



# **Module Guide**

## **Master Life Science Informatics**

Faculty Computer Science  
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## LSI-01 Informatics and Biomedicine

Module code	LSI-01
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Course number and name	LSI-1101 Informatics LSI-1102 Biomedicine
Lecturers	Dr. Ann-Katrin Matt Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler Prof. Dr. Jeff Wilkesmann
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	compulsory elective course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	8
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 120 hours self-study: 90 hours virtual learning: 90 hours Total: 300 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

In LSI both students from biomedicine and informatics fields come together. Primary goal in this course is to learn the fundamentals of informatics and molecular biology to get everyone to an even level before the main courses start.

Biomedical research is currently using a variety of computer-based analyses to analyze genes that are predictive for the prognosis or therapy response of a disease ('personalized



medicine'). After completing the Informatics and Biomedicine module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

### **Biomedicine:**

#### **Professional competences**

After successfully completing the module students will be:

- familiar with basic concepts of Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Metabolism, Cell Biology and Genetics
- able to basically describe and discuss the human body on anatomical, cellular and molecular level

#### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module students will be:

- aware of the relations of the above mentioned fields in context with the human body, health and disease

#### **Social competence**

After successfully completing the module students will have:

- the capacity of discourse about the influence of molecular alterations on health and disease
- the ability to discuss medical issues with professionals and non-professionals

### **(Introduction to) Informatics:**

After successful accomplishment of (Introduction to) Informatics the students:

#### **Professional & Methodological competence:**

- are able to work with Linux based operating systems
- know the purpose and responsibilities of operating systems
- know the fundamentals of administrating a Linux based operating system
- can write small programs using the Python programming language
- are familiar with built-in objects of Python
- know how to structure a program into modules

#### **Social competence:**

After successfully completing the module students will have:

- the capacity of discourse about different kind of OS
- the ability to discuss linux and python related issues with professionals and non-professionals

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Informatics I, Life Science I+II, Biomedical Data Analysis



## Entrance Requirements

None

## Learning Content

### Biomedicine:

- 1 Introduction into Anatomy and Physiology
- 2 Introduction into Molecular Cell Biology
- 3 Basic metabolic events
- 4 Basic genetic mechanisms
- 5 Tissues/Cancer/Stem cells

### (Introduction to) Informatics:

- Introduction
  - 1.1 Definition
  - 1.2 Short History of Computers
  - 1.3 Binary System
  - 1.4 Encoding and Decoding
- Operating systems
  - 2.1 Role of Operating Systems
  - 2.2 GNU/Linux and Free Software
  - 2.3 Linux Command Line
    - 2.3.1 Basic Operations
    - 2.3.2 Manipulating Files And Directories
    - 2.3.3 Text Editing using Vim
    - 2.3.4 Permissions
    - 2.3.5 Package Management
    - 2.3.6 Environments
    - 2.3.7 Processes
- Introduction to Python
  - 3.1 Python Interpreter
  - 3.2 Strings
  - 3.3 Lists
  - 3.4 Dictionaries
  - 3.5 If-Statements
  - 3.6 Loops
  - 3.7 Functions
  - 3.8 Modules
  - 3.9 Exceptions



## Teaching Methods

Seminar-like class (virtual/live) with Moodle blended learning tools (in iLearn).

### **Biomedicine:**

This module consists of lectures, discussions and student tasks about biomedical topics. Students will get introduction into biomedical relevant topics which will be discussed or deepened via exercises to sharpen a life scientific view also on medical issues.

### **(Introduction to) Informatics:**

This module consists of lectures, discussions and student tasks about programming.

## Recommended Literature

### **Biomedicine:**

- Bruce Alberts, Rebecca Heald, Alexander Johnson, David Morgan, Martin Raff (2022) Molecular Biology of the Cell , 7. Edition. WW Norton & Co, 978-0-393-88485-2 (ISBN)
- Neil Campbell, Lisa Urry, Michael Cain, Steven Wasserman, Peter Minorsky (2020) Biology: A Global Approach , 12th edition, Pearson Education Limited (Verlag), 978-1-292-34163-7 (ISBN)
- Stephen R. Bolsover; Andrea Townsend-Nicholson;..(2022) Cell Biology A Short Course, Auflage: 4, John Wiley & Sons ISBN: 9781119757771
- Erin C. Amerman, Human anatomy & physiology (English), Ebook, 2019, ISBN: 9781292260174
- Elaine Nicpon Marieb, Human anatomy & physiology (English), Ebook, ISBN: 9781292260938

### **(Introduction to) Informatics:**

- Lutz, Mark. Learning Python: Powerful Object-Oriented Programming. O'Reilly Media, Inc., 2013.
- Shotts, William. The Linux Command Line: A Complete Introduction. No Starch Press, 2019.

