

Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics
Information on the German-Russian double master's programme
between the University of Passau and
National Research University – Higher School of Economics
(HSE Moscow)
as part of the degree programme M.Sc. Computer Science

Students enrolled in the degree programme M.Sc. Computer Science have the opportunity of gaining two degrees: participants in this double degree programme are awarded a Master of Science in Computer Science from Passau and a Master of Business Informatics from National Research University – Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow.

Admission requirements

To be eligible, students from Passau who are interested in joining for the German-Russian double master's programme in Computer Science and Big Data Systems, must be enrolled in the M.Sc Computer Science programme¹ (or have gained a favourable result in the selection procedure) at the University of Passau and must have been approved by Professor Ilia Polian. Approved applicants are requested to sign a Learning Agreement, which includes details on the courses to be completed abroad and their recognition for credit.

All courses in this programme are taught in English at both institutions. It is therefore necessary that applicants submit a language certificate for English at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), such as:

- TOEFL (567 paper-based, 87 internet-based, ITP 543 'silver' or above)
- IELTS (score 5.5)
- or an equivalent language certificate.

Knowledge of German or Russian are not an admission requirement; however, it is recommended that students have German or Russian language skills at level A1 CEFR or higher.

To join the programme, students from HSE Moscow should have a first university degree equivalent to the German bachelor's degree with a minimum result of 2.7 under the German marking system. This degree must have been gained in a three-year full-time programme of study in computer science or a related discipline with a computer science component of at least 110 ECTS credits. Those who have not attained a minimum mark of or equivalent to 2.7 may still apply if they are among the best 70% of graduates of their cohort.

Application and selection process

Students are selected and admitted to the programme in a two-step process based on their academic achievements and their motivation.

- Interested students should apply online at the International Office **by 28 February**. Upon admission into the programme, they additionally have to register with HSE Moscow using the application form on the HSE website² or contact the programme co-ordinator, Ms Ekatarina German³, by no later than 15 May.

Any assessments outstanding at the time of application may be completed by the end of the summer semester. In that case, the admission is only preliminary until all required documents have been submitted.

Your application to the International Office should include:

- the online application form⁴,
- a chronological curriculum vitae
- a cover letter in which you outline your motivation for the programme
- a relevant language certificate
- an up-to-date student record/transcript (e.g. HISQIS print-out)
- if available: a bachelor's or equivalent degree certificate or proof of successful completion of the selection process for M.Sc. Computer Science

¹For more information on the M.Sc. Computer Science, see www.uni-passau.de/en/msc-computer-science/.

²www.hse.ru/org/hse/admissions/expresspolls/poll/141939941.html

³egerman@hse.ru

⁴Online application form (German): <https://passau.moveon4.de/form/576a86d583fb960632f225fd/deu>

Please send your application to:

University of Passau
International Office
Administration building
Innstr. 41
94032 Passau

In a first step, suitable candidates are selected by the relevant programme co-ordinators of the sending institution. For the University of Passau, this is Professor Joachim Posegga; for HSE Moscow Ms Ekaterina German.

Overview of the application process

Assumption: You will complete your bachelor's programme in winter semester (i.e. by 31 March). Then you should proceed as follows:

- 1) **By 15 January** of your final semester: apply for a place on the M.Sc. Computer Science programme of the University of Passau
- 2) Selection procedure is carried out in February
- 3) Decision on admission to the M.Sc. Computer Science programme for the summer semester
- 4) **By 28 February:** apply for the **double master's programme** at the International Office
- 5) Await decision on admission to the double master's programme
- 6) **By 15 May:** register with HSE Moscow
- 7) Flexible arrangement as to which 2 semesters are studied in Passau and which in Moscow

Standard duration and ECTS credits

4 semesters
120 ECTS credits

Programme structure

Students may choose whether to study at HSE Moscow for the first year and then at the University of Passau or vice-versa. The move to the other university always takes place at the start of the winter semester. Credits gained at the sending institution are recognised by the host institution following a consultation with the respective programme co-ordinator.

Degrees

You will gain one degree for each degree programme:

- University of Passau: Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Computer Science
- HSE Moscow: Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Business Informatics

Cost

Those enrolled in the double master's programme are exempt from tuition fees at the hosting institutions. However, they are not exempt from paying social fees, such as the semester contribution at Passau, which amounts to currently 72 euros per semester. This fee, which consists of the student services contribution (52 euros) and the semester bus pass (20 euros) must be paid by all students at the University of Passau, including the Russian students in Passau as part of the double degree programme. Other costs are incurred for accommodation, food, health and accident insurance, residence permit/visa costs, travel expenses.

Contact and further details:

Chair of Computer Engineering
Professor Joachim Posegga
Room ITZ 132, IT Centre, Innstr. 43
Phone: +49 851 509 3210
E-mail: joachim.posegga@uni-passau.de

Information from HSE Moscow on the master's programme in Big Data Systems: <https://www.hse.ru/en/ma/bigdata/about>.

Equivalence table for the marks/grades achieved in the German and Russian system:

German grade	German mark*	Russian score	Russian grade
'very good'	1,0	10	'excellent'
	1,3	9	
	1,3	8	
'good'	1,7	7	'good'
	2,0	6	
	2,3	6	
'satisfactory'	2,7	5	'satisfactory'
	3,0	5	
	3,3	5	
'sufficient'	3,7	4	
	4,0	4	
'fail'	5,0	3	
	5,0	2	
	5,0	1	
	5,0	0	

* The comma is the decimal separator in the German notation.