be new for you now, because at the TU Darmstadt things will be different from your previous university (except if you've done your bachelor's degree at TU Darmstadt). But do not despair, because if there is one thing that cannot happen to you here, it is that you will be on your own. At our university and especially at the Department of Computer Science, you have plenty of opportunities to get help with all your questions and problems. Be it the Ophase, where you can learn how to organize your studies in a meaningful way, your fellow students, or our student advisory. Last but not least, we - the Computer Science Student Council - are always there for you and try to help you with words and deeds.

We hope that you will find lots of friends during your studies who have the same motivation as you and with whom you get along well. And try to remember that studying is more than just learning: It is a stage of life that you should also enjoy - and we wish you nothing but the best.

The Computer Science Student Council, better known as Fachschaft Informatik





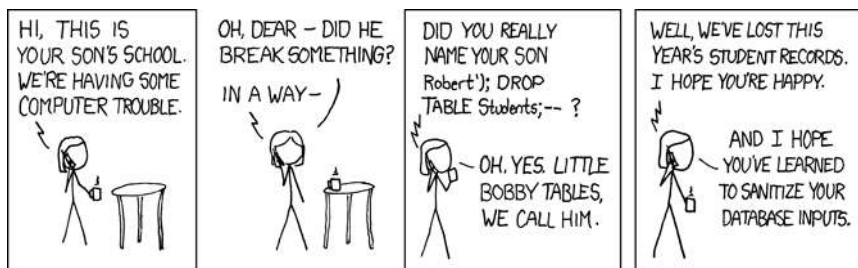
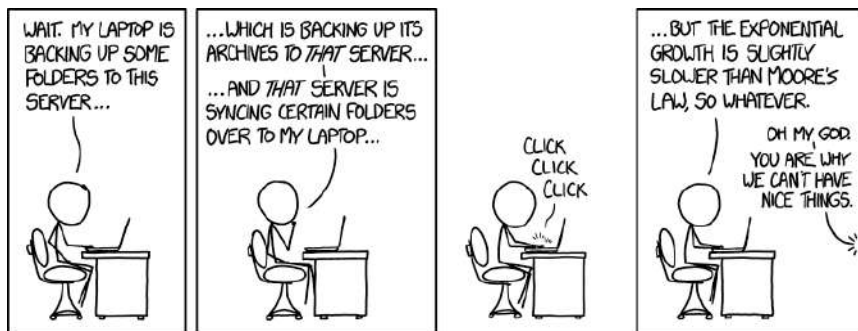
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Part I

THE OPHASE



Welcome

If you are reading this article, then chances are good that your orientation phase has just begun, or you are already in the middle of it.

The Ophase at the Department of Computer Science is an event with a long history: Ever since the Department of Computer Science has existed, there has also been an orientation phase for first-year students of our Bachelor's and Master's programs. The purpose of this event is to familiarise you with the university and the Department of Computer Science and in particular, to introduce you to your fellow students, i.e. the people with whom you will be studying, and to give you a good start to your studies.

Everything you will learn this week is organized and run by students to give first-year students like you the best possible start to their studies. Nevertheless, it is of course recommended that you attend the events offered during the Ophase, especially the Student Advisory Talk. There, in contrast to just reading this booklet, you have the opportunity to ask questions about all the important topics concerning the university and your studies and, of course, to get in touch with other students. For the latter, there are also additional activities during Ophase, such as a bar tour or a games evening, which are explained in more detail in the commented timetable (in the next section and second to last page). We wish you a lot of fun with this booklet and a successful Ophase!

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Figure 1.1: You can also download this booklet as a PDF. Visit www.d120.de/ophase or scan this QR code.



Figure 1.2: Welcome to TU Darmstadt and welcome to your Ophase. We wish you much success and fun in the coming days.



Figure 1.3: One of the individual group in the Winter-Ophase 2022

1.1 Goals of the Ophase

Without getting directly into the timetable for the next few days, we would like to briefly introduce the Ophase as a whole. What it is all about and what we want to achieve.

Get Together

You may have already heard that studying is not a solo mission; studying together is better and easier. So it's all the more important that you get to know each other and connect with your fellow students. And there is no better place to do so than Ophase. We will create many opportunities during the week where you can meet other people if you want to.

How to study in Darmstadt

To prepare for your studies in Darmstadt, you need some information. We will provide you with the most important information and guide you through everything that you need to start your studies in Darmstadt. We will also explain what may be different from other universities.

New City, New Campus

For many of you, Darmstadt will be a new city. Maybe you come from Frankfurt, or maybe from the far north or anywhere else on Earth. Whether it's the campus or Darmstadt, many things will be new to you at first. We want to make you a bit more familiar with Darmstadt and show you the beautiful sides of the city and the campus.

1.2 The Timetable

On the last page of this Inforz you will find your timetable for the Ophase. Please refer to it for the exact times.

Breakfast

From Wednesday to Friday, we offer a delicious breakfast in the mornings at the Computer Science Learning Centre (Lernzentrum Informatik/LZI, S2|02 A020). It's a nice opportunity to chat with other first-years and start the day off to a relaxed start.



Figure 1.4: You can also find this timetable online. Visit www.d120.de/ophase or scan this QR code.

Welcome Meeting

Now it is finally starting. You are sitting in a lecture hall with lots of other freshmen who you've probably never met before, but many of whom you will be seeing more often from now on. No problem, because in this introduction you will get an explanation of the next day's schedule.

Student Advisory Talk & Studying at TU Darmstadt

In this session, the student advisor will tell you more about your studies. Serious recommendations for all who start their Master's here.

ULB Tour and Lunch / Mensa (engl. canteen)

We will be touring the ULB either before or after having lunch in the Mensa. It is more than just a place to borrow books, but see for yourself.

For some students, the Mensa might be the only reason to go to university, at least for those who are no longer being catered for at home.

There are four university canteens (dt.: Mensen (plural of Mensa)) in the city centre (dt.: Stadtmitte) of Darmstadt that you can try out. For computer science students who spend most of their time in the city centre, the Mensa Stadtmitte (close to the Audimax) is the canteen of choice. Here, you can get a warm meal for an average of three to five euros from 11:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. From 2:15 to 2:30 p.m. there is also the "Zu gut für die Tonne" sale, where leftovers are sold at a heavily reduced price to prevent food waste. You can download the "Mensa Darmstadt" or also the "TUDA" app, which lists the weekly menus of the different Mensen.

In the Mensa, you can pay either with your Athenekarte or with your regular card. When using the Athenekarte, the student rate is automatically applied while payment using a card requires an additional verification of your student status using your Studierendenausweis. Unfortunately, cash payment is not possible.

The bistro is open from 8 am to 4 pm (3 pm on Fridays). It serves breakfast in the morning and coffee, cakes, pastries, sweets and drinks throughout the day.

IT Systems (TUCaN and Moodle)

TUCaN – TU Campus Network – is the platform through which you register for lectures and exams. In this talk, you will be introduced to this wonderful software and shown how to use it.

The materials, forums and exercises are done via the learning platform Moodle. We will introduce you to the most important functions of this software.

IT Infrastructure (ISP and HRZ)

What does the university have to offer in terms of IT infrastructure apart from TUCaN and Moodle? How can I use it and why is it useful? This talk exists so that you don't have to find all the different services on your own during your studies.

Get-together

Get a coffee, get a cookie, and get to know your fellow students! The Get-together allows you to chat with your fellow students in a relaxed atmosphere – hopefully, you'll manage to make friends or form a study group. Additionally, some more experienced Master's students will be available for questions and to provide a bit of their view.

GnoM

The Get-together flows into the Games no Machines (short: *GnoM*), where you can get to know other students in a cozy atmosphere while playing board or card games and let the first day of Ophase end comfortably.

Account Activation

For a successful study, you need several accounts for the technical systems of the TU Darmstadt. This includes your HRZ/TUCaN account, WIFI/eduroam, VPN access, Athenekarte and ISP/RBG account. Maybe you have already set up some of the accounts, maybe you are still missing others, or you get great error messages like "This action could not be performed" (the *TU* in "TU Darmstadt" actually stands for *technically untalented*). You can find instructions on how to set up your access at d120.de/acc-en. If you encounter problems or have questions, come to the account activation (bring your own device, preferably a laptop).

Anti Discrimination, AStA, Complaint and Improvement Management, Equality Management

The university has various institutions, which will present themselves here: The AStA (Student Council (this word is overloaded in English); dt.: Allgemeiner Studierendenausschuss), who represent students in many matters, the Complaint and Improvement Management, which deals with disputes in the university, and the Anti Discrimination Office, which deals confidentially with cases of discrimination at the university. Finally, the Language Resource Center and TUtor International present themselves.

Scientific Speed-Dating Talks

Within this talk, you get an insight into some subfields of the subject you will study for the next few years.

Studying Abroad

Do you want to study abroad for some time during your studies? Then get all the necessary information in this talk. If you have ambitions to go abroad, we suggest you take care of it early in your studies, as the lead times can take 1-2 years depending on the country.

Beyond University

When you move to a new city, there is a lot more to do than just studying. Here, some of the extracurricular groups present themselves. Have you ever wanted to reach space?

Unirallye

The task is to explore the university with its hidden rooms and buildings. Attractive prizes await the winners!

Bar Tour

Explore bars in Darmstadt's distinct bar landscape and enjoy time with your fellow students while getting to know each other better.

Intercultural Talk: “How to Germany?”

They come from near and far, but what does it mean to study and live in Germany at all?

Master and Doctorate Panel (with Q&A)

Who to ask when you get stuck? Right! Your fellow students. Here you can ask your questions to some Master’s and Doctorate students.

Fachschaft / Student Council, Feedback and Closing

This is the end of the Ophase: We want to introduce ourselves briefly and what we do when not organizing an Ophase. Afterwards, there are still a few announcements and an award ceremony.

Master-BBQ

An Ophase comes to an end and can only do that in one way: We have a BBQ with you and offer the opportunity to exchange and get to know each other.

University and City Tour

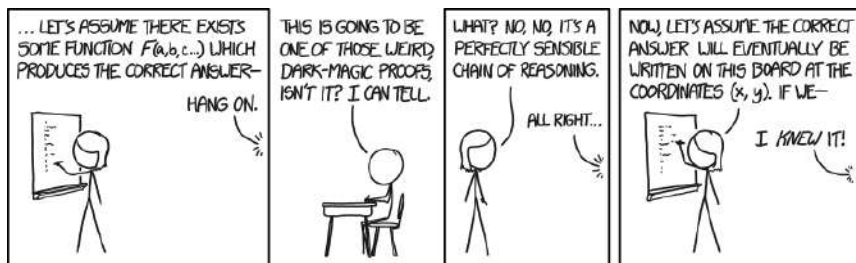
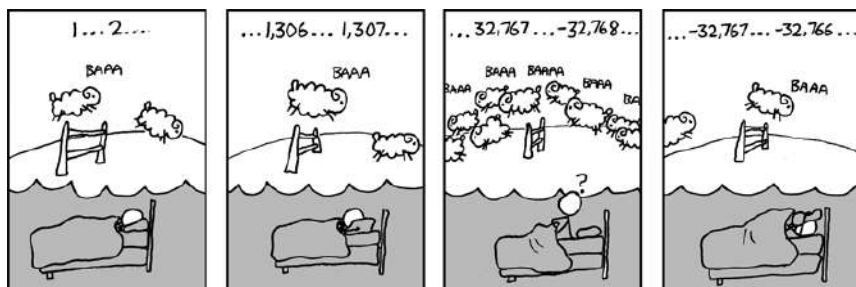
Get to know the city and its landmarks, restaurants, and other interesting places. The tour will take place according to your wishes, tell your guide what you want to see and discover hidden treasures in Darmstadt.

Party Disco, Disco? Party Party!



Part II

STUDYING IN DARMSTADT



This chapter introduces you to studying in Darmstadt, addresses the most important differences to other universities, and is intended to help you find your way around your studies.

2.1 Forms of courses in Darmstadt

Generally, one speaks of a course as the sum of all its parts. For example, a course can consist of a only lecture, a lecture and an exercise, or a lecture, an exercise and a practical lab.

The list of lectures per semester is public starting 01.09. for the winter semester and 01.03. for the summer semester. You can find it in TUCaN.

Lectures or “Vorlesung”

A lecture is a course in which a lecturer stands in front of a group of students and imparts knowledge on a specific topic. You all are acquainted with this form.

Exercise or “Übung”

An exercise is a course or part of a course in which students can practically apply and deepen the theoretical knowledge acquired in lectures. They solve tasks, work on exercise sheets, or work on concrete problems. As a rule of thumb, exercises are supervised by a teaching assistant or tutor who can support the students in their implementation and give them feedback. Questions can also be asked about homework etc.