## LSI-1101 Informatics

### Type of Examination

written ex. 90 min.



## **LSI-1102 Biomedicine**

### **Type of Examination**

written ex. 90 min.



## LSI-02 Life Science I

Module code	LSI-02
Module coordination	Dr. Stefan Fischer
Course number and name	LSI-02 Life Science I
Lecturers	Dr. Stefan Fischer Prof. Dr. Jeff Wilkesmann
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

The “Life Science I” module aims at providing an in depth understanding of the relevant aspects of molecular biology. In order to analyze biomedical data professionally, one needs a deep understanding of molecular biological and biochemical processes, which are conveyed within this module.

After completing the Life Science I module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence



After successfully completing the module, students will:

- understand the genetic mechanisms of living organisms and the consequences of genetic alterations
- understand signaling pathways and their repercussions on cell systems
- gain deep knowledge about manipulating/ modifying living systems in the lab and understand the purpose and readout of genetic engineering

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to differentiate between genetics, transcriptomics and proteomics and have deep insights into their biomedical relevance
- be familiar with genetic engineering methods and experimental procedures and the significance of their results

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Biomedical Data Analysis, Sequencing Technologies, Life Science II

## **Entrance Requirements**

Advantageous: Basic knowledge in Molecular Biology

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Molecular genetics
  - 1.1 How cells read the genome
  - 1.2 Control of gene expression
- 2 Cell Signaling
- 3 Genetic engineering

## **Teaching Methods**

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including exercises and interactive discussions on current topics and publications. The lecture part will prepare students' basic knowledge on biomedical objectives and the exercises as well as the interactive discussions will practice students' critical thinking skills.

Excursion (3 days): Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Institute of Biochemistry, Molecular Oncology, Genetical Engineering



## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work:

- Bruce Alberts, Alexander Johnson, Peter Walter, Julian Lewis, Martin Raff, Keith Roberts: Molecular Biology of the Cell (Englisch) Gebundene Ausgabe – 2. Dezember 2014; ISBN-13: 9780815344643; ISBN-10: 0815344643
- Stephen R. Bolsover [et al.]: Cell biology : a short course 2 nd ed.; ISBN 0-471-26393-1



## LSI-03 Informatics I

Module code	LSI-03
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Course number and name	LSI-03 Informatics I
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

Within the **Informatics I** module, students acquire foundational skills in programming and software development using Python. The focus is on problem solving, object-oriented programming, version control with Git, an introduction to software engineering principles, and software testing. The course balances essential theory with hands-on practice to build practical competence and confidence in writing, structuring, and validating code.

After completing the **Informatics I** module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- understand core programming constructs and be able to write clear, idiomatic Python programs.
- apply object-oriented programming (classes, objects, encapsulation, inheritance) to design and implement small systems.
- use exceptions and defensive programming techniques to write robust, fault-tolerant code.
- manage code with Git (init, clone, commit, branch/merge, pull requests).
- understand the basics of software engineering.
- design and run software tests (e.g., unit tests) to verify correctness and prevent regressions.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- decompose problems, design small applications, and iteratively refine solutions.
- work productively with modern development tools and apply Git-based workflows.
- employ defensive programming, assertions, and exception handling to improve reliability.
- apply basic testing strategies (unit tests, test cases, fixtures) and interpret test results.

### **Social competence**

- Practice collaborative development via pair programming and lightweight code reviews.
- Communicate technical decisions effectively within small groups.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Informatics II, Bioinformatic Algorithms and Data Structures, Machine Learning

## **Entrance Requirements**

### **Recommended or advantageous:**

- Familiarity with command-line usage.
- Basic programming.

