Welcome to Media Informatics

A cooperation of b-it, RWTH Aachen University, University of Bonn and Fraunhofer FIT and IAIS

Head of Program: Prof. Matthias Jarke, Prof. Ulrike Meyer
Academic Advisory Team: Rene Roepke, Arnab Chakrabarti
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About b-it

- Bonn-Aachen International Center for Information Technology
- Cooperation of leading universities and research institutes of the information technology region Bonn-Aachen
- Strategic partner of the regional economy
- Three study programs
  - Media Informatics
  - Life Science Informatics
  - Autonomous Systems

http://www.b-it-center.de/
About RWTH Aachen University

• Founded in 1870.
• Over 45000 students, 560 professors, 6000 academic staff and 2800 non-academic staff members (June 2019).
• RWTH Aachen University exploits strong research networks and the intellectual curiosity of its staff to address bold scientific questions, transfer forefront knowledge and drive innovative discoveries that impact global challenges.

http://www.rwth-aachen.de/
About University of Bonn

- Founded in 1818.
- Over 38000 students, 500 professors, 4000 academic staff, 1800 non-academic staff members (June 2019).
- Outstanding reputation, e.g. recently announced as an Excellence University in the German Excellence Initiative.
- University of Bonn is a research university that operates on an international level and in doing so, we continually maintain our long-standing traditions.

https://www.uni-bonn.de/
About Fraunhofer FIT and IAIS

- One of the largest research centers for informatics and applied mathematics in Germany.
- About 600 scientists in different institutes work on application-oriented solutions for industry and society.
- Selected research areas:
  - Grid and Cloud computing
  - Datamining
  - Man-machine interaction
  - etc.

https://www.izb.fraunhofer.de/
Academic Advisory Team – Who are we?

• Rene Roepke
  • Responsibilities:
    • All issues during your studies (e.g. exams, courses, thesis, visa)
    • General questions
  • Contact: msc-mi@b-it-center.de

• Arnab Chakrabarti
  • Responsibilities:
    • All issues before your studies (e.g. applications, enrolment, accommodation)
    • Some issues during your studies (Transfer of Credits from previous studies)
  • Contact: msc-mi@b-it-center.de
The enrollment
Cooperative Study program

- You are a student of Media Informatics.

- Officially, you are enrolled at RWTH Aachen University but your first year you will be studying at b-it in Bonn.

- Courses are offered at b-it, RWTH Aachen and Uni Bonn. Special lab courses are offered at Fraunhofer FIT and IAIS.
If you are not enrolled yet...

• Check the following pages for **enrollment information**.

• You will study at b-it first, but you can participate in the [Welcome Week for International Students](#) at RWTH Aachen University.

• In case of enrollment questions, please contact the International Office at [int-zugang@rwth-aachen.de](mailto:int-zugang@rwth-aachen.de).
After enrolling at RWTH Aachen University

• You are an official student of RWTH Aachen University.
• Make sure to pay the „student body and social contribution fee.“

• You will have access or receive the following ‚things‘:
  • SelfService „RWTH Single Sign-On“ (see details)
  • Student ID „Blue Card“ (see details)
  • Transportation Ticket „Semester Ticket“ (see details)
  • RWTH-Mail „your.name@rwth-aachen.de“ (see details)

• Please check here for more details on what to do!
After your enrollment...
Studying at RWTH, Uni Bonn and b-it

• After Immatriculation at RWTH Aachen
  • Access to RWTH services
  • Access to RWTHonline and RWTHmoodle

• Check the RWTHonline -> Documents
• Download the Enrolment Certificate

• However, you start your studies at b-it and want access to services of b-it and Uni Bonn as well.
Accounts/Cards/IDs

Student ID @ RWTH
- BlueCard
- Public Transit Ticket

Single Sign-On @ RWTH Identity Management
- Services at RWTH
- Mail address: <yourname>@rwth-aachen.de [NOT USED BY UNI BONN]

Uni Bonn ID @ HRZ Uni Bonn
- eCampus
- Uni Bonn mail address: <alias>@uni-bonn.de [NOT USED BY RWTH]

CS department/b-it account
- Computer pool rooms
- Services by CS department/b-it working groups

Mensa Card Studierendenwerk Bonn
- Payments in Canteens or Cafés (no cash allowed!)
 Accounts/Cards/IDs

**Student ID @ RWTH**
- BlueCard
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**Mensa Card Studierendenwerk Bonn**
- Payments in Canteens or Cafés (no cash allowed!)

