

Study Plan for Master in Applied Computer Science (120 ECTS) (2016–2018)

Facts about the program

ECTS Credits: 120

Study duration: 2 years

Teaching language: English

Campus: Halden

Contact

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Faculty of Computer Science, Engineering and Economics

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What do you learn?

Degree/title obtained

Master in Applied Computer Science.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

The candidate has

- deep knowledge about research and development within the field of applied computer science;
- advanced knowledge about literature and methods used within the field of applied computer science.

Skills

The candidate is able to

- work independently with a problem statement over a long period of time;
- analyze a situation, formulate a problem statement, and develop a plan for solving the problem;
- create models and implement them in a digital environment;
- make realistic and feasible plans by taking into account possibilities, limitations and use of time;
- collect and analyse relevant information as well as having a critical attitude towards sources used;
- present research and results clearly and unambiguously within the field of applied computer science;
- formulate his/her own and other people's reflections and solutions within the field of applied computer science.

General competence

The candidate

- has retained and further developed his/her academic curiosity, knowledge, openness and precision as well as the ability to distinguish between knowledge and opinions;
- is capable of critical reflection on ethical, scientific and philosophical issues within the field of applied computer science;
- has gained knowledge of scientific literature, methods and theories within the field of applied computer science;
- can communicate knowledge clearly in writing as well as orally.

Admission

A bachelor's degree or an equivalent education of at least 180 ECTS credits, which includes at least 80 ECTS credits in informatics, and in addition or included 20 ECTS credits in programming

To be admitted, the applicant must have an average grade from the qualifying education of at least C.

Structure and content

The structure and content of the programme

The master programme in applied computer science is a natural extension of the IT faculty's bachelor studies and builds on the research activities of the faculty staff.

Examples of topics within the field of applied computer science are interaction between technology, human and organisation, analysis of big data, use of information technology in production and distribution of media content, mobile applications, human computer interaction and design, development and evaluation of IT systems.

The first semester comprises the following mandatory courses:

- Scientific method and theory (15 ECTS credits)
- Interaction design (15 ECTS credits)

In the second semester the students must select 2 out of 3 electives:

- Machine learning (15 ECTS credits)
- Advanced topics in information systems (15 ECTS credits)
- Modelling cyber-physical systems (15 ECTS credits)

On application students may be permitted to exchange one course in the second semester with a Business project in a company (15 ECTS credits) or a Research project (15 ECTS credits).

The second year of study consists of a literature survey relevant to their master project (15 ECTS credits) followed by a master's thesis (45 ECTS credits).

In order to qualify for the master thesis, the student must have passed at least 45 ECTS from the first year of study in addition to the mandatory course "Selected topics".

Equal rights

The Faculty is working for a balanced representation of male and female students in their studies. Hence the Faculty puts effort into recruiting female students and attempts to make the studies relevant and attractive to women.

Organisation and learning methods

Learning partly takes place through seminars and traditional lectures. Additionally it will take other forms:

- student-led seminars
- projects

By organising the learning process through seminars and projects the students' independence and participation are brought to the fore. Each student's benefit from this type of organisation will depend on the student's own efforts and interest. The student must show interest in his/her professional development, and must be able to work independently with theory, implementation and knowledge acquisition. The students are offered supervision in all courses of the master programme.

The low number of postgraduate students and the close relations with academic staff lend room for considerable flexibility. It also means that the students have good facilities at their disposal and will be able to avail themselves of advanced labs and equipment both in the taught courses and in their work with the master's thesis. An example of labs at their disposal is IFE's (Institute for Energy Technology) labs for Virtual Reality and design of control rooms.

Demands are high concerning independence; postgraduate students are expected to take initiatives and approach tutors, and be responsible for their own learning.

Computers and technical equipment are placed at the students' disposal throughout the programme, and students may also use their private IT equipment on the premises. Most courses and assignments are ICT-based, using various IT tools for exchange of information, submission of assignments, tests etc.

A very modern library is at the students' disposal. The library helps the students in developing their information competence, i.e. the ability to search, find, evaluate and use relevant information. In addition to personal service the students are offered library courses on international databases and evaluation of information quality. They are also offered courses in scientific referencing.

Compulsory assignments

Some of the courses have requirements for attendance and/or compulsory assignments, exercises and projects. These assignments have to be completed and approved before taking the final examination. More details regarding assignments are found in the course descriptions.