## **Learning Content**

Contents of the lecture:

- Python Recap
- Version Control with Git
- Object Oriented Programming with Python



- Exceptions and Defensive Programming
- Introduction to Software Engineering
- Software Testing

## Teaching Methods

- Lecture with PowerPoint slides
- Live programming in the lecture
- Exercises to get practical experience that can be done in groups
- Exercises to get practical experience that are intended to work on them alone
- Etherpads to ask questions in iLearn
- Video recording of the lecture (if the lecture room supports that)

## Remarks

None

## Recommended Literature

- Lutz, Mark. Learning python: Powerful object-oriented programming. O'Reilly Media, Inc., 2025
- Sommerville, Ian. Software engineering tenth edition. 2016



## LSI-04 Biostatistics I

Module code	LSI-04
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl
Course number and name	LSI-04 Biostatistics I
Lecturer	Dr. Meik Kunz
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

The *Biostatistics I* module aims at providing an in depth understanding of the relevant aspects of statistics in terms of biomedical data analysis. In order to analyze biomedical data professionally, one needs in-depth biostatistical knowhow, which is conveyed within this module.

After completing the Biostatistics I module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- have learned how to use the free statistics language R and how to apply the language to biological data sets
- be able to use statistical methods such as descriptive statistics, parametric and non-parametric two-sample tests, chi-square tests, correlation analysis, linear regression analysis and ANOVA.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be safe in dealing with R
- be able to use R for statistical testing of biomedical data
- be familiar with the Bioconductor R packages and their properties and contents

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on developing statistical data analysis.
- Working together with fellow-students in small groups on designing and developing biostatistical analysis methods on biomedical datasets.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Biomedical Data Analysis; Bioinformatics: Algorithms and Data Structures; Data visualization

## **Entrance Requirements**

Advantageous: Basic knowledge in R and Statistics

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Basics and Concepts in Biostatistics
- 2 DNA and RNA Analysis
- 3 Protein Analysis- Hidden Markov Models
- 4 Descriptive Statistics
- 5 Statistic Testing
- 6 Diagnostic Testing, Meta Analysis

## **Teaching Methods**

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including practical exercises. The lecture part will prepare students' basic knowledge on



biostatistical objectives and the practical exercises will practice students' gained knowledge in biostatistical analysis using the software R.

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work

- Motulsky, Harvey, M.D.: Intuitive Biostatistics: A Nonmathematical Guide to Statistical Thinking, 2014;
- Andy Field: Discovering Statistics Using R; 2012; ISBN-13: 978-1446200469



## LSI-05 Sequencing Technologies

Module code	LSI-05
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl
Course number and name	LSI-05 Sequencing Technologies
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	Portfolio,
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

The *Sequencing Technologies* module aims at providing an in depth understanding of the current Sequencing Technologies and their advantages and disadvantages. In order to analyze biomedical data professionally, one needs to understand the different experimental setups of commonly used NGS methods, which are conveyed within this module.

After completing the Sequencing Technologies module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- have learned how to prepare samples for NGS applications.



- know about common methods of NGS and understand their technology and are able to computationally handle NGS raw data.
- know about the advantages and disadvantages of each sequencing method.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- know about the impact of experimental procedures on sample quality.
- know which key data regarding quality and quantity are important for successful sequencing.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on technical and methodical principals of Sequencing technologies
- Working together with fellow-students in small groups on designing and developing professional presentations of literature research results of different NGS applications.
- Team building by collaborative project work.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Biomedical Data Analysis; master seminar, master thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Advantageous: Module LSI-01 *Introduction to Biomedicine*

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Experimental setup for NGS applications
- 2 Sequencing instruments
- 3 Illumina Sequencers
- 4 PacBio sequencers
- 5 Minion sequencers
- 6 Sequencing data preparation
- 7 Sequencing data

## **Teaching Methods**

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including visualization of sequencing technologies. The lecture part will prepare students' basic knowledge on common NGS methods and their applications in research and medicine.



Basic practical knowledge in library preparation workflows will be gained by experimental work in the laboratory.

Guest lectures: Illumina, Dr. Silvio Scheel; Dr. Mohren and Dr. Hamberger, Pathology and Cytology, Deggendorf

## Remarks

Regular attendance is an essential requirement for the successful completion of this module. Students are **required to attend at least 70% of the scheduled sessions** . Meeting this attendance threshold is **mandatory** for admission to the final examination and thus for passing the module.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work:

- Jianping Xu: Next-Generation Sequencing: Current Technologies and Applications; 2014; ISBN-13: 978-1908230331



## LSI-06 Biomedical Data Analysis

Module code	LSI-06
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Course number and name	LSI-06 Biomedical Data Analysis
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Semester	1
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	Portfolio
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

This interdisciplinary module combines knowledge from the fields of informatics, statistics and molecular biology.