Practical lab or “Praktikum”

A lab is a course in which students can apply and implement their learned skills in a project. This does not mean an internship in a company, but rather a supervised project at the university, which often takes place in small teams.

Consultation hour / Office hour or “Sprechstunde”

A consultation hour is a fixed time during which lecturers, professors or tutors are available for students to discuss individual questions, concerns, or problems. During office hours, students can meet personally with the lecturer, for example, to clarify ambiguities, receive additional explanations, obtain specialist advice, or discuss topics related to the course or field of study in question.

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Seminar

A seminar is a course in which students actively work on a specific topic, usually in small groups. It involves discussions and working with academic papers. Seminars are designed to encourage critical thinking and scholarly engagement with complex topics.

Remarks regarding modules

A module contains one or more courses. Here at the Computer Science department, we exclusively have mini-modules — one module only contains one course. At other departments, this may not be the case.

The module-course structure is one of the many things that make TUCaN tedious to use.

2.2 Can I learn from home

If you realize, for example, that you hardly pay attention in lectures anyway, or you have another lecture at the same time, then studying from home might be your better choice. In most courses, at least the slides or a script are made available online, which you may use to learn without being physically present in the lecture.

Some lectures, especially in the basic courses, are also recorded on video. Therefore, you can catch up with your progress anywhere else other than the lecture hall while having a pause and replay function. But you should be careful not to let the content slip too much, which can quickly happen if you don't attend individual parts of the course.

Attendance also helps you find a study group and work on homework with them or study together for an exam. This is important because you can learn from each other - everyone has something to share! When you work as a team, you can share ideas, talk to each other, and even fill in gaps in a good way. Speaking from experience, this does not only help you learn but also results in better grades. If you get stuck, it's also a good idea to use office hours or tutorials to share ideas and ask questions.

2.3 Regulations and Terms

The regulations¹ and the Allgemeine Prüfungsbestimmungen (APB, English: General Examination Terms)² of the university regulate how exactly a course of study runs, as well as what is permitted and what is not. The APB applies university-wide and is identical for all students at the university. Among other things, it regulates topics such as Registration procedures, examination dates, examination formats, what may and may not be part of an examination, how

1: https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium-fb20/im_studium/formulare_und_dokumente/ordnungen/ordnungen_msc_informatik.de.jsp

2: www.tu-darmstadt.de/apb

examinations are assessed, and what regulations apply to examinations. The regulations or “*Ordnungen*” for your specific program regulate everything more specific to your degree program.

2.3.1 APB in 5 Minutes

The General Examination Terms are currently in their 7th amendment, or version no. 7.0, as we computer scientists would say. Their topics include everything to do with examinations, performance, general information on the topic of admission, especially concerning the Master’s programs, but also information on the topic of compensation for disadvantages, etc.

The most important point here is probably the topic of exams. Here, you will find information on topics such as registration, exam inspections, bonus regulations, deadlines, final papers, and much more. It is always important to know that the APBs regulate this for the entire university and are often extended or modified in the program-specific regulations. However, it would be too much to list the exact points here, so we simply refer you to the pages of the university and the AStA.

2.4 Exams and Courseworks

Unfortunately, exams are part of studying.

They allow the professors to check the knowledge and skills of the students. They serve to test whether students have acquired the required knowledge and skills.

The type of exams can vary depending on the subject and university. You will encounter two main forms:

- ▶ **Exams or “*Prüfungsleistungen*”** or subject examinations check whether students can reproduce, apply, and transfer what they have learned. They can be repeated up to two times (three attempts in total). Mostly these are written or oral exams.
- ▶ **Coursework or “*Studienleistungen*”** serve as a performance assessment like a subject examination. Usually, other forms than written examinations or oral examinations are envisaged here, such as seminars or practical lab submissions. Luckily, this form of examination can be attempted as often as desired.

2.4.1 Registration and Deregistration

Examinations usually take place once a semester and people who want to attempt them must register for the examination before a general deadline. This is done within the registration phase via TUCaN. A person who is not registered cannot take the exam.

If one does not feel prepared enough for an exam or has other reasons, it is possible to deregister via TUCaN up to 7 days before the exam date without giving a reason. After that, deregistration is only possible with a proven reason (e.g., illness) and can only be done via the Examination office.

2.5 Credit Points, the Game of Time

Credit points (CP) reflect the effort required for a course. One CP approximately corresponds to 30 hours per semester. For example, a course with 5 CP, therefore, is designed to have an effort of approximately 150 hours during the semester. This includes the duration of the lecture, exercises, preparation, wrap-up of the lecture, and the preparation for the exam.

2.5.1 30 CP per Semester?

30 credit points per semester are designed to set the average student's workload similar to the workload of a full-time 40-hour week. So there are 8 hours a day for studying. Of course, leave is also provided for and already deducted from the 30 credit points. In addition, with 30 CP per semester, you can complete your studies in the standard period of study.

But everyone is different. Some of us work part-time alongside our studies or have time-intensive hobbies. So it's perfectly OK if you don't manage 30 CP in a semester or if you need a little longer to complete your studies.

2.5.2 6 CP, so the lecture has a time requirement of 180h, right?

Yes and no. A lecture with 6 CP should have an effort of 180 hours, but the professor cannot know in advance exactly how long the students need for the exercises and exam preparation, so he estimates the effort. This may mean that two 6 CP lectures require significantly different amounts of effort.

Take CP as a guideline. However, if you notice that the 180 hours don't fit at all and that your fellow students have the same impression, then it's time to talk to the organizer or the student council.

2.6 Important Contact Persons

First of all, when it comes to specific courses, the lecturer or the assistant is the best contact person and should always be asked first. If they are not able to help or if it is a more general question, then there are the following contact persons.

2.6.1 Student Advisor: Tim Neubacher

The departmental student advisory is an important point of contact for students seeking help and orientation in their study planning. It offers individual counseling sessions in which questions about the direction of study, choice of study, examination regulations, and other study-related topics are answered. In addition, the Student Advisory Service provides information on support services such as scholarships, exchange programs, or internships to help students make the most of their studies.

2.6.2 Examination Office: Sabine Haschka and Alessandra Nesensohn

The Examination Office manages administrative tasks related to students, such as enrolment, student services, and issuance of study certificates and transcripts. In addition, it coordinates the process of examinations, manages course registrations, and is responsible for questions regarding examinations.

2.6.3 Student Council or “Fachschaft”: D120

The student council is a group of students within a particular department and will be introduced to you later in more detail. It represents the interests of the students and is open to all questions of the students — just come by or write us an email³.

3: fs@d120.de

2.7 The Campus and How to Find Your Way

As you have surely seen, there is a red sign with white lettering on each building of the Technical University of Darmstadt. Once you have understood the system behind it, orientation at the university is no longer so difficult.

If you are not sure where a building is, take a look at the official floor plan here www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/campus/index.en.jsp or maybe easier, just type in the exact building number in Google Maps!

On the back of this magazine you will find a map of the “Campus Stadtmitte”.

A TU-specific, interactive plan of the university, can be found under www.sight-board.de/tu-darmstadt/

2.7.1 How to read the building signs of the university

► First Letter = The Campus

There are five different campuses: the city centre (“Stadtmitte”) (S), the Lichtwiese (L), the university stadium (H), the botanical garden (B), and the wind tunnel (W). Your lectures



Figure 2.1: Example of a building sign at TU Darmstadt.

will mostly take place in the city centre, so we will be more specific about them. The most relevant for you is the city centre. You will probably see the other campuses at most for exams or when taking courses from other departments. Therefore, it is important to know that buildings starting with L are not in the city centre if you want to be on time for exams.

► **Second Symbol = Which part of the campus**

The second symbol of the building designation specifies the location on the campus. For the Campus Stadtmitte, a distinction is made between the areas S1-S4. These stand for: the central location (S1), the north location (S2), the south location (S3) and the outer areas (S4). S4 must be considered more precisely. The university has rented office buildings throughout Darmstadt, in which a wide variety of departments are located. S4 is the residual mass of buildings that cannot be precisely assigned to another area alone. So if you have an event in a building that starts with S4, please make sure you know where you need to go in advance by asking or searching on a map.

► **The remaining symbols = The Building**

Within a campus, for example, Stadtmitte Nord (S2), each building has a designated number. As an example, the Piloty has the number 02, resulting in the building number S2|02. The building number always has two digits, so in case of doubt, a zero is added, for example, the Old Main Building has the designation S1|03. The name of a building is always pronounced separately, i.e., S1|15 is pronounced S-one-fifteen, and S2|02 would be pronounced S-two-zero-two.

► **The Second Part = The Room** The number after the building indicates the room within the building. The naming of the rooms is not always identical. The Piloty, for example, gives each room a number and a letter that indicates the sector. The room of the student council, for example, is D120. The old main building, on the other hand, only gives a three-digit room number. The first digit usually indicates the floor.

2.7.2 Some Important Buildings

► **S1|01, karo 5 and the Audimax**

At Karolinenplatz 5, also called karo5, there are various lecture halls, including the Audimax (S1|01 - A1), the largest lecture hall at the Stadtmitte. At the rear exit of karo5 is the bicycle repair shop called **zwanzig°** (read as "Zwanzig Grad"); if something is wrong with your bike, stop by and you will be helped. There is also a very handy ATM in karo5.

► **S1|02 and S1|03, The Old Main Building**

The Old Main Building (AHG) is a maze of many exercise rooms. There are some smaller lecture halls here, as well as

many rooms where exercises take place or where you can sit when you need a space to study. It is also home to the language café and the maths learning centre. It is also the home of the AStA.

► The Mensa

The Mensa, Lesbar, and the Bistro are the three places where you can find something to eat on campus. But always pay attention to the opening hours and keep in mind that right after a lecture slot, many students want to go to the Mensa. You can find the opening hours on the following website: www.studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/en/catering-and-canteens/mensen-bistros/. By the way, you can pay here with the Athena card.

► The ULB

The University and State Library (ULB) is hard to miss. If you stand on the square in front of the Mensa, you have a direct view of it. The ULB is more than just a place to borrow books, it is also a place to study. You can book smaller study rooms here or sit down at one of the many free seats. In the website, you get to book different types of study rooms and get to know how many seats are there roughly available. www.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/lernen-arbeiten/lernort_ulb/freie-arbeitsplaetze/index.en.jsp

► S2 | 02, The Piloty

The Robert Piloty Building, or simply "Piloty" for short, is the main computer science building. In addition to some staff offices, there are three lecture halls, C110, C120, and C205. These are primarily used by the computer science department. In addition, there is also the computer pool (C-Pool) and the computer science student learning rooms LZI and E-Pool in the basement. LZI and E-Pool are workspaces for learning and exchanging with other students. In the Piloty you will also find the computer science student council — D120.



Figure 2.2: The karo5 if you are looking for an ATM.



Figure 2.3: The courtyard of the Piloty building. This is where our summer festival is held. It is directly outside the LZI, which is used by students to learn and work together.

Important: The following information is, as always, without any guarantees. Only the official (German) versions of the regulations, the APB, and information provided by the (department’s) student advisor, the dean, or the dean of studies are binding.

3.1 The Study Program “M.Sc. Informatik”

A Master’s program in Darmstadt consists of 120 credit points, which are divided in the following areas:

An **individual specialization** with self-assembled courses from the research focus areas of the department (Artificial Intelligence, Cybersecurity and Privacy, and Complex Networked Systems).

In addition, there are courses from the **basic elective areas** of software & hardware and theory.

Some credit points have to be **Courseworks** (seminars, internship in teaching, practical training, etc.) with at least one seminar and one practical lab (Praktikum).

Apart from to the computer science lectures, a student has to take some credit points in the so-called **Studium Generale**, which enables interdisciplinary knowledge from the entire range of courses offered by all departments of TU Darmstadt, excluding those from the computer science department.

The last part of the program is, of course, the **Master thesis**.

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More information:
https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium_fb20/im_studium/studiengaenge_liste/informatik_msc.en.jsp

The M.Sc. Informatik and the M.Sc. Computer Science are not the same program. The most prominent difference is the language of the programs.