Academic writing

The students will be trained in academic writing throughout the study programme. This is done by emphasising content, structure, reliability, and referencing.

Research and development work

The master programme is based on the research activity of the faculty, but is also contributing to our research.

All courses in the first year is directly related to the research performed at the faculty. This implies that our courses are continually developed and always up to date.

The master theses are always based on research and development performed at the faculty or at one of our partners. The students become part of the R&D-groups, and the theses have on several occasions led to scientific publications.

Internationalisation

The international aspect is taken care of by the use of international literature and further, that several members of the academic staff have close contacts with foreign institutions and research environments.

Studies abroad

Students may take one semester (or two semesters) of their studies at a university abroad. Both the Head of Studies and HiØ's International Office help accommodate studies abroad. Detailed information on exchange opportunities at universities abroad can be found on HiØ's international pages.

Courses for international students

The entire master's programme is taught in English and is thus adapted to the need of foreign students.

Programme evaluation

We are in need of feedback from our students, and that you participate in the different evaluations that we arrange. This study programme is regularly evaluated by the students to ensure and develop the quality of the programme:

- A committee of study quality performs annually evaluations of the study quality of selected study programmes.
- The Faculty of Computer Sciences performs evaluations of each course by performing mid-term evaluations and end-evaluations.

Continuous feedback

The taught courses include exercises, assignments and projects, completed either individually or in groups. The students are given feedback on all exercises, assignments and projects.

Assessment

Final assessment takes several forms: written individual examination, portfolio assessment, project assessment, oral examination, or a combination of these.

The grading scale normally used is the A - F scale although some courses may use the assessment "Bestått/Ikke bestått" (Pass/Fail).

More details regarding assessment are found in the course descriptions.

Plagiarism control/cheating

Bachelor's and Master's theses are subject to electronic plagiarism control, as may also be the case with other courses and required coursework. Exam papers that are partly or entirely identical will not be approved and will be regarded as cheating. For further information please see Exam regulations for Østfold University College.

Reading list

See separate course descriptions.

Course literature is subject to change until 1st of June for autumn courses, and 1st of December for spring courses.

Work and future studies

The master's programme qualifies for PhD-studies in Norway and abroad. Different admission requirements may apply at different universities.

A master degree from us provides opportunities for leading positions within application development, web development, consulting and project management in leading IT companies in Norway and abroad. It also qualifies for work in the public sector, for instance in the fields of research and education.

The study plan is approved and revised

The study plan is approved

Dean Beathe Due, 6. April 2015

The study plan is revised

Head of Studies, Monica Kristiansen, 21. December 2015

The study plan applies to

2016 - 2018

Study model

This study model has a new design. [Let us know what you think about it](#)

Autumn 2016

Core courses

IT146514 Scientific method and theory	15 stp
IT146314 Interaction Design	15 stp

Trainee-bedriftsoppgave

ITI49014 · Part 1 of 2
Business project

Spring 2017

Choose 2 of these courses:

ITI43210
Machine Learning

15 stp

ITI43414
Advanced topics in information systems

15 stp

ITI43515
Modelling Cyber-Physical Systems

15 stp

Trainee-bedriftsoppgave

ITI49014 · Part 2 of 2
Business project

15 stp

Forskningsoppgave

ITI49114
Research project

15 stp

Autumn 2017

Core courses

ITI40314
Selected Topics

15 stp

ITI40614 · Part 1 of 2
Master's Thesis

Spring 2018

Core courses

ITI40614 · Part 2 of 2
Master's Thesis

45 stp

ITI46514 Scientific method and theory (Autumn 2016)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science

Course Leaders: Cathrine Linnes, Harald Holone

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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- The course is connected to the following study programs
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- The student's learning outcomes after completing the course
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- Course evaluation
- Literature

The course is connected to the following study programs

Mandatory course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

First semester (autumn).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student is knowledgeable about central methods and theories within the field of applied computer science, and different perspectives on the use of informatics in the society. This includes:

- Research design and experiment techniques
- Statistical methods
- Methods for design and evaluation of information systems
- Social science methodologies

- Media science methodologies
- Research and development activities at the faculty and its partners

The student is familiar with publishing channels relevant to applied computer science, different types of publications, their roles and functions.