The *Biomedical Data Analysis* module shows the students the practical application of computer-aided biomedical data analysis and enables them to carry it out independently. This module is an interdisciplinary tutorial in which the students perform the NGS data analysis workflow by themselves under professional instruction.

After completing the Biomedical Data Analysis module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- have learned how to manage NGS data.
- be familiar with file formats and their usage in the different analysis approaches.
- know about common data analysis workflows and be able to interpret and visualize the achieved results.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to perform quality control on sequencing data.
- be able to perform mapping procedures.
- be able to create genome indices and know the relevance of a reference genome.
- be able to perform NGS data analysis in terms of RNA-Seq data.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on performing biomedical data analysis.
- Working together with fellow-students in small groups on designing and developing NGS data analysis workflows.
- Team building by interactive working groups.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

master seminar, master thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Advantageous: Module LSI-01: *Introduction to Informatics and Biomedicine* , Basic knowledge in R, Basic knowledge in Statistics

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Introduction to Biomedical Data Analysis
- 2 Reproducible Research
- 3 Technical Setup
  - 3.1 Conda/Bioconca
  - 3.2 Environments / Virtual Machines / Containers
  - 3.3 Notebooks / Jupyterlab / Markdown
- 4 Manual RNA-seq Data Analysis
  - 4.1 NGS File Formats
  - 4.2 Quality Control
  - 4.3 Adapter Trimming
  - 4.4 Index Generation and Read Alignment



- 4.5 Feature Counting
- 4.6 Differential Expression Analysis
- 5 Workflow Managers
  - 5.1 Concept of Workflow Managers and Their Benefits
  - 5.2 Introduction to Snakemake
  - 5.3 RNA-seq Analysis Using Snakemake

## Teaching Methods

Tutorial, practical exercises, application examples

The module consists of an interactive theoretical part with blended learning components. Within the tutorial the students use example NGS datasets to perform the biomedical data analysis workflow. In the practical part of the tutorial the students should learn to find solutions to problems independently by discussions and research work.

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work

- The Biostars Handbook: Bioinformatics Data Analysis Guide; 2019; <https://www.biostarhandbook.com/>



## LSI-07 Life Science II

Module code	LSI-07
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Jeff Wilkesmann
Course number and name	LSI-07 Life Science II
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl Prof. Dr. Jeff Wilkesmann
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	Portfolio,
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

The *Life Science II* module builds on the knowledge from *Life Science I* and aims at providing an in depth understanding of the relevant aspects of molecular based diseases with a special focus on molecular oncology. In order to understand the approaches of personalized medicine and targeted therapy the students should have a broad as well as profound knowledge about the ongoing biochemical processes resulting in disease development and progression.

The practice of medicine, especially in the disciplines of Pathology and human Genetics is increasingly reliant on Genomic technology. The aim of this module is to increase the



knowledge and capability of the students using genetic data allowing them to engage confidently with the scientific concepts of Molecular Pathology and Genomic Medicine.

After completing the *Life Science II* module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

### **Professional competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to explain how genetic variation is involved in human disease and the development of cancer.
- understand how genetic variation can be a major determinant of patient treatment.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to interpret NGS data in the context of germline mutations that cause human genetic disease, and somatic mutations involved in cancer.
- be able to interpret NGS data in the context of gene expression analysis and understand the relevance of gene set enrichment analysis as well as gene ontology classifications

### **Social competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be confident in critically evaluate molecular pathology & diagnostics.
- be able to discuss molecular feature of different kind of diseases

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Data visualization, master seminar, master thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Recommended or advantageous:

Module LSI-02: *Life Science I*

## **Learning Content**

Molecular basis of human disease

- 1 Molecular Pathology
- 2 Molecular Oncology

## **Teaching Methods**

Seminar-like classes, Laboratory practical course



The module consists of a theoretical lecture part and practical part in the laboratory with blended learning components, including interactive discussions on current topics and publications as well as the execution of practical biochemical experiments. The lecture part will prepare students' in-depth knowledge on the molecular basis of human disease. The practical part will give in depth insights into the experimental procedure of cell culture, nucleic acids and protein analytics.