Individual Spezialisaton Artificial Intelligence Cybersecurity and Privacy Complex Networked Systems Core Course Catalogues Theory Software & Hardware			6-51 CP 0-51 CP 0-51 CP 0-51 CP 12-57 CP min. 6 CP min. 6 CP
Seminars (at least 1) Labs (at least 1) Practical Labs in Teaching (max. 1)			9-18 CP 3-12 CP 6-15 CP 0- 5 CP
General Education Electives: Languages Humanities, Social Science, Economics & Business Administration Environmental Studies, Engineering, Natural Sciences			18-24 CP 0-21 CP 3-24 CP 0-21 CP
	Master Thesis		30 CP

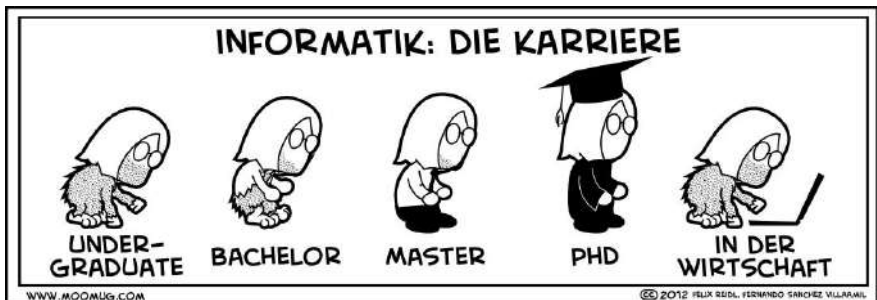
Figure 3.1: The study program of the M.Sc. Informatik.

3.1.1 Tips and Tricks

To successfully complete the Master’s program, you must earn at least 120 credit points (CP) according to the regulations. Upon completion of the Master’s degree, you will receive the academic degree Master of Science (M.Sc.).

The exact numbers of credit points per area can be found in Figure 3.1. In general, a student is expected to do 30ish CP per semester while, most likely, finishing with their Master’s thesis in their fourth or fifth semester. Here are some hints for the small but important parts.

- ▶ You need to do at least 6 CP in Theory courses as well as in Software & Hardware courses.
- ▶ In the individual specialization area, you can split your CP between the three fields, but you don’t have to—you can also take all or most of your CP in one area, or avoid one area entirely.
- ▶ You have to do at least one seminar and one lab or project lab (labs in teaching don’t count here).
- ▶ The Studium Generale field allows you to take lectures from other departments. You have to do at least 3 CP in the elective areas of Humanities, Social Science, or Economics & Business Administration.
- ▶ Not every lecture from every department is possible, so check the list of “allowed” lectures. These limitations are imposed by the departments offering the modules - not the CS Department.
- ▶ The Master thesis can be the end of your Master – or any time you want after you have earned some CP.
- ▶ Your Master’s thesis does not have to be within the boundaries of a semester. You can start it any time - provided you have found a topic and a supervisor, not only October and April.



3.2 The “other” Master Programs

A complete list can be found at: https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium_fb20/im_studium/studiengaenge_liste/index.en.jsp

https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studieninteressierte/studienangebot_studiengaenge/studiengang_341504.en.jsp

https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium_fb20/im_studium/studiengaenge_liste/computer_science_msc.en.jsp

https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium_fb20/im_studium/studiengaenge_liste/asur_msc.en.jsp

https://www.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/studium_fb20/im_studium/studiengaenge_liste/aim_msc.en.jsp

The M.Sc. Informatik is not the only Master’s program the TU Darmstadt offers in the field of computer science. Let’s talk about the other ones shortly.

- ▶ M.Sc. Informatik (German), see above
- ▶ M.Sc. IT Security (English)
Focuses on topics design, programming and implementation of security systems in information technology. It has a very good reputation due to the proximity to Fraunhofer SIT and the focus in Darmstadt.
- ▶ M.Sc. Computer Science (English)
Similar but not identical to the German Informatik Master program. You have to select one of the three predefined specializations. Designed for international students.
- ▶ M.Sc. Autonome Systeme und Robotik (German)
Due to the close cooperation with other relevant departments of the TU Darmstadt, the study program offers a particularly diverse range of courses. Additional offerings come primarily from electrical and information engineering, as well as mechanical engineering.
- ▶ M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (English)
Focuses on Foundations, AI Models and Methods, AI Systems and AI Domains and Application, so basically a lot of “AI” to choose from.

3.3 The University Election

Just as in federal and state politics, the success of university politics depends decisively on people getting involved.

You can do this in two different ways: either get involved in committees yourself, or simply use the annual university elections in the summer semester to express your voice.

But why vote? Voting is your opportunity to take part in university politics and make a difference. When you vote, you are not just electing a list or a person, you strengthen those who represent you in that body; because there is a difference between having representatives elected by five percent of the students and having representatives elected by 50 percent.

So there is more than one good reason to go to the polls. Nevertheless, we have had improvable participation numbers in the past and have not achieved a turnout above 20% in recent years. That's why it's especially important that you vote. We'll give plenty of notice so you won't miss it.

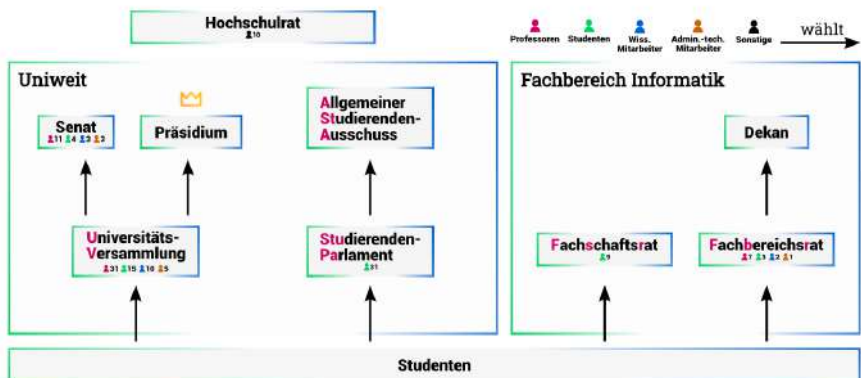


Figure 3.2: [Only available in German] The organization chart of the university policy at the TU Darmstadt. More about the committees can be found in the next chapter.

Groups and committees at the university

4

4.1 Student council, the active student council (D120)

By itself, the term "Fachschaft" stands for all students enrolled in a department (in your case, Computer Science). Usually, however, only a much smaller group is meant when speaking of the student council – the correct term would be the active student council. The active student council consists of students who, in addition to their studies, are involved in the department on an honorary basis and, as far as possible, represent the interests of all computer science students toward professors and other staff. Elected members of the student council sit on most committees in the department and thus have a vote on department policy.

However, the active student council¹ is not a purely political institution. It also organizes and carries out a lot of other volunteer work - including the Ophase for freshmen, the university experience for high school students, the annual summer festival of computer science, and also various smaller activities such as the GnoM — social game nights or the games group.

If you want to know more about the student council, you can get information before you start your studies, for example on the website www.D120.de, named after the number of the student council room in the computer science building. If you are already in Darmstadt beforehand and have questions about your studies (or just want to chat with people who have been here for a while), you are most welcome to stop by in room D120. The location is marked on the back side of this booklet.

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1: www.D120.de

4.1.1 Q&A regarding the Fachschaft

What can the Fachschaft actually do?

If something happens at the Department of Computer Science that has negative effects on your studies or if you have suggestions on how to improve the studying situation or your study program, you can talk to the members of the Fachschaft about it. For example, if something is going wrong in a lecture, e.g. the organization is terrible, you can talk to the Fachschaft, and they can talk to the lecturer about how to improve the situation. This may of course take longer than talking to the lecturer yourself, but this way you can usually stay anonymous. Additionally, the members of the Fachschaft can influence the politics of the department and bring the request to a higher level of the hierarchy if necessary.

Do I have to bring everything that bothers me about a lecture to the Fachschaft?

Of course not. The Fachschaft mainly takes care of larger problems that affect many students or that need a lot of "lobbying" to be solved. If you only have a small issue, it is normally much faster and less complicated to just talk to the lecturer about it yourself.

How can I contact the Fachschaft if I have a severe problem with the studying situation?

There are several ways: Most of the time you can find some members of the Fachschaft in the room of the Fachschaft S2|02 D120. Even if the person available cannot directly help solve your issue, they can usually tell you who you should talk to or inform the rest of the Fachschaft about it. If you don't want to go to D120 personally or simply aren't able to do so, you can write an e-mail to the mailing list of the Fachschaft: fs@d120.de.

You are mentioning the term "studying situation" all the time. What does the Fachschaft take care of exactly?

The Fachschaft is active in university politics, mainly (but not exclusively) on the departmental level: Three representatives of the students are elected into the departmental council and can influence its decisions. Other members of the Fachschaft are working in subcommittees at the department. For example, the QSL-committee decides on the allocation of money given by the State of Hesse to improve the studying situation. Another example is the committee for teaching and studying (LuSt) which discusses many subjects related to teaching. However, naming and explaining all committees would take way too much space. If you want to see what committees members of the Fachschaft are active in, you can have a look at ².

2: <https://www.d120.de/en/informationen/hochschulpolitik>

That sounds like serious business — is politics the only thing the Fachschaft does?!

University politics is an important part of the work done by the Fachschaft, but not the only thing. Apart from the activities mentioned above, there is a lot more that the Fachschaft organizes entirely or is at least partly responsible for. You are experiencing the most obvious one right now: The orientation phase is organized by the Fachschaft, and many of the tutors are our members. This booklet you are reading right now was also written and is regularly updated by the Fachschaft.

Additionally, the Fachschaft organizes the evaluation of the lectures each term and analyses the results. But the Fachschaft is also responsible for leisure time activities: Each year, the Fachschaft organizes the summer party and a St. Nicholas party and the Fachschaft also organizes the regular game evening Games no Machines (GnoM) and RPGnoM, which are explained in the leisure part of this booklet. There are even more activities organized by the Fachschaft. You can

get an overview at: ³.

3: <https://www.d120.de/en/students/>

The word "organized" is in almost every sentence! Don't you need a lot of people for all these activities?

Yes! A lot of people are needed and there are not enough to keep all this running. The entire work is done voluntarily, and only a few students are motivated to invest some time into these things, as studying alone already takes up a lot of time. But imagine what your studies would be like if there was no orientation phase or nobody would try to ensure that bad lectures have to be improved. Also thanks to the work of the Fachschaft over the last years and decades, the studying situation is as good as it is. But there is still plenty of room for improvement. A problem often not seen by normal students is that the members of the Fachschaft are students, too, who at some point finish their studies and leave the university. Because of that, the Fachschaft always needs new members.

With this much work to do, is it no surprise that people are discouraged from helping?

That is a very one-sided view. Of course, there is a lot to do, but on the other side, this work can be split up into many small pieces if more people are helping. And there are also many small or one-time activities to be done that require some helping hands and don't need those helpers to get a deeper understanding of any subject handled by the Fachschaft.

Really? And how do I get to know about these events so that I may help sometime?

There are several ways to get information about these events. You can always ask members of the Fachschaft in room S2|02 D120 about current activities. If you want to get a deeper understanding of the work done by the Fachschaft, then the meeting of the Fachschaft is a good place, taking place every Wednesday at 18:00 in B002 in the Piloty Building. In these meetings, all currently important topics are discussed. Please note that these meetings are primarily held in German.

Other possibilities to get informed are the web page of the Fachschaft⁴ or our social media accounts⁵. If you want to participate from time to time in a certain area, you can also register yourself on one of the mailing lists. An overview can be found here⁶.

4: <https://d120.de>

5: <https://d120.de/social-media>

6: <https://www.d120.de/mailman/listinfo>

4.2 The general student committee of the TU (AStA)



Figure 4.1: The owl represents the AStA here at the TU.

The general student committee (AStA) is the highest representation of all students at the university level. In addition, it is the point of contact for problems and offers students a range of services and advice.

Tasks of the AStA

The tasks of the AStA are manifold and are derived from the tasks of the student body:

- ▶ The representation of the totality of its members within the scope of its legal authority.
- ▶ Looking after the university-political interests of its members.
- ▶ Looking after the economic and social interests of the students. The responsibility of the Studierendenwerk (StuWe) or other institutions remains unaffected.
- ▶ The cultivation of supra-regional and international student relations.
- ▶ The promotion of political education and the sense of responsibility of students for their role as citizens. This includes fostering a scientifically sound, critical understanding by students of their present and future activities and the role of science and technology in society.
- ▶ The support of cultural and artistic interests of students.

This may all sound very formal and theoretical at first, but in fact, AStA referents work every day to improve the study conditions on campus. For example, the AStA is committed to helping students in social emergencies and is in constant contact with the university administration. With its trades and events, it provides for more cultural offerings in Darmstadt and is also responsible for the semester ticket existing in its current form. As you can see, the AStA has an influence on your everyday life as a student.

