The data science Master degree
Data & Knowledge Engineering (MDKE)

Myra Spiliopoulou (Studies Coordinator)
Research focus:
- Learning methods for streams and time series with gaps
- Cost-aware feature acquisition

Application areas:
- Treatment outcome prediction
- Phenotyping
- Prediction in mHealth apps

Teaching:
- Data mining
- Recommenders
- Business informatics
- Seminars and projects in subdomains of data science
1. MDKE for data science

2. Planing your MDKE studies

More on:
When to choose modules?

4. Getting Advice
1. MDKE for data science
What do you need to do Data Science?

1. Data
2. Methods
   - to process data – efficiently
   - to learn from data
   - to describe complex objects
   - to present complex objects and what we know on them
3. Business understanding
4. Understand how to match Data with Methods
What do you need to do Data Science?

1. Data

- a social network
- a medical record
- a patient
- a disease
- a bicycle
- a pizza
Data science and MDKE

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Structure of the MDKE

Thematic areas:

Starting: Fundamentals of Data Science [12-18 ECTS]

1. Learning Methods and Models of Data Science [18-36 ECTS]
2. Data Processing for Data Science [18-30 ECTS]
3. Applied Data Science [18-24 ECTS]

and finally: the Master thesis [30 ECTS]
Where to find more information?

Module catalogue of the degree, also known as “Module Hand Book” (MHB)

▶ This is a large PDF document:
  ★ It contains the description of each module we offer in the FIN.
  ★ It contains one section per thematic area of the degree, with all the modules that fit to this area.
  ★ In it, you may find a module more than once! Some modules fit to more than one thematic area.

▶ You find it under
  https://www.inf.ovgu.de/en/Study/Being+a+student/Examination+Office/Study+Regulations.html
  Entry ‘Data & Knowledge Engineering’ (in the middle of the page, left side)

▶ It is updated once per semester ⇒ Choose the most recent one.

and in the LSF
2. Planing your MDKE studies
Planing your MDKE studies

IMPORTANT:
▶ The data science Master DKE has no compulsory modules.
▶ It is up to you to choose the modules in each thematic area.
▶ Obligatory: one Scientific Teamproject and the Master thesis
Planing your MDKE studies

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HOW TO CHOOSE MODULES:
1. Make yourself familiar with the types of modules we offer
   1.1 Lecture (called “Vorlesung”) with Exercises (called “Übung”)
   1.2 Seminar
   1.3 Scientific Teamproject or Teamproject for short, intended for teams;
      is mapped exclusively to the area 'Applied Data Science'
   1.4 Individual project, intended for one student only
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4. Consult your mind and your heart: write down what you are interested in,
   listen to your curiosity, go with your strengths
5. Plan for three semesters, but be ready to re-plan later!

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When you choose modules

► DO NOT choose seminars before attending PPSW, unless you have had a scientific seminar in your previous studies

► DO NOT choose courses that expect background you do not have

► DO NOT assume that you can acquire background knowledge you do not have in parallel to a course that requires this background knowledge

► DO consult the interview video with the teacher, before enrolling to the course

When you assign modules to the thematic areas

► DO NOT use LSF to map courses to areas; use only the Module Handbook

► DO map team projects exclusively to the area 'Applied Data Science' – even if the Module Handbook seems to permit something different!!

► DO NOT ask the teacher to shift your assignment of his/her module to a thematic area that suits you better!!
DOs and DONT’s

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When registering for an exam:

When you register for the examination of a course:
the course is also assigned to a thematic area.

If you do not assign the course to a thematic area per hand,
it is assigned automatically to a default area!

CAUTION

▶ There is an area called 'Additional modules' / 'Zusätzliche Module'.
▶ If a module is assigned to this area, you do not get ECTS for it.
▶ Under some circumstances, the examination registration system assigns a module for you to this area by default and you discover it only when you find that you did not get the ECTS.
▶ and then you cannot change it...