Skills

The student is able to:

- assess scientific literature within the field of applied computer science
- use and review scientific references
- use relevant statistical methods for analyzing sets of numerical data
- use methods from social sciences and work with observation and interviews
- use methods for design and evaluation of IT systems
- think critically about the use of information technology deployed in organizations and in the society in general

General competence

After examination, the student has a sufficient understanding of applied computer science and the faculty's research and development activities. The student also has a better understanding of the use of IT in our society.

Content

The course contains a number of seminar-based lectures from the researchers at the faculty and guest lectures from our partners. Some lab activity with relevant tools and application of methods is included.

Forms of teaching and learning

Lectures, presentations of scientific work, and lab exercises.

Workload

Four 2-days sessions during daytime, a total of 8 days. Between the sessions, supervision are given.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

The student must present 2-4 scientific papers during the semester.

Examination

Individual oral exam.

Individual oral exam based on the curriculum (scientific publications which have been discussed in the course). Duration 20-30 minutes. No aids/tools allowed.

Assessment on the A - F grading scale.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

The curriculum is collected during the semester, based on literature used by lectures throughout the course. The list will be published on the course home page.

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ITI46314 Interaction Design (Autumn 2016)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science

Course Leader: Joakim Karlsen

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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- Literature

The course is connected to the following study programs

Mandatory course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

1. semester (autumn).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student are familiar with

- central HCI-theories and models
- the development of the HCI field and emerging trends

Skills

The student are able to

- design and conduct experiments with new and existing technology for interaction between humans and machines
- relate own work to existing literature, theories and models
- read and reflect on HCI literature

General competence

Through the course, the student has gained competence in critical reading and reflection. In addition, the student has got experience with project work in groups.

Content

The course consists of three parts:

- HCI theories and models
- Current trends in interaction design
- Methods for experimentation, design and evaluation

Forms of teaching and learning

The course is lecture based with projects to be performed throughout the semester. Emphasis will be put on reading and using relevant literature, and presentation of own work.

Workload

Lectures and supervision 4 hours per week.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

The student must during the semester:

- present at least one paper (individual or in a group) and lead a plenary discussion based on this.
- write a scientific paper aimed at publication.
- complete at least one project which includes design, implementation and evaluation of new or existing technology for human-machine interaction.

Coursework requirements must be accepted to qualify for the exam.

Examination

Individual oral exam

Individual oral exam based on the course curriculum, the scientific paper produced by the student and the student project. Duration approx. 30 min. No aiding tools allowed.

Assessment on the A - F grading scale.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

Last updated 26.05.2015. The readinglist may be subject to change before the semester starts.

- Rogers, Preece and Sharp (2015): Interaction Design: Beyond Human - Computer Interaction. Wiley, 4th ed. ISBN: 9781119020752
- Lövgren and Stolterman (2007): Thoughtful Interaction design. ISBN: 9780262622097
- The curriculum will be supported by material (scientific papers) during the semester. The material will be posted on the learning platform - Fronter.

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ITI49014 Business project (Autumn 2016–Spring 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science

Course Leader: Per Gunnar Fyhn

Teaching language: English

Duration: 1 year

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- Literature

The course is connected to the following study programs

Elective course after application in the master programme in applied computer science. The student may apply for this course to replace one of the three elective courses in the second semester.

An agreement between the student and the company must be made at the start of the master programme. The agreement must be approved by the Head of studies before the project starts.

Lecture Semester

First and second semesters (autumn and spring). In addition the student is expected to do some work during the summer between the first and the second year's of study.

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student has

acquired good knowledge of ICT, giving a good systems perspective

- knowledge on the use of ICT within the selected theme of work

Skills

The student is able to

- use teoretical methods to solve professional tasks
- work with projects and tasks, both individually and as part of a team

General competence

The student is able to produce new knowledge through literature search, contact with experts, users and in his/her project work.

Content

An agreement between the student and the company must be made before the student starts working in the company.

A description of the business project should be prepared by the student and the company in collaboration. This must be endorsed by the faculty before the work starts. This is done to ensure necessary volume and depth of the project. The trainee normally works approx. 600 hours.

At the end of the project the student must submit a report describing the work done and give an oral presentation of the project.

The company pays the trainee.

Forms of teaching and learning

Project work with guidance from a mentor at the company and a supervisor at Østfold University College.

Workload

Approx. 600 hours.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

- Two individual self reflection texts, at 20 % (approximately 120 hours) and 80 % (approximately 500 hours) of total work hours.
- Prepare and conduct meetings with mentor and supervisor every month, including writing abstracts and logging working hours.
- Presentation of the project at half time (approximately 300 hours). This includes a resume of the work done so far and a sketch of the planned/remaining work.