You should have both after your enrolment at RWTH
Getting your Uni Bonn ID (1/2)

• You need a Uni Bonn ID to use various Uni Bonn services (e.g. eCampus)
• Make sure you are enrolled at RWTH Aachen University – check RWTHonline documents for enrolment certificate and download it!
• Please visit the following site to fill out an online registration form:
  • Select „New application“
  • Enter personal information etc.
  • Select „Guest“ -> „Cooperative study program media informatics Aachen“
  • Important! Enter your German address!
  • Finally you’ll receive a printable form that you need to sign.
Getting your Uni Bonn ID (2/2)

• Next steps:
  • Sign and scan the printed registration form.
  • Attach a scan of your passport and an enrolment certificate (download in RWTHonline -> Documents; after enrolment at RWTH).
  • Next, you may decide between pick-up your Uni Bonn ID at HRZ (after 48h) of Uni Bonn or delivery to your postal mail address (may need 3-4 business days).
  • Now please send your a scan of the signed form, of your passport and the enrolment certificate to idm@uni-bonn.de and ask for pick-up at HRZ or delivery.
  • If you chose pick-up at HRZ of Uni Bonn, please bring your passport for identification.
    • How to find the HRZ: https://www.hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/the-hrz/besucherinfos/how-to-find-us?set_language=en
    • Opening times: https://www.hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/the-hrz/besucherinfos/opening-times
You should have both after your enrolment at RWTH.
The CS department and b-it offer services on their own
- Computer pool rooms
- Services by working groups
- etc.

Here you need another account which you can setup at a terminal at b-it or Uni Bonn.

For more details, visit:
### Accounts/Cards/IDs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Student ID @ RWTH | - BlueCard
- Public Transit Ticket |
| Single Sign-On @ RWTH Identity Management | - Services at RWTH
- Mail address: `<yourname>@rwth-aachen.de` [NOT USED BY UNI BONN] |
| Uni Bonn ID @ HRZ Uni Bonn | - eCampus
- Uni Bonn mail address: `<alias>@uni-bonn.de` [NOT USED BY RWTH] |
| CS department/b-it account | - Computer pool rooms
- Services by CS department/b-it working groups |
| Mensa Card Studierendenwerk Bonn | - Payments in Canteens or Cafés (no cash allowed!) |

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You should have both after your enrolment at RWTH.
Mensa Card of Studierendenwerk Bonn

• With the Mensa Card, you can use cashless payment in all our cafés and canteens.

• If you are a resident of one of our dormitories, you will need the Mensa Card to operate the washing machines and dryers.

• You can get your Mensa Card at any canteen. Bring your student ID to proof you are a student and 5.00 Euro for deposit.

• Check the following page for more information
Accounts/Cards/IDs

- Student ID @ RWTH
  - BlueCard
  - Public Transit Ticket

- Single Sign-On @ RWTH Identity Management
  - Services at RWTH
  - Mail address: <yourname>@rwth-aachen.de [NOT USED BY UNI BONN]

- Uni Bonn ID @ HRZ Uni Bonn
  - eCampus
  - Uni Bonn mail address: <alias>@uni-bonn.de [NOT USED BY RWTH]

- CS department/b-it account
  - Computer pool rooms
  - Services by CS department/b-it working groups

- Mensa Card Studierendenwerk Bonn
  - Payments in Canteens or Cafés (no cash allowed!)

You should have both after your enrolment at RWTH
Finally – On-boarding completed!

• After receiving all your accounts and Ids your on-boarding at RWTH, Uni Bonn and b-it is completed.