Services of the AStA

Besides political engagement, the AStA is responsible for many services. Here is a small selection:

Call a Bike

For all Darmstadt students, the first hour of each ride is free with Deutsche Bahn's "Call a Bike" rental bike system. And this also applies to the whole of Germany! The bikes can easily be borrowed at one station and returned at any other station. There are now over 30 stations in Darmstadt and one is located directly at the Piloty. More about the offer at ⁷.

7: <https://www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de/en/node/1850>

RMV-AStA Semesterticket / Deutschlandticket

Since 2024, the semester ticket includes the Deutschlandticket and thus offers free travel on public transport throughout Germany. The ticket is only available digitally. It is included in the TUDa app and can be integrated into your smartphone wallet. The conditions for this ticket are regularly negotiated by the AStA, which is also your contact for all questions regarding the ticket (e.g. ticket reimbursement for semesters abroad). Please read the information available on the AStA website⁸.

8: <https://www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de/en/benefits/deutschland-semester-ticket>

Consultation

The AStA organises and arranges free initial counselling on many different topics. In detail, these are currently the BAföG and social counselling, the legal counselling by experienced lawyers, the tenancy law counselling, the labour law counselling in cooperation with the DGB and the office hours for international students. If you don't know which of the many counselling centres you should turn to with your problem, then it's best to just ask at one of the AStA offices. You can find information and current office hours at ⁹.

9: <https://www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de/en/node/1464>

Theatre-Cooperation

€0.50 of the semester fee goes to the Staatstheater Darmstadt. In return, each student has the opportunity to get free remaining tickets for theatre, concerts, ballet, operas or musicals at the Staatstheater. You can learn how to do this at ¹⁰.

10: <https://www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de/en/node/61>

Student Businesses

In addition to the services offered, the AStA is also responsible for a variety of businesses, most of which are managed by students. Directly on the Stadtmitte campus you will find the Kulturcafé 806qm and the bicycle workshop 20°. In addition, there is the Schlossgarten (the beer garden on the bastion of the castle) and the Schlosskeller nightclub. The AStA also runs a paper supply store on the Lichtwiese campus.

You can find all further information about the AStA and its other offers on the AStA homepage at ¹¹.

11: <https://www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de>

4.3 University Groups

12: A list of all university groups can be found at https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/universitaet/organisation_verwaltung/studierendenschaft_hochschulgruppen/index.de.jsp

Building a race car, acting, or simply making music together¹² - the student university groups and initiatives of the TU offer a wide range of different possibilities for all interested parties. Just think outside the box, try interesting things, and meet many new people is the motto here. Here are a few selected ones.

4.3.1 Chaos Darmstadt

13: <https://www.chaos-darmstadt.de/>

The Chaos Computer Club Darmstadt is the Darmstadt branch of the CCC. They are made up of a lot of people who like hacking, hardware, software, and other things. They have their clubrooms in Wilhelminenstraße 17 (hence the name "w17")¹³.

4.3.2 Sailing Team Darmstadt

14: <https://www.st-darmstadt.de/>

Technology learns to sail. That is the motto of the Sailing Team Darmstadt. We have set ourselves to accomplish what no one has done before: Developing and building a sailing boat that will cross the Atlantic unmanned and self-sufficient in energy. For this purpose, we work together in interdisciplinary teams that deal with tasks in the fields of energy supply, course finding, electronics, control engineering, mechanics, organization, software, and much more¹⁴.

4.3.3 TU Darmstadt Racing Team (DART)

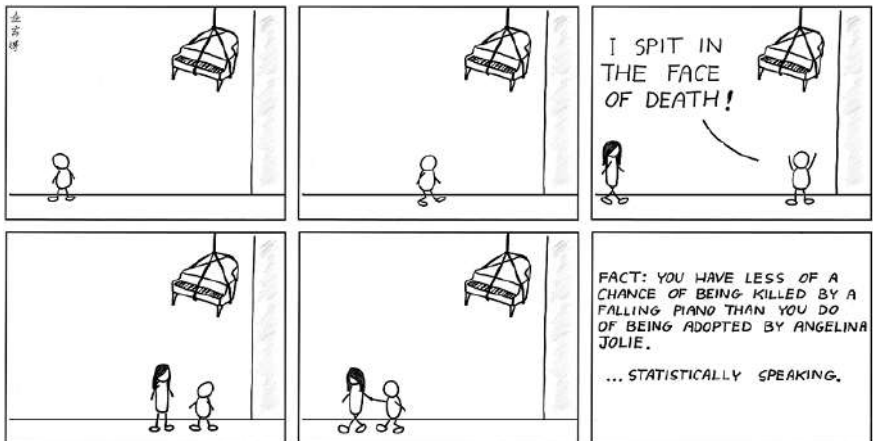
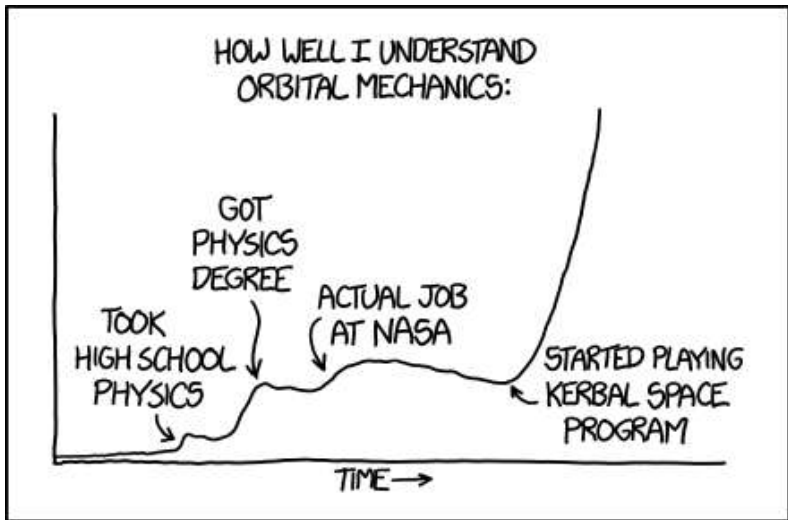
15: <https://www.dart-racing.de/>

The team's goal is to design, manufacture, commission, validate, and operate a racing vehicle at Formula Student competitions within one year. The goal is to prevail against strong competition from Germany and abroad. In the past, the club has already participated in numerous competitions, including Hockenheim/Germany, Spielberg/Austria, Barcelona/Spain, Assen/Netherlands, and other smaller racetracks¹⁵.

4.3.4 TUDSaT

16: <https://tudsat.space/>

SPACE! Do I have to say more?¹⁶



4.4 Facilities at the TU Darmstadt

In this article, you will learn about some of the most important facilities at TU Darmstadt.

Departments and fields of study

Numerous scientific disciplines and engineering fields, organized into various departments and fields of study, are present at the TU Darmstadt. There are 13 departments with numbers ranging from 1 to 20. For example, department 1 for law and economic science, department 18 for electrical engineering, and department 20 for computer science. Some numbers are unassigned, for example, there is no department 19. Additionally, a field of study, such as Computational Engineering, is built around a single study program. These are much smaller than the departments, and their scientific profile is more narrow than that of a department.

Departments and fields of study are at the top level of the organizational structure. Each department again is divided into several research groups that focus on a specific area of their department's scientific profile. But even those research groups may be divided into smaller groups that consist of a group leader and their assistants.

The head of each department is the Dean, a professor of the department. He is the director of the department and head of the Dean's office, which administrates and publicly represents the department. Additionally, there is a Dean of Studies who is responsible for the administration of teaching and therefore often more important for students.

Administration and Presidium

The university may be divided into different departments with their own rules and structures, but they still form one large structure. Similar to the deans of the departments, there is a formal head of the university – the president, who heads the presidium. The latter consists of eight parts (dt.: Dezernate), each of which is responsible for a part of the administration. Dezernat II for example is responsible for examinations and coordinates exam dates and rooms for all departments.

Another part of the administration is the Office of Student Affairs, which is the first contact point for students' administrative issues, for example, if your address changes or you need attestation by the university. Even more interesting for you is the International Office that you may already have made contact with. They take care of international students and also offer specialized assistance.

Service units

There are more service units for students: The HRZ is responsible for administrating the IT infrastructure of the university and the e-Learning centre which offers recordings of lectures. You can also rent projectors and screens there.

While not a part of the university, the Studierendenwerk Darmstadt (Darmstadt student services organization) is still highly important. It runs the cafeterias and most student residential establishments. They also offer assistance in many ways, like legal advice, psychological services, and specialized services for international students like ComeTUgether. Another facility is the University Sports Center which offers a lot of courses for students.

Last but not least, there is the university and state library, which serves as a library for the university but also as the main archive for the State of Hesse.

Research

Apart from the research and teaching performed at TU Darmstadt, there are several research facilities which are not part of the university, but in some ways associated with it. Some of them offer practical labs and other university courses, jobs for students, as well as cooperation on research subjects. For us computer scientists, the Fraunhofer Institutes for Computer Graphics Research (IGD) and for Secure Information Technology (SIT), as well as the Center for Advanced Security Research Darmstadt (CASED) are of most interest.

Technically Untalented, the IT systems of the TU Darmstadt

5

TUCaN, Moodle, ... – in the first weeks of your studies in Darmstadt you will often not know what to do with all the web portals at the TU and the Department of Computer Science. Here we will explain which portal can do what and how you can find your way around them, at least in the beginning. Also, which other IT systems the university offers, and who exactly offers them.

5.1 HRZ and ISP

The ISP (Infrastructure and Student Pool Service) maintains much of the IT infrastructure in the Robert Piloty Building and for Computer Science at TU. It provides many services for departments and students, including operating about 15 servers and more than 100 pool computers that are regularly maintained and updated.

The University Computing Centre (HRZ) provides IT services similar to the ISP, but these are for the entire university. However, it offers a lot more than the ISP.

Account

An HRZ account consists of the TU-ID and the corresponding password. It is activated with the password printed on the enrolment certificate and provides access to most IT systems at TU Darmstadt. An e-mail box is also linked to this account. Instructions for the setup are available at <https://d120.de/acc-en>.

All students of Computer Science as well as other courses with a computer science component (such as CE, iST, EIt) can apply for an ISP account to use the services of the ISP. The username corresponds to the TU-ID. The account remains active for one semester and must be renewed regularly.

Services of the HRZ

One of the most important tasks of the HRZ is the area-wide supply of the campus with Wi-Fi. Eduroam is available at many European universities and can also be used there with the TU Darmstadt's access. To access the network from off-campus, for example, to read e-books from the library or to view internal websites, one must connect via the VPN.

Furthermore, the HRZ provides the Athena card. It currently offers the possibility of cashless payment in the dining halls and bistros of the Studierendenwerk and serves as a reader's card for the

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University and State Library. It can be used to pay for print jobs at the pool printers, and the Filmkreis also uses it as a cashless means of payment at the university cinema.

5.2 The TU-ID

e.g. **hp42hexy**
<http://www.hrztu-darmstadt.de/tuid>

The TU-ID is a combination of letters and numbers. With your TU-ID, you identify yourself in the network of the TU Darmstadt. With your TU-ID you have access to TUCaN, to the PC pools of the HRZ (important: for the PC pools of the Computer Science department, a different login is required), to the Wi-Fi of the TU Darmstadt, to the learning platforms of the AG E-Learning as well as to internal websites and other services, such as GitLab or ShareLaTeX.

5.3 TUDa App

Many of the IT services listed below are bundled in the TUDa app, which is available in the App Store and Play Store. The app also contains the digital student ID (dt. Studierendenausweis) and your semester ticket, which is why you should install it and set it up. You can find instructions on how to set it up at d120.de/acc-en and a list of its features and links to the app stores at www.app.tu-darmstadt.de

5.4 TUCaN



Figure 5.1: As many of you will discover during your studies, TUCaN is not the clearest or best tool for student affairs.
<https://www.tucan.tu-darmstadt.de/>

Let's start with the most important things first: TU CampusNet (TUCaN for short) is the web portal through which most of your study progress is managed. This implies in principle that you should see this portal mainly as an administration tool. TUCaN is based on the fact that the order of every single study program that exists at the university (in your case computer science, see the corresponding article) is stored in it, and from this data the modules and exams that you have to take during your studies can be read out or modified by the examination offices.

This sounds very abstract at first, but the principle of operation is quite simple: Your studies are organized in so-called modules, which in computer science mainly consist of a lecture or integrated course and an examination, often also with an exercise or a course credit.

To be able to take an exam in a module, i.e. to ultimately receive a grade and credit points for a course, you must first register in TUCaN for the corresponding module. Only then can you register for the lectures and exercises contained in the module in the same way. Once this has been done and the registration period for exams has started, you can register for the exam.