Coursework requirements must be accepted to qualify for the exam.

Examination

Individual oral exam

Individual oral exam based upon four criteria:

1. The process and the progress of the project.

2. The project report.
3. The result of the project.
4. The oral presentation of the project.

Emphasis is put on the project process. Duration approx. 20-30 min. Graded on scale A-F. No aiding tools allowed.

In the case of a new exam, a new project must be carried out on agreement with the instructor responsible for the course and with the company.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

Depends on the project and is agreed on with the supervisor and the company.

ITI43210 Machine Learning (Spring 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science, Engineering and Economics

Course Leader: Roland Olsson

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Elective course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

2. semester (spring).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student has

- an overview over the most important methods in machine learning, and a deeper knowledge of three of them, viz. Decision Trees, Neural Networks, and Evolutionary Computation
- knowledge about the practical challenges in connection with data mining, e.g. overfitting, missing values, and classifications with different costs.
- gained knowledge in basic topics such as numerical optimisation and statistical methods, for example Bayesian methods used in search engines like Google and in spam filters.

Skills

The student is able to

- arrange or code data to fit data mining and machine learning algorithms
- choose correct tools for a given type of data
- decide on how good the results are based on simple statistical analysis of, for instance, classification exactness
- use machine learning in practical applications and be able to transfer machine learning models to programming language code

General competence

The student has improved his/her competence in

- research and development, for instance finding relevant literature and understand scientific articles about machine learning
- writing scientific texts in English
- treat and analyse data of arbitrary type, even if this is done without inductive learning

Content

Machine learning is about computers learning through training and experience instead of being explicitly programmed for a given task. The students will get acquainted with several methods and algorithms for machine learning. Based on this, the students should be able to select the methods best suited for the problem in question.

The course should give the students knowledge about the basic properties common to all machine learning methods. Examples include ability to generalise and heuristic search.

The course contains three projects, one about decision trees, rules and regression analysis, one about neural networks, and one about evolutionary computation.

Induction of decision trees and some applications such as medical diagnosis and credit evaluation.

Artificial neural nets and optimization algorithms such as steepest descent and trust region Newton methods. Applications of neural nets to sound and image analysis.

Basic theory for machine learning, for example Bayes' formula, maximum likelihood and the minimum description length principle.

Instance based learning such as nearest neighbour, locally weighted regression, and radial basis functions.

Evolutionary computation, especially genetic algorithms and genetic programming. General principles for evolution. Selection methods and genetic operators such as mutation and crossover. The Baldwin effect.

Some of the topics above require basic knowledge of statistics and information theory which will be taught as needed.

Forms of teaching and learning

Seminar based lectures and supervision.

Workload

Four 2-days sessions during daytime, a total of 8 days. Between the sessions, supervision are given.

Examination

Portfolio and individual take home exam.

The exam consists of both a portfolio and a individual take home exam.

The portfolio (determines 65% of the final grade) consists of:

- one project on decision trees
- one project about neural nets
- one project in automatic programming.

The projects can be carried out individually or in groups of two students. The students will get an individual grade.

The individual three day home exam determines 35% of the final grade and focus on theory.

The student will get an individual joint grade for the entire course. Grades: A - F.

Upon re-examination, both parts of the examination must be retaken. Upon re-examination, new assignments and the take home exam will be decided by the course instructor.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

Last updated 15. October 2015. The readinglist may be subject to change before the semester starts.

Kuhn, Max og Johnson, Kjell, "Applied Predictive Modeling" (2013), 1st Ed., Springer-Verlag New York, ISBN 978-1-4614-6848-6

ITI43414 Advanced topics in information systems (Spring 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science, Engineering and Economics

Course Leader: Ricardo Colomo-Palacios

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Elective course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

2. semester (spring).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student

- is familiar with principles for sustainable information systems
- is familiar with the use of IT in businesses
- is familiar with hybrid IT management (including cloud computing)
- has a good overview of health informatics
- is familiar with global trends in information systems.

Skills

The student

- is able to develop a strategy for the deployment of an information system in a business.

General competence

The student

- is able to apply scientific theory and methodology in a practical business setting.