Guest lecture: Prof. Dr. Michael Rehli, Epigenetics Data Analysis (Dept. Internal Medicine III, University Hospital Regensburg), Dr. Silvio Scheel (Illumina), Prof. Dr. Calus Hellerbrand, Molecular Pathology (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Institute of Biochemistry), Prof. Dr. Anja Bosserhoff, Good Scientific Practice (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Institute of Biochemistry), Dr. Alexandra Hamberger and Dr. Mohren, Molecular Diagnostics (Institute of Pathology, Deggendorf), Dr. Josef Scheiber, Bioinformatics (BioVariance)

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures. Regular attendance is an essential requirement for the successful completion of this module. Students are **required to attend at least 80% of the practical-lab part sessions**. Meeting this attendance threshold is **mandatory** for admission to the final examination and thus for passing the module.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work

- Bruce Alberts, Alexander Johnson, Peter Walter, Julian Lewis, Martin Raff, Keith Roberts: Molecular Biology of the Cell (Englisch) Gebundene Ausgabe 2. Dezember 2014; ISBN-13: 9780815344643; ISBN-10:0815344643
- William B. Coleman, Gregory J. Tsongalis: Molecular Pathology: The Molecular Basis of Human Disease, 2 nd edition, 2017, ISBN-13: 978-0128027615

## LSI-07 Life Science II

### Type of Examination

, Portfolio



## LSI-08 Informatics II

Module code	LSI-08
Module coordination	Prof. Daniel Volk
Course number and name	LSI-08 Informatics II
Lecturer	Prof. Daniel Volk
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 90 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

Upon successful completion of the module, students will be able to implement simple projects using the Python programming language. They will have a solid understanding of the underlying programming concepts, be proficient in using the most relevant language constructs, and be able to apply these efficiently and effectively to develop their own programs. Specifically, students will be able:

- - -

Professional competences

- To outline core concepts and features of the Python programming language
- To understand the advantages of object-oriented and functional programming approaches



- To make use of core modules from within the Python standard library
- To integrate and apply helpful 3rd party packages

- - -

#### Methodological competences

- To leverage both the REPL for exploratory tasks and an IDE for structured development
- To use object-oriented programming to decompose programs into classes
- To use functional programming to write more condensed code
- To implement programs for string processing, especially as command line tool
- To realize simple database and Web integrations

- - -

#### Personal and social competences

- To search for and familiarize with unknown programming packages on their own
- To evaluate someone else's work and give objective and constructive feedback
- To cooperate in pair programming settings, both in driver and navigator role

### Applicability in this and other Programs

- LSI-10 Data Mining and Machine Learning (and comparable modules)
- LSI-11 Bioinformatics Algorithms and Data Structures (and comparable modules)
- LSI-12 Data Visualization (and comparable modules)

### Entrance Requirements

- LSI-01 Informatics and Biomedicine (or comparable prior knowledge)
- LSI-03 Informatics I (or comparable prior knowledge)

### Learning Content

- Python language (partially covered in Informatics I)
  - Data model (e.g., variables, types)
  - Expressions (e.g., assignment, arithmetic, boolean)
  - Control structures (e.g., if, for, while)
  - Data structures (e.g., list, tuple, set, dict)
  - Functions (e.g., arguments, namespaces)
  - Errors, Exceptions
  - Modules, packages



- Comments, documentation
- Object-oriented programming (partially covered in Informatics I)
  - Classes, objects, attributes
  - Inheritance, polymorphism
  - Special methods
- Functional programming
  - Lambda expressions
  - Iterators, generators, decorators
  - Map, filter
- Python platform
  - Interactive interpreter (REPL)
  - Documentation generation (pydoc)
  - Virtual environments (venv)
  - Package management (pip)
- Python for the command line
  - File handling (e.g., io, os, pathlib)
  - Text processing (e.g., string, re)
  - Command line interfaces (e.g., argparse, click)
- Python for databases
  - SQL
  - Database access (e.g., sqlite3)
- Python for the Web
  - http
  - Web packages (e.g., requests)

Some of the contents are based on the course CS 41: The Python Programming Language from Stanford University.