Although event registration and cancellation are the most important functions of TUCaN, they are not the only ones. Through TUCaN, you can view your achievements in your studies so far under Leistungsspiegel. Very useful is also the course catalog (VV) integrated into TUCaN, where you can find all courses offered in the current semester with many details and most of the relevant dates. The VV is the most important tool when it comes to compiling your schedule.

5.5 Moodle

In contrast to TUCaN, Moodle is not an administration platform, but a learning platform. The purpose of Moodle is not so much to manage studies, but rather to offer lecturers a way to make content available to students and to make teaching more interactive, even away from the actual lectures and exercises (e.g. through integrated forums). At the TU Darmstadt, however, there is not THE Moodle. Some departments have their own Moodle, and there is also the university-wide TU-Moodle¹. The Moodle at the Department of Computer Science is officially called "Learning Portal Computer Science"².

Not surprisingly, there is no uniformity in which Moodle instance is used. So it may well happen that the exercises of one course are organized via the Learning Portal Computer Science, while another course makes its materials available in the TU-Moodle.

However, the basic structure of these portals is the same: Once you have registered (usually with your TU-ID and the corresponding password), you can register for courses, a few of which may still be secured by passwords, which you usually learn in the first lecture of the corresponding subject. If a lecturer has created a course in TU-Moodle, you will automatically be registered for this course when you register for the corresponding course in TUCaN.

5.6 Eduroam und VPN

At the TU, it is possible to use the Wi-Fi via eduroam almost everywhere. In the IDM portal³, you can create up to three "Wi-Fi accounts". With each of these Wi-Fi accounts, you can log in with one device. It is recommended to use only one device per account. By the way: With eduroam, you can also use the internet infrastructure at many other universities worldwide.

Furthermore, you can set up a VPN to be able to access resources of the TU from outside. Instructions for different devices and operating systems can be found at⁴.



Figure 5.2: The two Moodle instances of the TU Darmstadt

1: <https://moodle.tu-darmstadt.de/>

2: <https://moodle.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/>

1: also called the "wrong Moodle" among computer scientists

2: also called the "correct or true Moodle"

3: <https://www.idm.tu-darmstadt.de>

4: <https://www.hrztu-darmstadt.de/services/it-services/vpn/index.en.jsp>

5.7 ShareLaTeX

If you ever want to write e.g. assignments nicely, but don't want to install tons of software locally, or just want to work together with other people on the same TeX(t), ShareLaTeX is the perfect solution for you. ShareLaTeX is a web application for collaborative work on L^AT_EX projects. With your TU-ID you automatically have access to the ShareLaTeX instance of the HRZ⁵. There you can create projects and share them with other users via link or personally by entering their mail address.

5: <https://sharelatex.tu-darmstadt.de/project>

5.8 next.Hessenbox

The next.Hessenbox⁶ of the TU Darmstadt is a privacy-friendly cloud with extensive functions. It can be useful for collaborating on Office documents; students have 30 GB of free storage there. Before using it for the first time, you have to activate your storage space once in the IDM portal⁷ and accept the terms of use.

6: <https://next.hessenbox.de/>

7: <https://www.idm.tu-darmstadt.de>

5.9 Papercut

In the computer science PC pools, students have 50 free pages per month that they are allowed to print. To manage and control printing and copying activities, we use Papercut⁸ (TU VPN needed). Instructions can be found on the ISP⁹ pages.

8: <https://print.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/>
9: <https://support.rbg.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/wiki/de/doku/computerhilfe/drucker/papercut>

5.10 GitLab

GitLab is a web-based platform for source code version management and collaboration on software projects. It is one of the best-known alternatives to GitHub and, unlike the latter, can be self-hosted. In the case of TU Darmstadt, we share an instance with RWTH Aachen¹⁰.

10: <https://git.rwth-aachen.de/>

5.11 MS Office

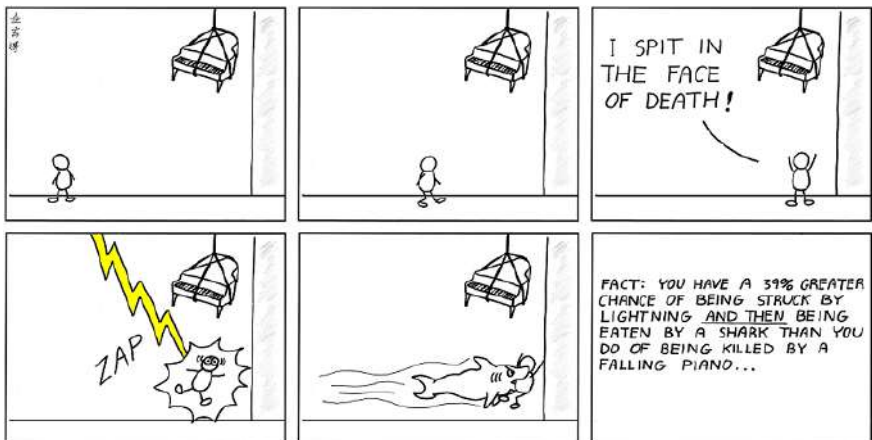
Since you are studying at the TU, you have the opportunity to use the Microsoft Office 365 package free of charge. To do so, you need to set up an account at Microsoft with your student mail address. For detailed links and instructions for download and installation, please refer to the HRZs¹¹ page. Since the license is tied to your studies, all data stored in the cloud and your user account will be automatically deleted upon exmatriculation at the end of your studies.

11: https://www.hrz.tu-darmstadt.de/services/it_services/campus_software/microsoft/microsoft_ees/informationen_studierende/index.de.jsp

5.12 Did I forget something...?

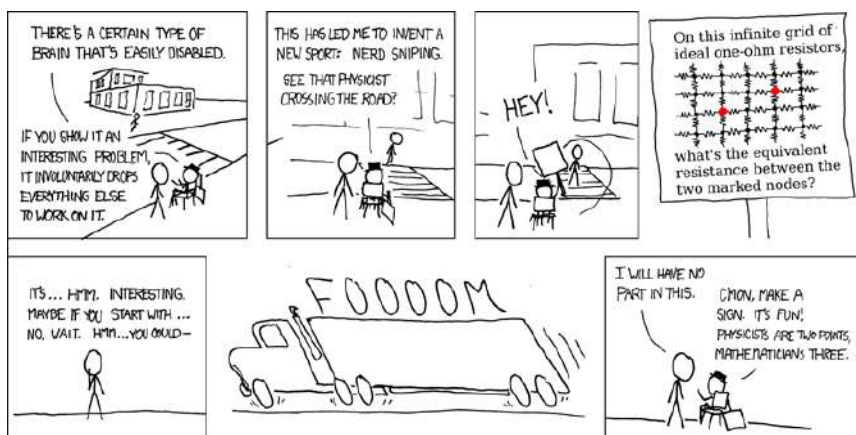
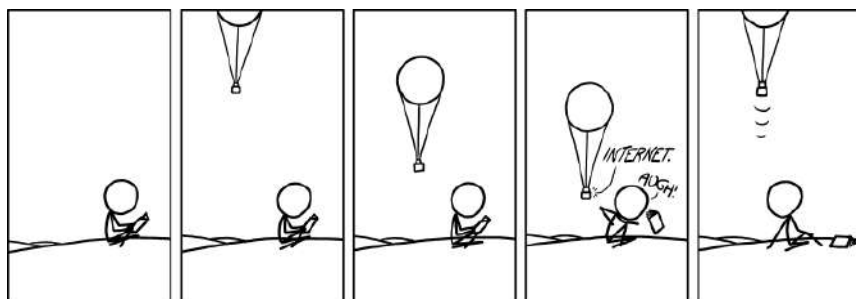
The number of software or services that the university provides is immense, and I have certainly forgotten some in my list. Additionally, some services are more important than others. Nevertheless, here are a few more services offered by the TU.

- ▶ RaumCheck: Check if there are free rooms you can use for learning
<https://rc.tucan.tu-darmstadt.de>
- ▶ OpenLearnware: Collection of some lectures of the TU Darmstadt
openlearnware.de
- ▶ Mensa App: What does the Mensa offer today?
<https://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/hochschulgastronomie/app-in-die-mensa/>



Part III

LIVING IN DARMSTADT



6.1 How to get from A to B

As you will find out relatively quickly, Darmstadt is not particularly large despite its six-digit population, so you can reach a lot of places on foot. Often, however, you don't have time, or it's bad weather, or you want to transport a lot, or you simply don't feel like walking. Therefore, here is some information about the paths in Darmstadt.

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6.1.1 Darmstadt, by public transport

The public transport in Darmstadt is quite well-developed by the HEAG and you rarely have to wait longer than 15 minutes. Due to the central hubs, such as the central station or the Luisenplatz, it is often easy to get to your destination with few changes and even if the Luisenplatz with its stops looks a bit confusing at first, it does not take long to understand the system. At night, there is a star service in Darmstadt, i.e. all lines meet at Luisenplatz every half hour to allow easy transfers. And the trams also run late into the night, so you rarely get stuck anywhere.

A route map of Darmstadt can be found at the end of the chapter. Or under <https://www.heagmobilo.de/de/liniennetzplaene>

6.1.2 Call-A-Bike

Students have the possibility to use the Call-A-Bike service¹ of the DB and this even partly for free, if it is only for smaller routes. Otherwise, you can also get around Darmstadt quite well by bike, although I would advise against the Kasinostraße. In many places, the city is building bike lanes or protective lanes, but I would not describe Darmstadt as a bicycle city or particularly bike friendly.

1: <https://www.asta-tu-darmstadt.de/de/angebot/call-a-bike>

6.1.3 With the car

Darmstadt is not the friendliest city for drivers, parking spaces especially in the city centre are rare and either expensive or reserved for residents only. You might be luckier if you look for a parking space outside the city centre. Otherwise, the streets are quite crowded, especially during rush hour.

6.2 Living in Darmstadt

With the beginning of your studies, a good part of your life will shift to the university. That is where all your events take place, where you meet your fellow students, where you learn, and maybe even where you spend some of your free time at the various activities that are offered in Darmstadt (some of which are also offered at the university).

To avoid spending too much time commuting to and from the university, it makes sense to move to Darmstadt or the surrounding area. This also means less stress if you have early lectures or want to go out partying with fellow students in the evening or on the weekend. Unfortunately, Darmstadt is an expensive place for students when it comes to the cost of living. Especially the rent prices can be very steep. If you apply early, you have a good chance of getting a place in one of the 13 student dormitories in Darmstadt, which are run by the Studierendenwerk ² and are usually the cheapest place to live. However, the rooms are mostly quite small and in most cases you share the kitchen and bathroom with several other rooms in a hall-way or shared flat. In most cases, electricity and internet are already included. You can apply for dormitory rooms online ³, but in some cases it also helps to visit the dormitory administration in person: In some dormitories there are shared flats with self-occupancy, in which the tenants already living there decide who can move in. The housing administration knows in which such shared flats there are still vacancies and can sometimes arrange contacts directly if you apply in person. Alternatively, you can also look for a private flat share or start a flat share together with friends or fellow students. Shared rooms are relatively easy to find, even in Darmstadt, as there are a lot of relevant internet portals (among others ^{4, 5, 6, 7}), through which many shared flats are looking for flatmates. But you can also find rooms offline because there are public bulletin boards in many places at the university, where you can often find notices about rooms in shared flats. Most rooms in shared flats are also affordable for students and are similar to rooms in dormitories.

One thing you often come across in shared flat offers *student connections* (dt. *Studentenverbindungen*). These associations usually bear self-designations such as corps, fraternities (dt. *Burschenschaften*), gymnasts (dt. *Turnerschaften*) or singers (dt. *Singerschaften*)' societies and are organized differently than simple shared flats. Fraternities have usually existed for quite some time and can offer contacts to the higher ranks of various industries, for example, through alumni who are still associated with the groupings. But beware: Those who join a fraternity must adapt to the lifestyle and traditions of the fraternity in question. This sometimes includes mandatory fencing matches (the so-called "beating") or other initiation rituals. Women are also not accepted as members by almost every fraternity. Therefore, before joining a fraternity, one should first learn about its customs.

2: <https://studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/wohnservice/>

3: <https://service.studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/t11/>

4: <https://www.wg-gesucht.de>

5: <https://housinganywhere.com/de/s/Darmstadt--Deutschland>

6: www.kleinanzeigen.de/

7: www.immobilienscout24.de

Those who think that shared flats are too sociable or who at least prefer to have a bathroom and kitchen to themselves can also look for a private single flat or a small flat. However, the prices for these are usually significantly higher than those of a shared flat or dormitory room and usually start at 500 euros per month. Also, small flats and single rooms especially for students are often offered on the Internet, a relatively productive source of offers here are local or regional newspapers (such as ⁸). Often you can also get good offers if you invest about 25 euros and place a flat search ad. This is at least much cheaper than using an estate agent, who usually charges several months' rent as a commission, but those who can afford it, can find a place to live quite reliably and quickly.