Content

- Sustainable information systems
- IT in businesses
- Hybrid IT systems
- Cloud computing
- Health informatics
- Global trends in information systems

Forms of teaching and learning

Ordinary lectures, video lectures, supervision and project work.

Examination

Individual oral exam

Individual oral exam based on the course curriculum and project work. Duration approx. 20-30 min. No aiding tools allowed. Grades: A - F.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

The readinglist may be subject to change before the semester starts.

- Computer Research for Sustainability (Millett and Estrin, ed.), ISBN 978-0-309-25758-9
- Health Care Information Systems: A Practical Approach for Health Care Management (Wager, Lee and Glaser), ISBN 978-1118173534

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ITI43515 Modelling Cyber-Physical Systems (Spring 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science

Course Leader: Øystein Haugen

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Elective course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

2. semester (spring).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student

- understands the challenges associated with cyber-physical systems
- has experienced the relevance of good software design principles

Skills

The student has the capability to

- model and implement reactive systems with concurrency
- perform analysis of consistency of models of systems with concurrency
- connect sensors, actuators and controlling components in a functioning system
- give and take constructive criticism of the system design and functioning
- receive the experience of building a cyber-physical system and making it execute

General competence

The student

- can build systems in «Internet of Things»
- can assess realistically what errors may occur in cyber-physical systems and how to minimize their vulnerability
- has some insight into formal semantics of sequence diagrams

Content

The course focus on how reactive systems can be built with emphasis on modeling. The models are executable and based on state machines. The requirements of these concurrent systems are modeled as sequence diagrams, and it is emphasized that the requirements and design are consistent.

In particular, we emphasize reactive systems using the Internet of Things, and we use a running example where the functionality is enhanced during the course following an agile method.

Towards the end of the course, we show how systems can be made more resilient to unexpected incidents and errors.

Forms of teaching and learning

Project work, lectures and guided lab and exercises.

For each instance of the course, we create new project tasks. We teach the project teams how to give and take constructive feedback.

Workload

4 hours lectures and supervision each week.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

- Group project: the project can be reworked 2-3 times before final delivery. Group size: 2-4 students.
- Plenary presentation and evaluation of the project.

Coursework requirements must be accepted to qualify for the exam.

Examination

Individual written exam:

4 hours individual written exam. All written aiding tools allowed.

Assessment on the A- F grading scale.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

A number of articles and lecture notes constitute the curriculum.

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ITI49114 Research project (Spring 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science, Engineering and Economics

Course Leader: Jan Høiberg

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Elective course after application in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

2. semester (spring).

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student:

- has in depth knowledge of one research project at the faculty or at a partner institution.
- has thorough understanding of the relevant field of research.
- is familiar with relevant publishing channels.
- is familiar with relevant methods and theories.

Skills

The student:

- is able to write a scientific paper aimed at publishing.
- is able to defend the choice of research problem and methods.
- is able to define a research problem.
- is able to design and perform a scientific experiment.

General competence

The student gains experience

- with collaboration with internal or external researchers.
- in research, including planning, performing and reporting in an existing research project.

Content

Student and supervisor agree on a theme related to existing research at the faculty or a partner institution.

Regular supervision and practical project work constitute a major part of the course.

Forms of teaching and learning

Reading, project work, reporting, debate and discussion.

Workload

No regular lectures. Regular meetings with supervisor.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

- Project description essay in the beginning of the semester
- Mid-term report
- Work log

Coursework requirements must be accepted to qualify for the exam.

Examination

Paper and individual oral exam

Paper (approx. 10-20 pages) is assessed to Pass / Fail.

Individual oral exam consisting of a presentation and discussion of the paper. Duration approx. 20-30 min. Graded on scale A-F. Except the presentation, no aiding tools are allowed.

The paper must be assessed to Pass in order to qualify to the oral exam. The student will get an individual joint grade for the entire course.

In case of a Fail, the student can request a re-assessment. If the new assessment affects the preliminary grading of the paper, a new oral exam will be arranged.

Upon re-examination, both parts of the examination must be retaken. Upon re-examination, a new topic will be decided in cooperation with the person responsible for the course and the supervisor.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The lecturer compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is the discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

Literature is selected by the supervisor and the student based on the project theme.

ITI40314 Selected Topics (Autumn 2017)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 15

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science

Course Leader: Jan Høiberg

Teaching language: English

Duration: ½ year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Mandatory course in the master programme in applied computer science.

Lecture Semester

First half of third semester (autumn - to the middle of October) in the full time programme.

