MEi:CogSci

Middle European interdisciplinary Master's Programme in Cognitive Science

Neues Institutsgebäude (NIG)

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MEi:CogSci — Middle European interdisciplinary master's programme in Cognitive Science — Vienna

Markus F. Peschl

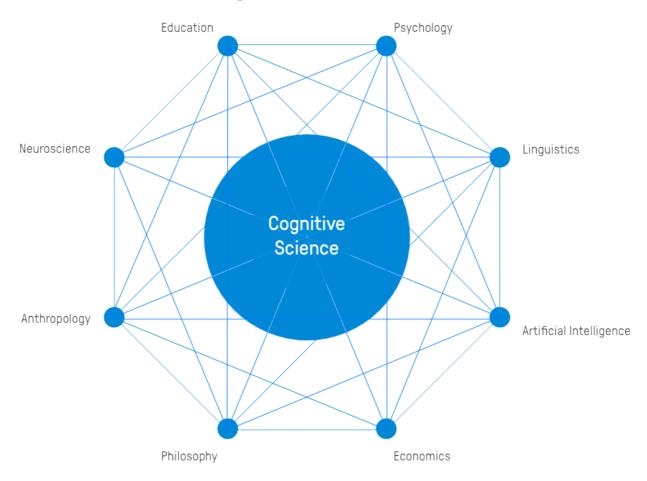**Elisabeth Zimmermann**

Udo Schimanofsky

What is Cognitive Science**?**

- An **emerging scientific field** studying cognitive phenomena such as perception, reasoning, thinking, action/behaviour, etc.

- Which integrates research from different disciplines in the natural sciences, humanities, and technology in an **interdisciplinary** manner.

Inter-/Transdisciplinarity
in Cognitive Science

MEi:CogSci - Middle European interdisciplinary master's programme in Cognitive Science

Joint Degree running since 2006.

Partner institutions:

◦ University of **Vienna**, Eötvös Loránd University **Budapest**, Comenius University of **Bratislava**, University of **Ljubljana**

4 semesters – 120 ECTS

3rd (and possibly 4th) semester – **mobility** (30 ECTS compulsory)

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column 1
disciplinary oriented

column 2
"tools"

column 3
integrative kernel

phase/year 1

introductory phase

semester 1

- B-D-Module
- B-D-Module
- B-D-Module or A-D-Module
- B-M-PRO or A-M-Module
- B-I-CS

semester 2

- B-D-Module or A-D-Module
- B-M-CS (Into Research I)
- A-M-CS (Into Research II)
- B-M-STA or A-M-Module
- B-M-CS
- A-M-CS
- A-I-CS

phase/year 2

thematic/phenomenon & research oriented

semester 3

- S-I-PJ
- W-D-C
- S-I
- S-I-CS

semester 4

- S-I-MA
- S-I-CSM
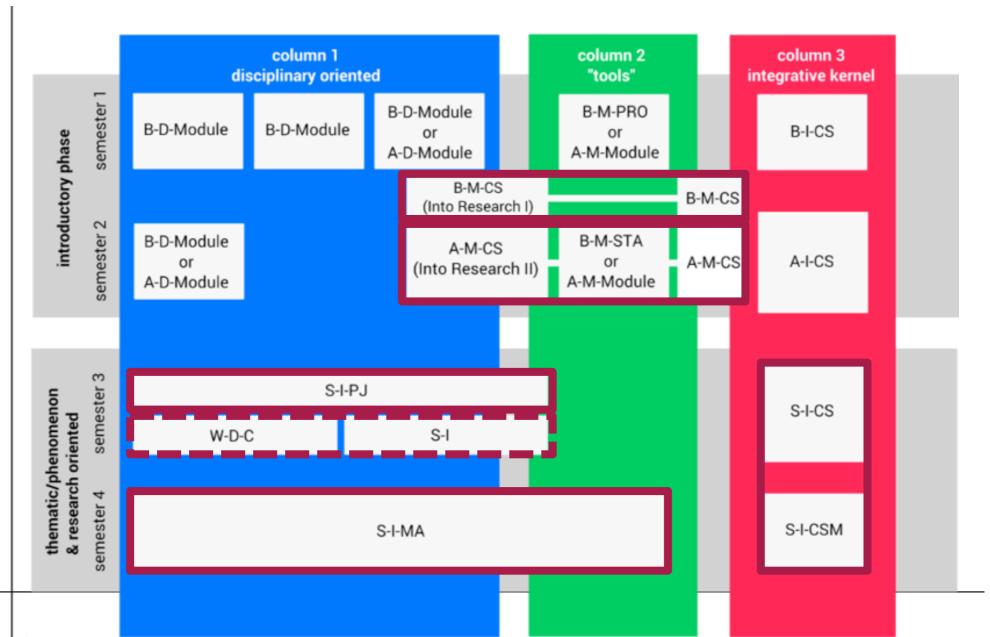
Research-based Curriculum

Basic Disciplinary Modules

Student has to choose: Degree in:	Basic Disc.: - **PHI**losophy - **LIN**guistics	Basic Disc.: - **BIO**logy - **PSY**chology - **NEU**roscience	Basic Disc.: - **AI**
Arts/humanities - **Philosophy** - **Linguistics**		X	X
Science - **Biology** - **Psychology** - **Neuroscience/ Medicine** - **(Physics)**	X		X
Social Science - **Cultural/Social Anthropology**		X	X
Formal/theoretical science - **Computer Science** - **(Mathematics)** - **(Computational Logic)**	X	X	
Interdisciplinary - **Cognitive Science**			

Didactical Concepts

- Learning Contracts
- Lab reports & Lab journals
- MEi:CogSci Conference
- Mentoring
- Peer-teaching
- Focus on interdisciplinary cooperation
  - Developing your own voice

Information online

Local website

https://ssc-phil.univie.ac.at/studien/master-cognitive-science/

International website

www.meicogsci.eu

Possibility to apply at different partner universities in parallel!