## Teaching Methods

Lectures, demos, exercises, seminary-based teaching, small projects

## Recommended Literature

- Matthes, E. (2023). Python Crash Course, 3rd Edition: A Hands-On, Project-Based Introduction to Programming, No Starch Press, San Francisco, CA
- Lutz, M. (2025). Learning Python, 6th Edition, OReilly Media, Sebastopol, CA
- Python Software Foundation (2026). Python Documentation, URL: <https://docs.python.org/> (last accessed: 15.03.2026)
- Refsnes Data (2026). W3C Schools Python Tutorial, URL: <https://www.w3schools.com/python/default.asp> (last accessed: 15.03.2026)



- Sarin, P., Cooper, M. (2020). CS 41 Course Reader, URL: <https://github.com/stanfordpython/course-reader> (last accessed: 15.03.2026)



## LSI-09 Biostatistics II

Module code	LSI-09
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl
Course number and name	LSI-09 Biostatistics II
Lecturer	Dr. Meik Kunz
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

The *Biostatistics II* module aims at providing an in depth understanding of the relevant aspects of statistics in terms of biomedical data analysis. In order to analyze biomedical data professionally, one needs in-depth biostatistical know-how, which is conveyed within this module.

After completing the Biostatistics II module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- be confident in advanced R programming.
- be able to identify different types of data, and how it can be collected.
- be able to recognize and design experiments.
- know how to summarize data numerically and graphically using R.
- understand the difference between point and interval estimation.
- be able to determine and perform correct statistical tests.
- know how to conclude and interpret the results from statistical tests.
- be familiar with inferential statistics including parametric and nonparametric methods.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to write programming scripts in R.
- be able to use R for advanced statistical testing of biomedical data.
- be confident in data visualization in R.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on developing statistical data analysis.
- Working together with fellow-students in small groups on designing and developing biostatistical analysis methods on biomedical datasets.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Bioinformatics: Algorithms and Data Structures; Data visualization, master seminar, master thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Recommended or advantageous:

Module: LSI-04 *Biostatistics I*

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Linear regression; Logistic regression
- 2 Survival analysis; Multivariate regression
- 3 Stepwise regression; SVM, GBM
- 4 Regularized regression I+II (Lasso, Ridge, Elastic net)
- 5 Dimension reduction I+II (PCA, MDS, t-SNE, SOM)
- 6 Clustering I+II (kNN, k-means, ...)



## Teaching Methods

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including practical exercises. The lecture part will prepare students' basic knowledge on biostatistical objectives and the practical exercises will practice students' gained knowledge in biostatistical analysis using the software R.

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work

- Motulsky, Harvey, M.D.: Intuitive Biostatistics: A Nonmathematical Guide to Statistical Thinking, 2017;
- Andy Field: Discovering Statistics Using R; 2012; ISBN-13: 978-1446200469



## LSI-10 Data Mining and Machine Learning

Module code	LSI-10
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Course number and name	LSI-10 Data Mining and Machine Learning
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

Within the *Data Analysis* module, the students will acquire fundamental knowledge of the techniques and applications of data analysis and machine learning. Data analysis is a mixture of developments in particular in the fields of machine learning, statistical learning and computer science. The course covers the theoretical fundamentals but concentrates on the application of machine learning methods with Python.

After completing the *Data Mining & Machine Learning* module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- know the fundamentals of machine learning as well as common pitfalls and obstacles.
- be familiar with the usage of Python, scikit-learn, pandas and matplotlib for analyzing data sets.
- be able to compare, evaluate and select machine learning methods.
- be familiar with regression, classification and clustering methods and know how to apply them.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- know how to use Jupyter Lab to perform and report data analysis projects.
- be able to select and apply appropriate data analysis techniques.
- be able to interpret the results.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on data analysis exercises.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Data Visualization, Biomedical Data Analysis, Master Seminar, Master Thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Recommended or advantageous:

Module: LSI-03 *Informatics I*

Module: LSI-04 *Biostatistics I*

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Introduction
  - 1.1 Goals of Machine Learning, Definitions and General Concepts
  - 1.2 Technical Introduction: NumPy, SciPy, scikit-learn, pandas and matplotlib
- 2 Supervised Learning
  - 2.1 Regression (e.g.)
    - 2.1.1 Linear Regression, Multiple Linear Regression
    - 2.1.2 Regression Trees
  - 2.2 Classification (e.g.)
    - 2.2.1 k-Nearest Neighbor
    - 2.2.2 Decision Trees
    - 2.2.3 Multinomial and Gaussian Naive Bayes
- 3 Unsupervised Learning (e.g.)