THEREFORE:
ALWAYS choose MANUALLY the thematic area of the module.
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At the end of EACH written exam:

Checklist:

? Did I give my exam paper?
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? Did I assign this exam to the thematic area myself? If NO:
   Tell the teacher IMMEDIATELY.
   Apply for a change to the Examination Office.
   Inform the Studies Coordinator IMMEDIATELY.

and Make sure you do not know what your grade is!
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No guarantees …
BEFORE entering EACH oral exam, including seminar, team project presentation etc:

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Where to find more information?

and from there you follow the links to:

- Entry point for new students
- FAQs for new students
- Support for international students
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Interviews with teachers on their courses under


From that page you reach interview videos, in which teachers elaborate on their courses: what the course is about, what expectations they have from the students, what can the students do after completing the course successfully.
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**Mentors!**

There is an international team of mentors to help you in the start of your studies. Infos on how to reach them from the URLs above.
More on:
When to choose modules?
When to choose which modules?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>1st &amp; 2nd semester</th>
<th>2nd &amp; 3rd semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundamentals of Data Science</strong></td>
<td>PPSW [A]</td>
<td>Fuzzy Systems [S], (L) Advanced Topics in Geometric Mechanics [L+]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data Mining I, Machine Learning [L]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction to Simulation [S]</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wissenschaftliches Rechnen IV &amp; V [L]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Applied Data Science</strong></td>
<td>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Teamproject</strong></td>
<td>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark after the title</td>
<td>Mark before the title</td>
<td>How to read it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Deep Learning [DL]</td>
<td>[DL] Learning Generative Models</td>
<td>'DL' is a competency. The module with the mark '[...]’ after the title delivers this competency; the module with the mark at the right demands this competency. Hence: pass the module that gives the competency before you attempt the module that demands this competency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Database Models [D]</td>
<td>(D) Data Warehouse Technologies</td>
<td>The mark '(...)’ denotes a 'better-have' competency. Hence: better attend the module at the left before you attempt the module at the right.</td>
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**Special cases**

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<td>PPSW [A]</td>
<td>(A) Advanced topics {of KMD, of ML, ... }, Seminar ‘Predictive Maintenance’, Seminar ‘...'</td>
<td>The modules in the middle column are on advanced topics; most of them are seminars. PPSW delivers skills that you need to pass a seminar. If you never attended a seminar, you need PPSW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific computing [L+]</td>
<td></td>
<td>Delivers mathematical underpinnings that are valuable for many other courses.</td>
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**On the naming of the modules**

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<td>Machine Learning</td>
<td>Advanced Topics of Machine Learning</td>
<td>The module at the right expects skills that you learn in the module at the left.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Mining I</td>
<td>Data Mining II</td>
<td>The module at the right expects some skills. Best choice is the module at the left.</td>
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So, how to choose modules in the 1st semester?

**One possible way:**
1. Plan the ’Fundamentals of Data Science’ over the first two semesters.
2. Select from ’Learning …’: There are entry-barriers, so plan over all three semesters.
3. Select from ’Data Engineering …’: The modules of this area are heavily visited but have less entry-barriers, so plan for semesters 1 and 2 first.

**Another possible way:**
1. Plan the ’Fundamentals of Data Science’ over the first two semesters.
2. Go to ’Applied Data Science’ and check what topics you want to attend in semesters 2 and 3. Check the titles and descriptions of the modules.
3. Go to ’Learning …’ and pick the modules that deliver the skills you need for your Applied Data science choice.
4. Go to ’Data Engineering …’ and do alike.
4. Getting Advice
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First thing to do: Write down what advice you want.
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The first place to look for advice:

FAQs – to be reached from the landing page
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The persons to ask for advice:
▶ On how to plan your studies: Mentors
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- Exam issues: Examinations Office

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- On how to prepare for a specific course: Course teacher
- Exam issues: Examinations Office
- Complex plans of studies, general troubleshooting: Studies coordinator (me) myra@iti.cs.uni-magdeburg.de
- General issues on international studies: Coordinator of International Studies

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Thank you for your attention!

Much success with your studies with us!