• In case of any questions regarding ...
  • ... enrolment and RWTH services, please contact the International Office
  • ... Single Sign-On Credentials, please contact the IT-Service Desk at RWTH
  • ... Uni ID Bonn, please contact the HRZ at Uni Bonn
  • ... CS/b-it Account, please contact the Systemgruppe IfI/b-it
  • ... Mensa Card, please contact the Studierendenwerk Bonn
The study program
Studying at b-it

http://www.b-it-center.de/b-it-programmes/msc-in-media-informatics/

• All mandatory/compulsory courses are offered at b-it in Bonn.

• Additional elective courses, seminars and labs are offered at Uni Bonn, RWTH Aachen or in cooperation with Fraunhofer FIT and IAIS.

• We recommend starting at b-it and living in Bonn for at least the first year.

• After completing all mandatory courses you can move to Aachen and take further elective courses at RWTH Aachen.
Study Program

- 4 semesters = 2 years
- 120 CP (credit points*) = 30 CP per semester
- 1 course (e.g. lecture with exercise) = 1 module

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory Modules</th>
<th>At least 78 CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Elective Modules: Computer and Communication Technology</td>
<td>18 – 22 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Technology</td>
<td>14 – 22 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Use and Impact</td>
<td>14 – 26 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Elective Modules: Practical Labs</td>
<td>4 – 16 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Elective Modules: Communication Skills</td>
<td>16 – 20 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module component: Scientific Integrity</td>
<td>Just pass before thesis registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Thesis</td>
<td>12 CP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum</strong></td>
<td><strong>120 CP</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* We use the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Modules</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Computer Graphics</td>
<td>1. Semester</td>
<td>6 (or 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designing Interactive Systems</td>
<td>1. Semester</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations of Data Science</td>
<td>2. Semester</td>
<td>6 (or 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Elective Modules: Computer and Communication Technology</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4 Compulsory Elective Modules</td>
<td>1.-3. Semester</td>
<td>each 4, 6 or 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Technology</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5 Compulsory Elective Modules</td>
<td>1.-3. Semester</td>
<td>each 4, 6 or 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Use and Impact</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3 Compulsory Elective Modules</td>
<td>1.-3. Semester</td>
<td>each 4, 6 or 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Elective Modules: Practical Labs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Lab</td>
<td>2.-3. Semester</td>
<td>6 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Lab Fraunhofer</td>
<td>2.-3. Semester</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compulsory Elective Modules: Communication Skills</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Writing</td>
<td>1. Semester</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>2.-3. Semester</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Language Course (or additional seminar(1))</td>
<td>2.-3. Semester</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module component: Scientific Integrity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Just pass before thesis registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Master's thesis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's thesis</td>
<td>4. Semester</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sum</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Calendar

• Winter semesters: October – March
• Summer semesters: April – September

• Classes:
  • Winter Semester: Mid/Begin of October – End of January
  • Summer Semester: Mid/Begin of April – Mid/End of July

• Exam periods:
  • Winter Semester: End of January – End of March
  • Summer Semester: Mid of July – End of September

• Christmas break: 2 weeks in December/January
First semester (recommendation)

• Two compulsory modules:
  • Computer Graphics (8 or 6 ECTS depending on instructor)
  • Designing Interactive Systems (6 ECTS)

• Two or three elective modules:
  • 4, 6 or 8 CP modules at b-it, e.g.
    • eBusiness; Design Thinking; CSCW; Language, Mind, & Media

• One compulsory module in Feb/Mar (end of first semester)
  • Technical Writing (4 ECTS) – 1-week intensive course

• Preliminary timetable for the upcoming Winter can be found here.
Bridging course „Foundations of Informatics“

https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/20ws/brico/

• Theoretical Computer Science Course offered by Dr. Nuesken, Prof. Woeginger, Prof. Noll.

• Recommended due to the strong theoretical background of computer science bachelor programs in Aachen and Bonn.