- 3.1 k-means and EM-algorithm
- 3.2 Hierarchical Clustering
- 4 Model Assessment & Evaluation
  - 4.1 Confusion Matrix, Performance Measurements
  - 4.2 ROC Curves, Precision-Recall Curves
  - 4.3 Cross-validation: k-fold, LOOCV, nested CV
  - 4.4 Bootstrapping
- 5 Ensemble Methods
- 6 Data Preprocessing
- 7 Introduction to Deep Learning

## Teaching Methods

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including practical exercises. The lecture part will prepare students' basic knowledge on data analysis objectives and the practical exercises will practice students' gained knowledge in data analysis using Python.

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Lecture notes are available online.

Literature:

- Bishop, Christopher M. Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning. Springer, 2006
- Géron, Aurélien. Hands-On Machine Learning with Scikit-Learn, Keras, and TensorFlow. O'Reilly Media, Inc., 2022.



## LSI-11 Bioinformatics - Algorithms and Data Structures

Module code	LSI-11
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Course number and name	LSI-11 Bioinformatics - Algorithms and Data Structures
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	written ex. 90 min.
Duration of Examination	90 min.
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

Within the *Bioinformatics - Algorithms and Data Structures* module the students will acquire fundamental knowledge of the techniques, opportunities and applications of bioinformatic algorithms. The module provides the algorithmic background for programs used in bioinformatic and biomedical data analysis.

After completing the Bioinformatics module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence

After successfully completing the module, students will:



- understand essential bioinformatic algorithms and will know their advances and limitations.
- know how to develop, describe and implement algorithms.
- understand how the analysis of biological sequences leads to biological knowledge.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- be able to formulate biological problems or models as algorithmic problems.
- be able to implement algorithms based on algorithmic descriptions.
- be familiar with the usage of bioinformatic programs.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups.
- Team building by interactive project groups.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

Biomedical Data Analysis, Sequencing Technologies, Data Visualization, Master Seminar, Master Thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Recommended or advantageous:

Module: LSI-03 *Informatics I*

Module: LSI-04 *Biostatistics I*

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Introduction to Biological Sequence Analysis
- 2 Exact String Matching
- 3 Pairwise Sequence Alignments
  - 3.1 Sequence Similarity/Cost Functions
  - 3.2 Substitution Matrices
  - 3.3 Alignment Graphs and Dynamic Programming
  - 3.4 Global, Local, End-Gap Alignments
  - 3.5 Gotoh Algorithm
- 4 BLAST
- 5 Index Data Structures
  - 5.1 Suffix Tries
  - 5.2 Suffix Trees
  - 5.3 Suffix Arrays



## 6 Multiple Sequence Alignments

### Teaching Methods

Seminar-like classes, application examples

The module consists of a lecture part with blended learning components, including practical exercises. The lecture part will prepare students' knowledge on bioinformatic algorithms and data structures and the practical exercises expose students to the application and implementation of bioinformatic algorithms.

### Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

### Recommended Literature

Lecture notes are available online.

Literature:

- Compeau, Phillip, et al. Bioinformatics Algorithms: An Active Learning Approach, 2nd Ed, Active Learning Publishers, 2014
- Durbin, Richard, et al. Biological sequence analysis: probabilistic models of proteins and nucleic acids. Cambridge university press, 1998



## LSI-12 Data Visualization

Module code	LSI-12
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Javier Valdes
Course number and name	LSI-12 Data Visualization
Lecturer	Prof. Dr. Javier Valdes
Semester	2
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	4
ECTS	5
Workload	Time of attendance: 60 hours self-study: 45 hours virtual learning: 45 hours Total: 150 hours
Type of Examination	Portfolio
Weighting of the grade	5/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

*Data Visualization* is the graphic representation of a data analysis to achieve clear and effective communication of results and insights. Complex ideas are presented in charts and graphs with the goal of quickly and easily disseminating key, actionable information. Data visualization is an essential part of data science and analytics, especially when working with large, complicated data sets like sequencing data. The visualization tells a story, whether as a stand-alone graph or combined with other graphs, charts and design elements in an infographic or dashboard.

After completing the Data Visualization module, students will have obtained the following learning competencies:

#### Professional competence



After successfully completing the module, students will:

- know the data visualization principles and how to apply them to different contexts.
- be familiar with file formats and their usage in the different analysis approaches.
- know about the use of graphs in common data analysis workflows
- Be able to interpret and generate publishable visualizations of the achieved results.