First half of fifth semester (autumn - to the middle of October) in the part time programme.

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The student has attained acquaintance and knowledge about the content of literature relevant for the themes of the master thesis.

Skills

The student is able to account for, both orally and in writing, the content of literature relevant for the themes of the master thesis.

General competence

The student is able to write academic texts.

Content

The course aims at preparing the student for his/her master thesis. The content is chosen individually and is related to the master project.

The student shall, together with his/her supervisor, find literature (books, articles, webpages) that is relevant for the master project. The student shall produce a report summing up this literature and give an oral presentation of the report.

Forms of teaching and learning

Guided self-study.

Workload

Approx. 450 hours.

Coursework requirements - conditions for taking the exam

The student must write an individual report summing up the literature.

There will be held a mandatory seminar in academic writing.

Coursework requirements must be accepted to qualify for the exam.

Examination

Individual oral exam

Individual oral exam, where the student presents and discusses his/her special topic. Duration approx. 20-30 min. Except the presentation, no aiding tools are allowed.

The grading is individual with a "pass / no pass" mark.

Upon re-examination, new literature must be decided in cooperation with supervisor.

Literature

Individually chosen.

ITI40614 Master's Thesis (Autumn 2017–Spring 2018)

Facts about the course

ECTS Credits: 45

Responsible department: Faculty of Computer Science, Engineering and Economics

Course Leader: Jan Høiberg

Teaching language: English

Duration: 1 year

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The course is connected to the following study programs

Mandatory course in the master programme in applied computer science full time.

Prerequisites

The student must have passed at least 45 ECTS credits before starting the master thesis. The student must have passed the course Selected Topics.

Lecture Semester

Third and fourth semester (autumn and spring) in the full time programme.

The student's learning outcomes after completing the course

Knowledge

The candidate has

- attained the requisite knowledge and expertise for challenging jobs in research and development in the field.

- gained knowledge from literature and methods related to the subjects that are part of the master thesis.

Skills

The candidate is able to

- work independently with a complex problem over a longer period of time.
- analyze a situation, describe a problem and plan its solution.
- master feasible planning that consider alternatives, limitations and time constraints.
- collect and analyze relevant information with an ethically healthy and critical approach.
- present reasearch and results in a clear and comprehensive written thesis.
- communicate knowledge clearly and precisely, orally and in writing.
- express own and others reflections and solutions in the chosen area of research.
- construct models and implement them in digital environments.
- apply methods and design principles to make prototypes for different information systems.

General competence

The candidate has

- obtained a relation to scientific literature and methods.
- developed academic curiosity
- gained consciousness towards values such as openness, precision and ability to discriminate between knowledge and opinions.
- the ability to think critically about central ethical, philosophical and scientific problems in his/her field.

Content

The content may vary significantly and may include research, development, testing or analysis that will be documented in the master thesis.

Forms of teaching and learning

Guided self-study, writing a master thesis.

Workload

Approx. 1350 hours. Supervision constitutes 40 hours.

Examination

Master thesis and oral exam

The assessment is based on the master thesis (individually or in groups of two people) and an individual oral exam. The master thesis is assessed by an external examiner in consultation with the supervisor. At the oral examination the candidate first holds a presentation of the master thesis (approx. 30 min). Then the candidate defends his/her thesis (approx 30 min). The oral examination is public.

The thesis is graded on the A- F grading scale. It is given a tentative grade of the thesis. This grade can be adjusted up to 2 stages at the oral exam.

If the student decides to challenge the assessment, the thesis must be re-assessed. If the new assessment affects the tentative grading of the thesis, a new oral exam will be arranged.

Upon re-examination, both parts of the examination must be retaken.

If the student wishes to improve a passed result of his/her master thesis, the thesis must be rewritten with a new problem statement. In this case, the student is not entitled to receive new academic supervision.

Plagiarism control/ cheating

Master's theses is subject to electronic plagiarism control. Exam papers that are partly or entirely identical will not be approved and will be regarded as cheating. For further information please see Exam regulations for Østfold University College.

Course evaluation

This course is evaluated by a

- Mid-term evaluation (voluntary)
- End evaluation (compulsory)

The responsible for the course compiles a report based on the evaluation forms filled in by the students and his/her own experience with the course. The report is discussed by the study quality committee of the faculty of Computer Sciences.

Literature

Individually chosen, depending on the thesis.