• Mandatory for some of you
  ➢ Check your acceptance letter or ask at msc-mi@b-it-center.de

• Open and Free for everybody
  ➢ No Credit Points
Dates for Winter Semester 2020/2021

• Semester starts on October 26th, 2020

• **Bridging Course**
  • *First Phase* starts October 12th, 2020
  • Details: [https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/19ws/brico/](https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/19ws/brico/)

• All other **classes at b-it** start on October 26th, 2020

• **Classes at RWTH Aachen and Uni Bonn** start on October 26th, 2020

• Further details about the academic calendar can be found [here](https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/19ws/brico/).
Courses at Uni Bonn

• MI students are allowed to take almost every course from the CS department at Uni Bonn.

• You can review all offered courses at the BASIS system of Uni Bonn.

• If you are interested in a course at Uni Bonn, please quickly check with msc-mi@b-it-center.de to see if the course is accepted for MI.

https://basis.uni-bonn.de/
German Language Courses

• Part of your curriculum is a mandatory German Language Course
  • 4 ECTS, 4 SWS, one semester

• You can take this course at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen

• At RWTH Aachen the language center handles course registrations:
  • [https://www.sz.rwth-aachen.de/cms/SZ/Deutsch/~lgvd/Ihr-Lotse-fuer-Deutschkurse/lidx/1/](https://www.sz.rwth-aachen.de/cms/SZ/Deutsch/~lgvd/Ihr-Lotse-fuer-Deutschkurse/lidx/1/)
  • In case of questions, please contact the [Language Center at RWTH](https://www.sz.rwth-aachen.de/cms/SZ/Deutsch/~lgvd/Ihr-Lotse-fuer-Deutschkurse/lidx/1/)

• At Uni Bonn the international office handles course registrations:
  • In case of questions, please contact [Sonja Hammer](mailto:Sonja.Hammer@uni-bonn.de) at Uni Bonn.
Seminar & Lab Courses in 2. and 3. semester

Two types of labs and one seminar

• One Fraunhofer lab
• One additional lab from CS departments at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen University
• One seminar from CS departments at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen University
Fraunhofer Labs

• The Fraunhofer labs are for MI students only – they are in cooperation with one of the Fraunhofer institutes
• There will be a special registration for Fraunhofer labs
• Past (and sometimes reoccurring) offers:
  • Data Visualization and Analytics Lab
  • Blockchain Experience Lab
  • AI Language Technology Lab
• Reminder E-Mail with instructions will be sent!
Seminars & Labs from RWTH Aachen

- **Central allocation procedure for CS department**
  - Interim solution – the department is working on a bilingual modern version
- Selection takes place end of preceding semester’s lecture period
  - in January/February for summer term
  - in June/July for winter term
- Register and choose which seminar(s)/lab you want
- Slots are being allocated thereupon
- Provide meaningful information, choose carefully!
- Reminder E-Mail with instructions will be sent!

https://algo.rwth-aachen.de/fgi/
Seminars & Labs from Uni Bonn

• Seminar and Lab allocation at Uni Bonn is done decentralized. You can contact instructors directly and ask to participate in labs and seminars.

• Take a look at the BASIS system or the different chairs for upcoming offers.

https://basis.uni-bonn.de/
Transfer of Credits

• What can be transferred:
  • Credits from your “4+ year” bachelor and other master programs so far
  • Programs should have taken at least four years!
  • Courses must be Master’s-level CS courses – 4+ year courses
  • may be similar to courses in the MI program
  • will be filed according to MI program structure
  • maximum: 30 credits
  • grades of transferred courses have to be better than German 2.7
• Deadline: Mid of November (we will send detailed instructions)
• We need:
  • letter containing which courses you want to be transferred (incl. your name, email, student ID, prioritization)
  • copy of the transcripts of your previous studies
  • (official) description of grading scheme
Thesis registration

You can register your thesis if the following prerequisites are fulfilled:

• All credits in Communication Skills (12 ECTS)
• At least 10 credits in Lab Work
• And 24 more credits in CCT, MMT or MMUI
• Passing the bridging course (if you are required to take it)
• Passing the online course „Scientific Integrity“
Systems & Services
RWTHonline – Campus Management System

• This system bundles most study related services.