### **Methodological competence**

After successfully completing the module, students will:

- know how to use ggplot2 in R to create custom plots.
- know how to use matplotlib and Python to create custom plots.

### **Social competence**

- Interdisciplinary and interpersonal collaboration when working together in small groups on developing R and Python scripts for data analysis and data visualization.
- Working together with fellow-students in small groups on designing and developing biostatistical validation of biomedical datasets within R and/or Python.

## **Applicability in this and other Programs**

master seminar, master thesis

## **Entrance Requirements**

Recommended or advantageous:

Basic Knowledge in R or Python

Module: LSI-04 *Biostatistics I*

## **Learning Content**

- 1 Perception and Interpretation
- 2 Introduction to the Principles of Data Visualization
- 3 Proportions, Formats
- 4 Reproducibility and Data Literacy
- 5 Theoretical Background
- 6 Use of Generative AI in Data Visualization
- 7 Packages for data visualization
- 8 Open access visualization tools
- 9 Matplotlib and other Python packages for data visualization



- 10 Visualization in Life Science Modelling
- 11 Advanced Visualization Topics in Life Science
- 12 Tips, Tools, Templates

## Teaching Methods

Tutorial, practical exercises, application examples

The module consists of an interactive theoretical part with blended learning components. Within the tutorial the students use example NGS datasets to perform the biomedical data visualization. In the practical part of the tutorial the students should learn to find various visualization tools, possibilities and methods and discuss their advantages and disadvantages to represent statistical significance.

## Remarks

The iLearn teaching and learning platform provides students with additional literature references and learning material to prepare for the lectures.

## Recommended Literature

Detailed lecture notes are available online for preparation and follow-up work

- The Biostars Handbook: Bioinformatics Data Analysis Guide; 2019; <https://www.biostarhandbook.com/>



## LSI-13 Master Modul

Module code	LSI-13
Module coordination	Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl
Course number and name	LSI-1301 Master Thesis LSI-1303 Master Seminar
Lecturers	Dr. Stefan Fischer Prof. Dr. Melanie Kappelmann-Fenzl Prof. Dr. Phillipp Torkler
Semester	3
Duration of the module	1 semester
Module frequency	annually
Course type	required course
Level	Postgraduate
Semester periods per week (SWS)	6
ECTS	30
Workload	Time of attendance: 90 hours self-study: 690 hours virtual learning: 30 hours Total: 810 hours
Type of Examination	presentation 20 min., colloquium, master thesis
Weighting of the grade	30/90
Language of Instruction	English

### Module Objective

By producing a Master's Thesis the students should demonstrate their ability to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the study course, in an independently written scientific work on complex tasks. They thus demonstrate that they have successfully completed their Master's levels studies and acquired the capacity for independent scientific work.



## Applicability in this and other Programs

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## Entrance Requirements

According to the paragraph 8 of the Study and Examination Regulations, those students who have collected at least 40 ECTS credits may register for the Master's Thesis.

## Learning Content

The Master's Thesis is a written report in a form of a scientific paper. It describes the scientific findings, as well as the way leading to these findings. It contains justifications for decisions regarding chosen methods for the thesis and discarded alternatives. The student's own substantial contribution to the achieved results has to be evident. In addition, the student presents his work in a colloquium, in which the scientific quality and the scientific independence of his achievements are evaluated. The work on the Master's Thesis is supervised by any of the instructors within the study course (professors or lecturers) or an external instructor. The Master's Thesis can be written on any subject or topic related to the content of any of the modules of the study course. The students can suggest the topics for their Master's Theses according to their research or practice preferences. The preparation time of a Master's Thesis according to the regulations is 6 (six) months. However, an extension up to a maximum of 8 months from the subscription date is possible (§11 APO). As a general rule, the size of the thesis should not exceed 70 pages.

## Teaching Methods

Students perform an independent supervised scientific research work.

## Remarks

Regular attendance to the Masterseminar is an essential requirement for the successful completion of this module. Students are **required to attend at least 70% of the scheduled sessions**. Meeting this attendance threshold is **mandatory** for admission to the final Master Colloquium and thus for passing the study programme.

## Recommended Literature

Recommendations and instructions of writing a master's thesis (available through iLearn).