8: <https://www.echo-online.de>

By the way, it can also help to look for flats not only in Darmstadt's city centre. Most districts (Bessungen, Eberstadt, Arheilgen, Kranichstein), as well as the neighbouring community of Griesheim, are excellently connected to the city centre by tram and there are also good connections to Darmstadt from Pfungstadt, Weiterstadt, Mühlthal, Ober-Ramstadt and Erzhausen. A little further away are Dieburg, Langen, Bensheim, Frankfurt and Heppenheim. Darmstadt can also be reached relatively well by train from these places, but the journey times are then somewhat longer. Do remember to also check the frequency of the transportation too as some buses or trains come only once an hour.

6.3 Culinary

Breakfast...

Especially during the lecture-free time, you would like to have breakfast with your fellow students.

Café Chaos is a good place to go here, where you can get fresh rolls until midnight. On the market square, you will find Café Extrablatt and Bäckerei Bormuth - both offer a rich breakfast buffet.

On the other side of the university, there is also the 3klang am Riegerplatz with a top-class Sunday buffet. For a cosy coffee in between, there is also the 221qm (part of the 806qm) directly on the university grounds (entrance on Alexanderstraße).

Something to bite in... If you get hungry at lunchtime, you usually go to the cafeteria, because there you can get good, cheap food. But how to fill your stomach when the cafeteria is already closed, or you just need a change from the cafeteria menu?

In the city centre you have a wide range of alternatives: Kebab stores, Asian snack bars, fast food chains — all hard to miss. Some even have special offers for students.

Even closer to the university are pubs in Lauteschlägerstraße (east of Kantplatz). Behind the Maths Building is the Petri (open only in the evenings) with a beer garden and Bavarian cuisine. The selection is not very large, but the food is good.

For those who prefer vegetarian/vegan cuisine, Café Habibi in Landwehrstraße (directly at Willy-Brandt-Platz) and Pizzaria Mono at Riegerplatz are recommended. Habibi offers a variety of vegetarian and vegan dishes at student prices in a beautiful atmosphere between Darmstadt's old buildings, while Mono impresses with a variety of interesting and good vegan pizzas.

Finally, a real insider tip for soup lovers: Suppkult Elisabeth in Schulstraße.

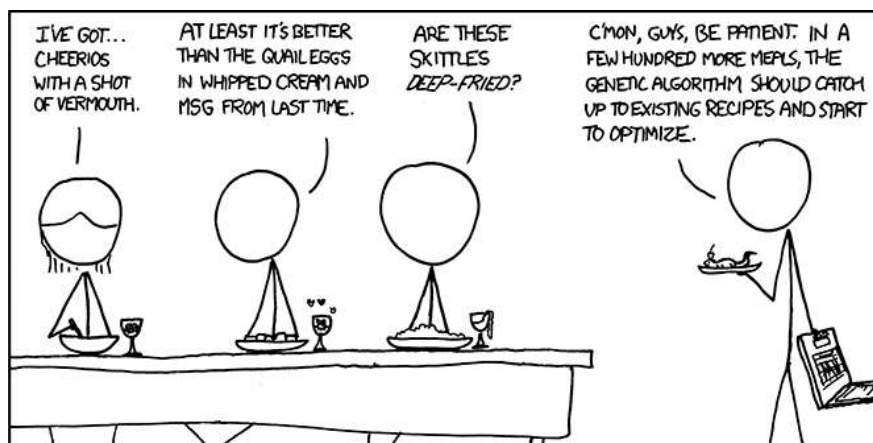
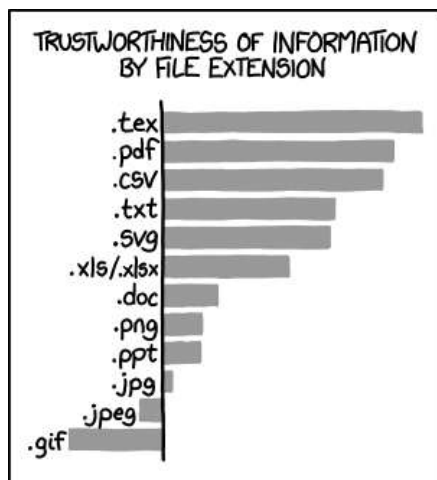
To drink. . . For a beer (or more) in the evening, pubs like the Green Sheep on Erbacher Straße are a good choice. Here you can also get pizza for half price from 6 to 8 pm.

Those who like it less "English" can visit the Schlossgartencafé: it is located directly on the bastion at the castle (over the bridge and then immediately to the right). Another primeval stone of Darmstadt's bar culture is the "Goldene Krone". Here it is always crowded, the atmosphere is always good and there are, besides music and various events, (almost) all-night drinks at reasonable prices.

You can sit outside in the summer in the Lichtwiesn beer garden right next to the Mensa Lichtwiese, as well as in the Darmstadt beer garden on Dieburger Straße.

If you prefer to drink beer directly from the brewery, you have a wide choice in Darmstadt: the Grohe brewery on Nieder-Ramstädter Straße, the Ratskeller on Marktplatz and the Braustüb'l at the main train station are waiting for your visit.

For cocktail lovers, we recommend the Enchilada (Mexican, happy hour until 8 p.m. and cocktail dice on Mondays) on Kasino-straße (Rhein-/Neckarstraße stop). There's also the Havana Bar on Lauteschlägerstraße and Sausalitos (happy hour until 8 pm) near S3|06.



WE'VE DECIDED TO DROP THE CS DEPARTMENT FROM OUR WEEKLY DINNER PARTY HOSTING ROTATION.

The previous pages have dealt with the academic side of studying. But there is another important part of studying: leisure time. It serves as a counterbalance to a strenuous day and provides relaxation so that we can master the next day with renewed strength. It distracts us and thus helps to clear our heads again.

That's why it's so important, especially during tense weeks, to make sure that we have firmly scheduled breaks from work. Learning is important, but it's much easier with a clear head. An internship has to be finished, the deadline is coming up - if you don't delay starting until the last day, you won't have to work on it until midnight.

Good leisure time activities include social gatherings (parties, game nights, etc.) as well as sports activities. The following pages should help you to get to know the different possibilities in Darmstadt and put together the right leisure program for you.

<https://d120.de/f>

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7.1 Just switch off for a while!

Residents find a variety of beautiful places in the city to feel good and relax, which remain undiscovered even by older semesters: In the north, the Bürgerpark directly at the Nordbad, in the south at the Heidelberger Straße; the Prinz-Emil-Garten and the Orangerie; at the Ostbahnhof the Tiergarten Vivarium and the Rosenhöhe.

The Herrngarten, Darmstadt's largest park, on the other hand, cannot be overlooked by computer science students, as it is located directly at the back of the Piloty building. The Mathildenhöhe, with its wedding tower as Darmstadt's landmark and regular art and cultural program, should not remain unknown either.

In summer, open-air swimming pools and lakes promise cooling: In addition to the city's swimming pools, which are best informed about directly online, there are the following recommendations for students: The small university open-air pool right next to the university stadium, to which every student has free admission with a student ID and Wi-Fi coverage on the lawn. If you prefer to swim in the lake, you can go to the Arheilger Mühlchen or the Grube Prinz von Hessen for free. However, both are a bit out of town, and the Große Woog is closer to the university.

7.2 In the Evening

Cinema

1: <http://www.kinos-darmstadt.de>

2: <https://www.filmkreis.de>

In Darmstadt, there are various cinemas¹: The Kinopolis at the train station and the smaller cinemas Helia and Rex near Luisenplatz. As a good alternative to the regular cinema, there are the screenings of the student film circle². As a rule, there are two film screenings every week during the lecture period. There is a short film beforehand, and there is hardly any advertising and no popcorn monopoly - you can bring your own food and drinks.

A ticket costs €2.50. In addition, a membership card must be purchased, which together with the entrance fee still costs less than a normal cinema visit and is valid for one year. It can be purchased directly at the box office before each performance.

If you prefer a breezy atmosphere, you can visit the open-air cinema of the Film Circle in the summer.

Theatre

A visit to the Staatstheater Darmstadt offers a lot of culture. Students who present their student ID receive a discount and, in addition, from three days before the start of the event, the remaining tickets, regardless of price category, are completely free of charge. This means that a visit to the theatre can be significantly cheaper than going to the cinema.

3: <https://www.halbneuntheater.de>
4: <https://www.theatermollerhaus.de>

There is also the halbNeun-Theater³ and the Theater Moller Haus⁴.

Poetry

Definitely worthwhile is a visit to a poetry slam. These take place monthly in the "Goldene Krone" and sometimes also in the Centralstation⁵. If you want to stand in front of an audience yourself, the Krone Slam also offers an open list for newcomers.

5: <https://www.centralstation-darmstadt.de>

Music

In the castle cellar⁶ (in the courtyard of the castle), you can listen to different styles of music. The offer is wide and often you can hear previously unheard. In addition, music events are held here at regular intervals. In the 806qm⁷, right next to the Mensa, there are concerts for the student price in addition to the Café operation during the day in the evening. Both the Schlosskeller and the 806qm are businesses of the AStA, so some of the income goes back to the student body.

6: <https://www.schlosskeller-darmstadt.de>

7: <https://www.806qm.de>

Music and cabaret can be found at the Centralstation (in the courtyard of the City-Carree). Tickets and information about the current program can be found on the website. A similar offer is available at Darmstadt's congress centre, the darmstadttium⁸. If you don't notice the illuminated advertising above the main entrance, you can look up upcoming events on the website.

8: <https://www.darmstadttium.de>

Fans of classical music will get their money's worth with performances by the Merck Philharmonic Orchestra in the regional area, as well as concerts at the State Theatre. From time to time, university groups such as the TU Darmstadt orchestra or the choir also perform there.

Party

If you prefer loud and danceable music, you should have a closer look at the clubs in Darmstadt: Here, there is something for practically every taste — in addition to the Golden Crown near the castle with a very mixed program and the Schlosskeller mentioned above, there is also the Steinbruch Rock Theatre in Mühlthal - Nieder-Ramstadt (just outside Darmstadt) for friends of harder music.

Otherwise, as far as parties are concerned, a reference to the Partyamt⁹ is almost sufficient: Almost all current parties and events are listed here. You can also find lots of ideas for partying in various culture magazines, such as P-Magazin.

9: <http://www.partyamt.de>

Every year, Darmstadt hosts two big street festivals around the castle: The Heinerfest and the Schloßgrabenfest. The Schloßgrabenfest is characterised above all by many stages on which various types of music are played, while the Heinerfest is the largest and oldest Hessian folk festival.

There are also (albeit smaller) street festivals in Darmstadt's surrounding neighborhoods, and the Palatinate region is not far away with its many wine festivals in late summer.

Services of the Student Council

Games no Machines (GnoM) is the games night of the computer science student council. Here you can sit together with fellow students and try out all kinds of board games, enjoy them, perfect them, or whatever you feel like. You can read more about this in the corresponding article. While GnoM is about board games, its little brother, the RPGnoM, is about pen-and-paper role-playing games. The RPGnoM is the open role-playing evening of the student council and takes place about once a month. It is open to everyone, no matter if you are an experienced role player or a newcomer. In addition to role-playing rounds with various systems, there are also regular discussion rounds and workshops about the hobby. All information and dates can be found in the student council.

7.3 Sport

Those who are competition-oriented tend to prefer ball and martial arts, while those who want to enjoy nature can cycle to Frankenstein Castle or go jogging in the park. Especially for those who are undecided, have a look at the catalog of the Unisport-Zentrum (USZ) - the perfect place to go for active and casual athletes. The Unisport-Zentrum offers all students and employees around 250 sporting

10: https://online-anmeldung.usz.tu-darmstadt.de/sportarten/aktueller_zeitraum

activities in 90 sports per week. From fitness events such as aerobics or sweat-fit to ball sports such as badminton and soccer to the more unusual sports such as unicycle field hockey, canoe polo, underwater rugby, or quidditch, almost everything is represented. The mostly free university sports program is published each semester in a program handout and on the Internet at the address¹⁰, where you can also find online registration for all courses. The University Sports Center also operates its golf practice facility and the Sports and Health Center, a fitness studio for students and employees. In addition to these permanent facilities, individual workshops such as diving or tap dancing are also offered. It's best to just go and sign up shortly after the semester starts, only some special courses require you to pay a small fee in addition. The most popular offer in the past semesters was the university outdoor pool at the university stadium.