• It contains...
  • module catalogue and module offers for each semester
  • module and course registrations, timetables, room information
  • exam registrations and grades
  • administrative documents (transcript, payment receipts)
  • further organizational information

• You should be able to login with your Single Sign-On credentials
  • In case of problems please contact the [IT-Service Desk](https://online.rwth-aachen.de/)
Central Examination Office (ZPA)

http://www.rwth-aachen.de/zpa

• Any issue with **exams, grades, registrations, withdrawals** etc. are handled by the ZPA of RWTH Aachen University.

• If you are sick on an exam date, you’ll need to inform the ZPA and attach a medical attestation form by your doctor (see **details**).

• The ZPA handles thesis registration and checks if you are eligible.

• Your contact person can be found **here**.

• Further information on ZPA, see **here**.
Examination Board

- The Examination Board is a committee of the CS department
- It consists of Professors, Employees and Students
- It decides on program-related issues and individual appeals by students, e.g. late registration for exams, transfer of credits.
- All appeals can be done online.
- Average processing time of an appeal is 4-8 weeks.
- In case of questions, please ask your academic advisory team via msc-mi@b-it-center.de before sending an appeal.

https://pa.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/
Prolongation of Residence Permit/Visa

• If you cannot finalize the program in time, it is possible to prolong your residence permit

• In most cases, your visa office informs you about the upcoming end of your visa

• Procedure:
  • Get your intermediate transcripts at RWTHonline
  • Get a certificate at the International Office or Visa office
  • Fill out an appeal at https://pa.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/list_en/certificate-of-progress-of-studies/
Sports at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen

• As students of RWTH Aachen and Uni Bonn, you have access to various sport offers.

• Registration happens online in specific time periods.

• Please check the websites of both sport departments
  • https://www.sport.uni-bonn.de/?set_language=en
  • https://hochschulsport.rwth-aachen.de/cms/~icgi/HSZ/?lidx=1

• In case of questions, please contact the respective sports department.
Student groups at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen

• There are various student groups (e.g. environmental, social, music, arts, etc.) that you can join!

• See these links for groups at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen
  • [http://www.asta-bonn.de/Services#Student_Groups](http://www.asta-bonn.de/Services#Student_Groups)
  • [https://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/root/Studium/Im-Studium/~ejt/Engagement-Freizeit/?lidx=1](https://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/root/Studium/Im-Studium/~ejt/Engagement-Freizeit/?lidx=1)
Libraries at Uni Bonn and RWTH Aachen

• As a student you are allowed to use library services at Uni Bonn and RWTH Aachen

• At the library of RWTH Aachen you can use your BlueCard (on the back you’ll find your library number)
  • [https://www.ub.rwth-aachen.de/cms/~hame/UB/?lidx=1](https://www.ub.rwth-aachen.de/cms/~hame/UB/?lidx=1)

• At the library of Uni Bonn you’ll need a library card, for more details see
That’s it for now!
Too much information?

http://www.b-it-center.de/b-it-programmes/msc-in-media-informatics/description/

• The start of your studies might be overwhelming.
• You are (most likely) in a new country with a different language and at a new university with different structures.
• You are also in a cooperative Master program by RWTH Aachen, Uni Bonn and the b-it.
• Things to do next: Take a look at the MI web page for further information.
• When contacting any service please provide your full name, student ID and e-mail address.
Welcome at b-it
Welcome to Bonn/Aachen
Welcome to Germany

We wish you a very successful start in the Media Informatics program!
In case of questions...

- contact msc-mi@b-it-center.de for study-related issues.
- contact the IT-ServiceDesk at RWTH for technical issues.
- contact the ZPA for exam-related issues.
- contact the International Office for organizational issues on your stay.
- contact the HRZ at Uni Bonn for issues with your Uni Bonn ID.
- contact the Systemgruppe IfI/b-it for issues with your b-it account.
- contact the Studierendenwerk Bonn for issues around housing and Mensa Card.