In addition, the student sports department holds internal university championships (IHM) every semester in various sports such as soccer, badminton, table tennis, and volleyball. Students interested in competing can also participate in the German University Championships (DHM). You can find the announcements and registration dates on the USZ website (IHM). Unfortunately, some of the offers of the USZ are overcrowded and are really only suitable for getting to know each other. In this case, it is a good idea to join one of the local sports clubs. For reasons of space, we cannot give an overview here, but a short search on the Internet will quickly lead to success here. Often these clubs offer reduced fees for students. If you haven't found what you're looking for yet, Darmstadt has a variety of parks, swimming pools, and other activities to offer, in addition to the ice rink and a climbing forest at the university stadium.

7.4 Sightseeing near Darmstadt

For many of you, Darmstadt will become something like a home for the next years or at least a place where you will stay longer. Therefore, we would like to present you with a few destinations in the vicinity, which are worth visiting. Most of them are even easy to reach with the semester ticket. Due to its position, Darmstadt is located directly between two impressive areas, the Rhine-Main area and the Odenwald. Both offer beautiful places to relax and visit.

- ▶ **Mathildenhöhe:** Directly in Darmstadt and within walking distance is Mathildenhöhe, an artists' quarter in Darmstadt known for its Art Nouveau architecture, the Wedding Tower and the Museum Künstlerkolonie. It is also a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site. Right next to it is the Rosenhöhe with a wonderful park.
- ▶ **Grube Messel:** a UNESCO World Heritage Site near Darmstadt, known for its exceptionally well-preserved Eocene fossils. However, much more interesting in summer can be

the Prince of Hesse Pit ("Grube Prinz von Hessen") between Darmstadt and Messel.

- ▶ **Castle Auerbach:** An imposing castle on a mountain in the Odenwald with a magnificent view and a rich history.
- ▶ **"Felsenmeer" (something like Sea of Rocks)** in the Odenwald: A unique natural spectacle of a cascade of huge boulders down a mountainside. Perfect for more challenging hikes.
- ▶ **Kloster Eberbach:** An impressive former Cistercian monastery in the Rheingau region known for its medieval architecture and wine production.
- ▶ **Nibelungensteig:** A long-distance hiking trail that leads through the Odenwald and takes you through beautiful landscapes, forests and villages.

There are also some beautiful cities around Darmstadt that can be worth a weekend trip:

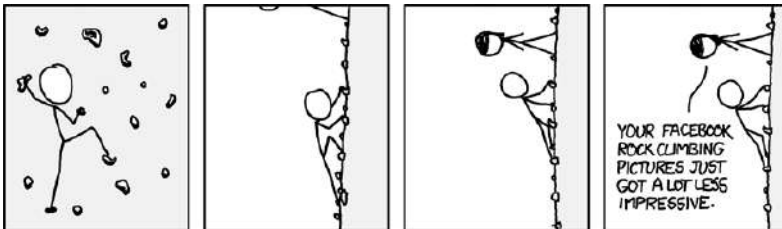
- ▶ **Frankfurt am Main:** Germany's financial capital offers an impressive skyline, and historic sights such as the Römer, the Städel Museum, and the Palmengarten.
- ▶ **Mainz:** Another nearby city on the Rhine, known for its cathedral, Gutenberg Museum, and lively old town.
- ▶ **Michelstadt:** A picturesque little town in the Odenwald with a well-preserved old town, where the famous half-timbered house "Michelstädter Rathaus" is located.
- ▶ **Heidelberg:** A picturesque town on the banks of the Neckar River, known for its historic old town, the famous Heidelberg Castle, and the renowned University.

And finally, here are a few regions where I don't want to name a specific city, I just want to focus on the region itself. Here you can also make different excursions,

- ▶ **Bergstraße:** This region is known for its wine-growing areas and pretty half-timbered villages. It stretches along the Bergstrasse between Darmstadt and Heidelberg.
- ▶ **Odenwald:** A picturesque low mountain range perfect for hiking, biking, and nature exploration. There are charming villages and a diverse landscape here.
- ▶ **Rheingau:** A wine region on the banks of the Rhine, where you can taste excellent wines and enjoy the beauty of the vineyards.
- ▶ **Taunus:** A low mountain range north of Darmstadt that offers a variety of outdoor activities, from hiking and biking to exploring the Saalburg, a reconstructed Roman fortress.



Figure 7.1: The old city center of Heidelberg is always worth a day trip. In small alleys with nice stores you can always find something.



Part IV

NULLPOINTER

8

Important Translations

English to German

ENGLISH	GERMAN
academic achievements	Leistungen
advanced level courses	Vertiefungsveranstaltungen
advisory system	Beratungssystem
basic course	Grundlagenveranstaltungen
category of elective courses	Wahlbereich
category of required courses	Pflichtbereich
category of required elective courses	Wahlpflichtbereich
certificate	Bescheinigung
complete	abschließen
compulsory deregistration	Zwangsexmatrikulation
coursework	Studienleistung
course schedule	Vorlesungsverzeichnis
Dean for Student Affairs, dean of studies	Studiendekan
Dean's Office for Student Affairs	Studiendekanat
degree certificate	Abschlusszeugnis
Department of Computer Science	Fachbereich Informatik
departmental student representative committee, student society	Fachschaft
deregistration	Exmatrikulation
enrollment	Einschreibung
examination achievement	Prüfungsleistung
Examination Committee	Prüfungskommission
Examination Office	Prüfungssekretariat / Studienbüro
Examination Plan	Prüfungsplan
examination regulations	Prüfungsordnung
fellow student	Kommilitone
graduate	Studium abschließen
implementation terms	Ausführungsbestimmungen
in German language only	nur in deutscher Sprache vorhanden
include	einbringen
International & External Affairs Office	Referat Internationale Beziehungen
introductory course	Einführungsveranstaltung
lecturer	Dozent
list of achievements	Leistungsspiegel

pass an exam	Prüfung bestehen
Team Project Software Development	Teamprojekt Softwareentwicklung (TPSE)
preliminary ...	vorläufige Anerkennung
preponed Master courses	vorgezogene Masterleistungen
office hour	Sprechstunde
Office of Student Affairs	Studierendensekretariat
Office of Study Programs and Examination	Studienbüro
orientation days	Orientierungsphase
orientation events	Orientierungsveranstaltungen
register	Registrieren
registration	Anmeldung
registration deadline	Anmeldefrist
registration number	Matrikelnummer
report	Zeugnis
required course	Pflichtveranstaltung
required elective course	Wahlpflichtveranstaltung
semester on leave	Urlaubssemester
service for other departments	Service für andere Fachbereiche
special courses	Spezialveranstaltungen
special terms attached to the Learning Agreement	Nebenvereinbarung
Student Advisory Service	Studienberatung
studies	Studium
study program	Studiengang
subject classification	Zuordnung
take an exam	Prüfung absolvieren
thesis	Abschlussarbeit
to transfer credits	anerkennen
transfer of credit(s)	Anerkennung

German to English

GERMAN	ENGLISH
abschließen	complete
Abschlussarbeit	thesis
Abschlusszeugnis	degree certificate
anerkennen	to transfer credits
Anerkennung	transfer of credit(s)
Anmeldefrist	registration deadline
Anmeldung	registration
Ausführungsbestimmungen	implementation terms
Teamprojekt Softwareentwick- lung (TPSE)	Team Project Software Develop- ment
Beratungssystem	advisory system
Bescheinigung	certificate
Dozent	lecturer
einbringen	include
Einführungsveranstaltung	introductory course
Einschreibung	enrollment
Exmatrikulation	deregistration
Fachbereich Informatik	Department of Computer Science
Fachschaft	departmental student representa- tive committee, student society
Grundlagenveranstaltungen	basic course
Kommilitone	fellow student
Leistungen	academic achievements
Leistungsspiegel	list of achievements
Matrikelnummer	registration number
Nebenvereinbarung	special terms attached to the Learning Agreement
Orientierungsphase	orientation days
Orientierungsveranstaltungen	orientation events
Pflichtbereich	category of required courses
Pflichtveranstaltung	required course
Prüfung absolvieren	take an exam
Prüfung bestehen	pass
Prüfungskommission	Examination Committee
Prüfungsleistung	examination achievement
Prüfungsordnung	examination regulations
Prüfungsplan	Examination Plan
Prüfungssekretariat	Examination Office
Referat Internationale Beziehun- gen	International & External Affairs Office
Registrieren	register
Service für andere Fachbereiche	service for other departments
Spezialveranstaltungen	special courses
Sprechstunde	office hour
Studienberatung	Student Advisory Service

Studienbüro	Office of Study Programs and Examination / Examination Office
Studiendekan	Dean for Student Affairs / Dean of Studies
Studiendekanat	Dean's Office for Student Affairs
Studiengang	study program
Studienleistung	coursework
Studierendensekretariat	Office of Student Affairs
Studium	studies
Studium abschließen	graduate
Urlaubssemester	semester on leave
Vertiefungsveranstaltungen	advanced level courses
vorgezogene Masterleistungen	preponed Master courses
Vorlesungsverzeichnis	course schedule
vorläufige Anerkennung	preliminary ...
Wahlbereich	category of elective courses
Wahlpflichtbereich	category of required elective courses
Wahlpflichtveranstaltung	required elective course
Zeugnis	report
Zuordnung	subject classification
Zwangsexmatrikulation	compulsory deregistration

9

Abbreviations/Dictionary

Explanations of some popular and common abbreviations at the TU Darmstadt. For all who want to look up many important things once again.

APB	Allgemeine Prüfungsbestimmungen. General examination regulations are the set of rules according to which you may and must write your examinations.
AStA	Allgemeine Studierendenausschuss. The General Student Committee is elected by the student parliament and has various departments (social affairs, student bodies, foreigners, etc.). It makes university policy and is responsible for many services and businesses such as the Schlosskeller.
B.Sc.	Bachelor of Science. Meanwhile, the first university degree.
CE	Computational Engineering. A program of study in computer science, mathematics, mechanical and electrical engineering.
c.t.	cum tempore. The famous academic quarter of an hour that some courses start later than advertised. At the TU Darmstadt, however, s.t. usually applies.
EH	Evangelische Hochschule Darmstadt.
ESG	Evangelische Studierendengemeinde. The Protestant Student Community offers courses and recreational activities not only for Protestants here at the TU Darmstadt and maintains its own student dormitory
FB	Fachbereich. This abbreviation stands for department. There are 13 different departments at the TU Darmstadt. Each department is assigned a number. So you get from FB 4, the mathematics, your mathematics lecture. Computer science has the highest number (FB 20).
FBR	Fachbereichsrat. In the departmental council, professors, staff and students decide on decisions and orientation of the department.
FIfF	Forum InformatikerInnen für Frieden und gesellschaftliche Verantwortung e.V. Roughly translates to Forum Computer Scientists for Peace and Social Responsibility e.V.
FS	Fachschaft. The student council is usually equated with the students who are involved in the department in some way. Formally, however, all students of a department belong to the student council.
FSK	Fachschaftenkonferenz. The Student Councils meets once a month to discuss and decide on interdepartmental issues.
FSR	Fachschaftsrat. The Student Council is the body of the student body elected by you. It meets regularly on Wednesdays at 6 pm in the Robert Piloty Building.
GnoM	Games no Machines is the name of the computer science department's games night without computer games.
h_da	Hochschule Darmstadt.
HDA	Hochschuldidaktische Arbeitsstelle. The University Didactics Office teaches student tutors the pedagogical tools of the trade and also advises on papers, Bachelor's and Master's theses. We do our feedback (evaluation of courses) together with the HDA.

HRZ	Hochschulrechenzentrum. The University Computer Center provides computing power to non-computer scientists and WiFi to all members of the TU. It manages the Athene card and connects the TU Darmstadt to the Internet.
ISP	ISP stands for infrastructure and student pool service.
KIF	Konferenz der Informatikfachschaften. The conference of computer science departments from German-speaking countries takes place once a semester.
KHG	Katholische Hochschulgemeinde. The Catholic University Community maintains a student dormitory and organizes seminars.
LiWi/LW	On the Lichtwiese, we computer science students rarely have anything to do. In summer, you can sit outside in the beer garden, study and relax.
LZM	Lernzentrum Mathematik. In the Mathematics Learning Center there are scripts, exercises, old exams with sample solutions and advice.
M.Sc.	Master of Science. Is equivalent to a diploma and also entitles the holder to a doctorate.
Piloty	Robert-Piloty-Building (Building S2 02) = Headquarters and living space of the computer scientists. Note the good protection from sunlight, 1A number of pool computers, and excellent coffee supply.
PO	Prüfungsordnung. The examination regulations govern the contents of the course, the study objectives and much more.
RBG	Rechnerbetriebsgruppe. The Computer Operations Group is responsible for the technical infrastructure in the Department of Computer Science. It was renamed ISP at the beginning of 2014.
RMV	Rhein-Main-Verkehrsverbund
SFK	Studentische Filmkreis. The Student Film Circle is a university group that screens films twice a week in the Audimax.
SS n/SoSe n	The summer semester of the year n.
s.t.	sine tempore. Without academic quarter hour, the course starts on time. Opposite of c.t.
StuPa	Studierendenparlament. Student Parliament
TUCaN	TU-Campus-Net
TUD	Technische Universität Dresden. Technical University of Dresden.
TU Darmstadt	Technische Universität Darmstadt. Technical University of Darmstadt.
ULB	Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Darmstadt. University and State Library Darmstadt. The new building is located between the cafeteria and the old main building.
USZ	Unisportzentrum. The university sports center can be found at the campus university stadium. Here you can register for the mostly free offers or purchase tickets for them.
WS m/n	The winter semester from fall m to spring n.
ZSB	Zentrale Studienberatung. Central Academic Advising. Helps with non-subject-specific study questions.

10 Important Contacts

On this page you will find the addresses of some important institutions. More at www.intern.tu-darmstadt.de/verwaltung/dez_ii/kontakte/index.en.jsp. The area code of Darmstadt (0 61 51) is omitted.

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www.D120.de

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ASTa TU Darmstadt

Stadtmitte: S1|03 62
Hochschulstraße 1
Lichtwiese: L3|01 70
Tel: 16-28360
www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de

Representative for Disability Issues

studium-handicap@tu-darmstadt.de

Complaint Management

feedback@tu-darmstadt.de

Hochschulrechenzentrum

S1|22 101
Tel: 16-71112
www.hrz.tu-darmstadt.de

Examination Office

Alessandra Nesensohn
S2|02 D117
Tel: 16-25507
Office hours: on-site: Tues. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., online: Wed. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.,
by phone: Mon.-Thu. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
studienbuero@informatik.tu-darmstadt.de

Universitätssportzentrum

Lichtwiesenweg 3
Tel: 16-76555
www.usz.tu-darmstadt.de

Studierendenservice

S1|01
Karolinenplatz 5
Tel: 16-26999

Amt für Ausbildungsförderung (BAföG)

Alarich-Weiss-Str. 3
Tel: 16-29958
www.studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de/index.php/de/studienfinanzierung

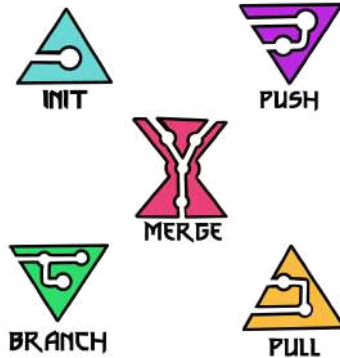
Studierendenwerk Darmstadt

Alexanderstraße 4
Tel: 16-29811, 16-29813
studierendenwerkdarmstadt.de

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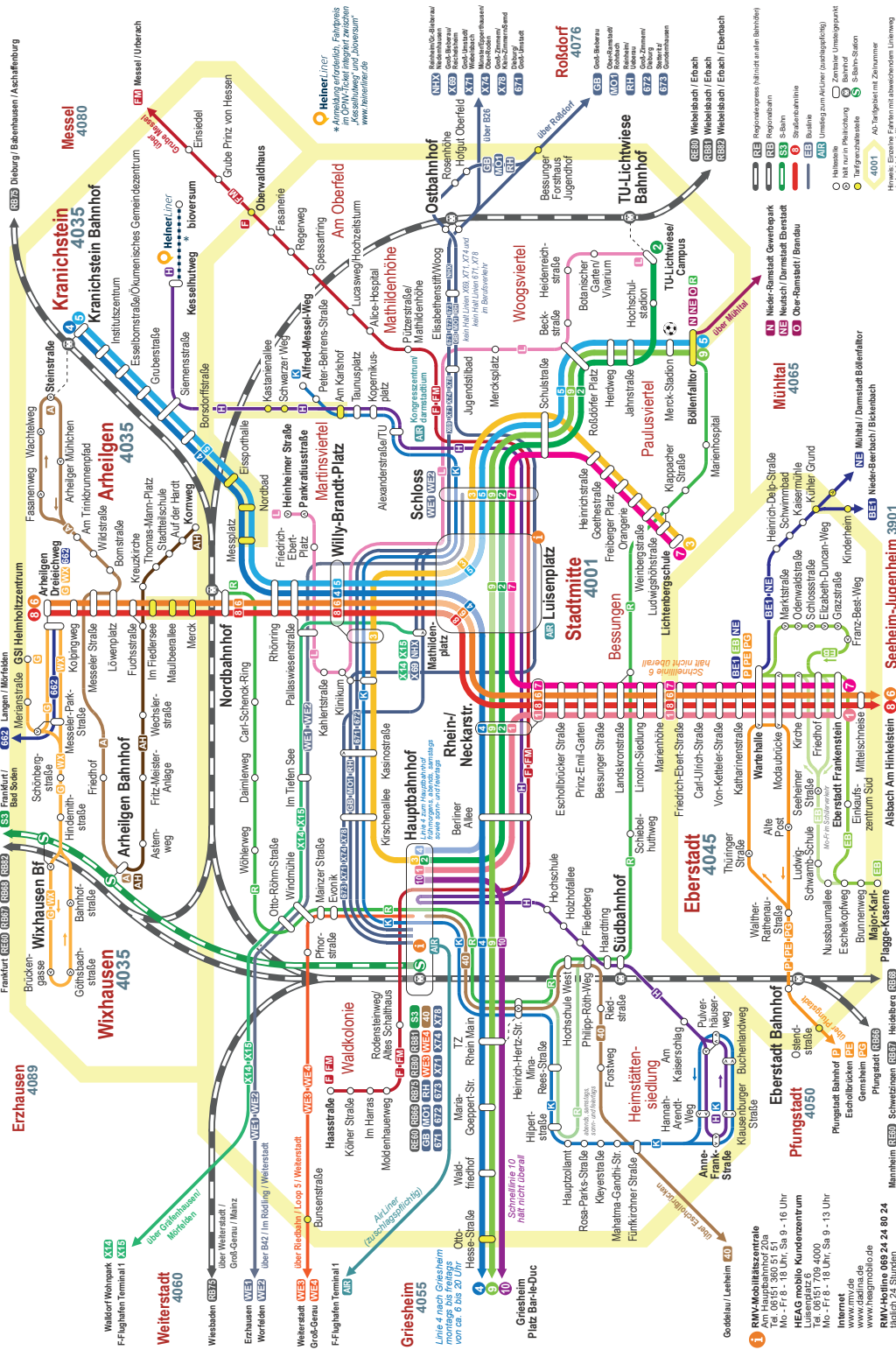
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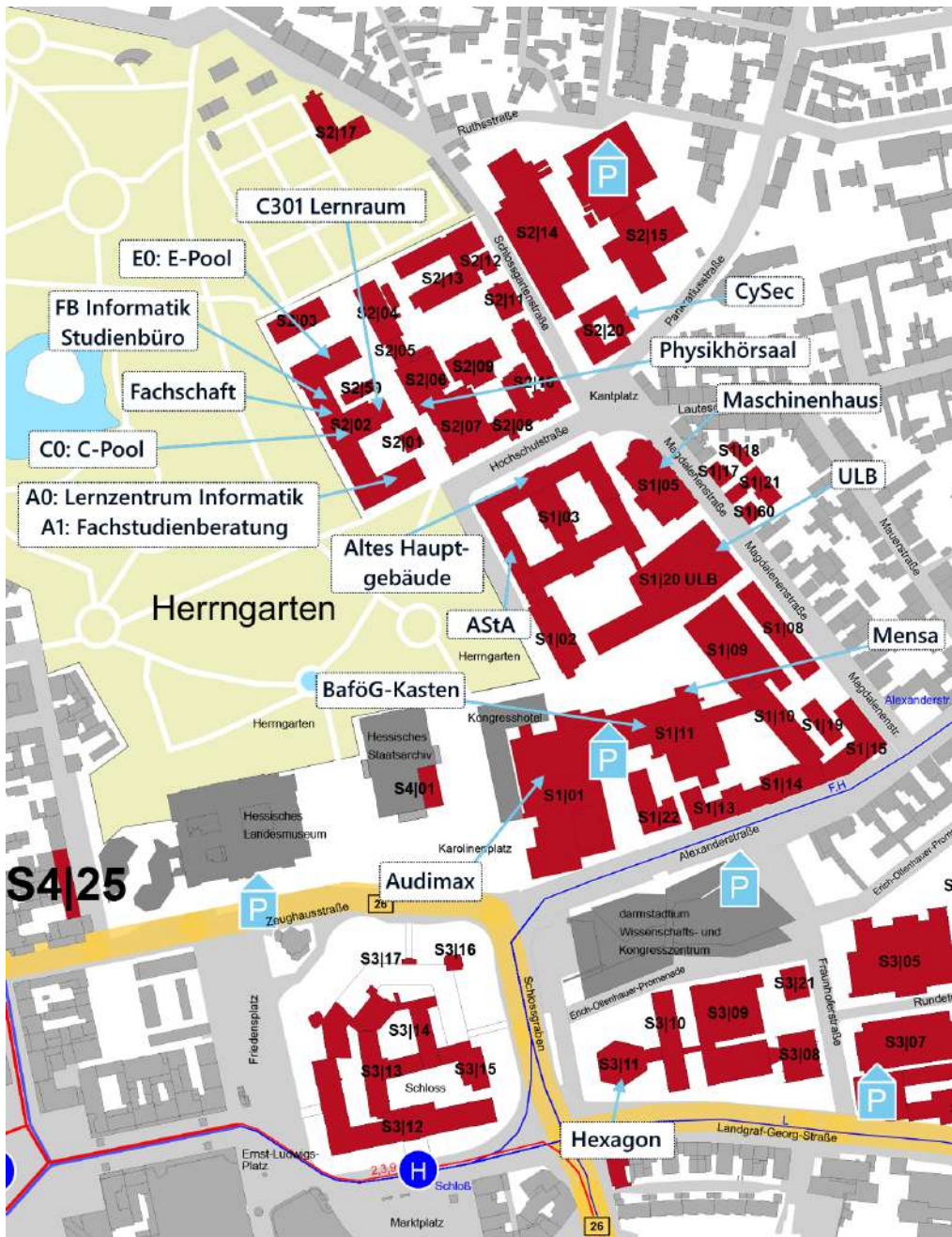
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Masterophase Winter 2025/26

	Wednesday, 08.10.	Thursday, 09.10.	Friday, 10.10.
8			8:30 S2 02 A020 (LZI)
9	9:30 S2 02 A020 (LZI)	9:00 S2 02 A020 (LZI) Breakfast	Breakfast
10	Breakfast & Goodie Bags	9:30 S2 02 C005 (C-Pool) Account Activation (interactive)	10:30 S2 02 C205 Beyond University
11	11:00 S2 02 C205 Welcome Meeting	10:30 S2 02 C205 IT Systems (TUCaN and Moodle)	11:00 S2 02 C205 Compl. and Improvement Mgmt, Language Center, Gender Equality Office
12	11:45 S2 02 C205 Student Advisory Talk	11:30 S2 02 C205 IT Infrastructure (ISP and HRZ)	12:00 S2 02 C205 Studying Abroad
13	13:00 Mensa Lunch	12:00 S2 02 C205 Lightningground-Talks	12:00 S2 02 C205 Studying Abroad
14	14:30 S2 02 C205 Master and PhD Panel (with Q&A)	13:00 Mensa Lunch	13:00 S2 02 C205 Feedback & Closing
15	16:00 S2 02 A020 (LZI) Get-Together	14:00 S2 02 C205 Student Council & AstA	13:30 S2 02 A020 (LZI) Master-BBQ
16	17:00 S2 02 A020 (LZI)	14:30 S2 02 C205 Intercultural Talk: „How to Germany?“	15:30 S2 02 Foyer University and City Tour
17	GnoM	16:00 S2 02 C205 Unirallye	open end
18	18:00 karo5 Info Market		open end
19	open end	19:00 S2 02 C205 Bar Tour	20:00 Goldene Krone FB20 Party
20	open end	open end	open end

Legend

Department Event	New at the TU Darmstadt	
Leisure Activity	New in Germany	Optional Event