Admission at University of Vienna

- **Bachelor or Master/Diploma studies** in Cognitive Science or one of its core disciplines: Anthropology, Biology, Computer Science, Linguistics, Medicine/Neuroscience, Philosophy or Psychology.
  - Or **other backgrounds** (up to 30 extra ECTS points can be stipulated)

- Places will be distributed depending on the background discipline (up to 7 places from each: natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, formal sciences and cognitive science)
- No waiting lists!

Application and Admission Procedure

1.

Application Phase

Steps:

- Register via u:space.

- For detailed information see the MEi:CogSci Admission page.

- Upload all required documents.

Deadline: April 7!

Middle European interdisciplinary master's programme in Cognitive Science (MEi:CogSci)

Your steps in the admission procedure depend on whether you have completed your previous degree programme at the University of Vienna or another post-secondary educational institution.

In the study profile of the master programme Middle European master's programme in Cognitive Science (MEi:CogSci) you can find out which previous degree programmes are eligible.

🔒 Degree programme with selection procedure

A selection procedure is conducted for admission to this master programme.

- ■ You can only submit your application for admission to the degree programme once per year, within the application period.
- ■ The admission letter is only valid for the winter semester you have applied for and the following summer semester.
- ■ 35 study places are available per academic year. The allocation of available study places ensues during the selection procedure.

Application period academic year 2025/26: from 3 March to 7 April 2025

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Documents:
English Requirements

Applicants who are not native speakers of English must demonstrate English proficiency (on **B2** level or higher).

Details available on the Proof of English Language Proficiency website of the University of Vienna.

Recognised proofs of English language proficiency at level B2

A proof of English language proficiency at level B2 is required for admission to the bachelor programme in International Legal Studies and in Mathematical Foundations of Data Science as well as to multiple master programmes taught in English and multilingual master programmes.

■ Required English proficiency for admission to master programmes taught in foreign languages

Proofs B2

■ Secondary-school leaving certificate with successful graduation exam in the subject English. The following conditions apply:

☐ The secondary-school leaving certificate was completed at a school of an EU/EEA country, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the USA, Australia, New Zealand or Canada.

☐ If the level of English proficiency is not clearly evident in the certificate, a confirmation by the school administration may be demanded.

☐ The Austrian secondary-school leaving certificate (Matura) of the Corona year 2021 is equal to other secondary-school leaving certificates.

■ "IB diploma" according to the regulations of the "International Baccalaureate Organization" with the subject English.

■ Certificate of the supplementary examination in the

Certificates B2

■ TOEFL: IBT (internet-based): 94 points or higher

■ IELTS Academic: Overall Band Score: 6.5 points

■ Cambridge English First Certificate (FCE): result level B2

■ Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE): result level B2

■ Language Competency Examination at level B2 by a university language centre. The language centre has to be located at a university in an EU/EEA country, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the USA, Australia, New Zealand or Canada.

These certificates may not be older than three years at the time of application.

Any of the above mentioned certificates at a higher level than B2, can also be accepted as proof of English language proficiency at level B2 (see FAQ).

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Documents:
Bachelor certificates, transcripts, ECTS

- If you have not yet graduated from your Bachelor, but will soon :

  ◦ When applying to our programme, you need to have: 150 ECTS

     → current transcript of records.

  ◦ Before August: completed your degree.

Questions Regarding the Formal Admission Criteria ¿?

If you have questions regarding this stage of the admission process, contact the Admission Office using the Contact Form.

Contact form

Required fields are marked with a red square

Topic	--Please choose--
E-Mail	
Name	
Student ID number	
User ID	
Subject	
Message	

Attachment	SELECT FILE No file selected

SEND ▶

2.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

- The **Admission Office** checks your **formal requirements.**
- The **Admission Committee** assesses your **qualification.**
  - Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ulrich Ansorge
  - Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Thomas Bugnyar
  - Univ.-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Franz-Markus Peschl
  - Mag. Dr. Sabine Tebbich, Privatdoz

Nomination: beginning/mid June

2.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

◦ Candidates are chosen on the basis of their **letter of motivation** (your motivation to study cognitive science and your research question) and the **discipline of their bachelor degree**.

→Use the *Letter of Motivation-form*!

Nomination: beginning/mid June

2.

Evaluation procedure and criteria

○ The didactical design of the programme benefits from an equal distribution of **representatives of different disciplines**

→ Rankings will be made for the different areas (natural science, humanities, formal science, social science, cognitive science).

- We value interdisciplinarity and we also welcome applications of students from other disciplines. It's alright if the discipline of your bachelor degree(s) does not align to one of those core disciplines (e.g. Sociology, Multimedia etc.).

Nomination: beginning/mid June

After Admission

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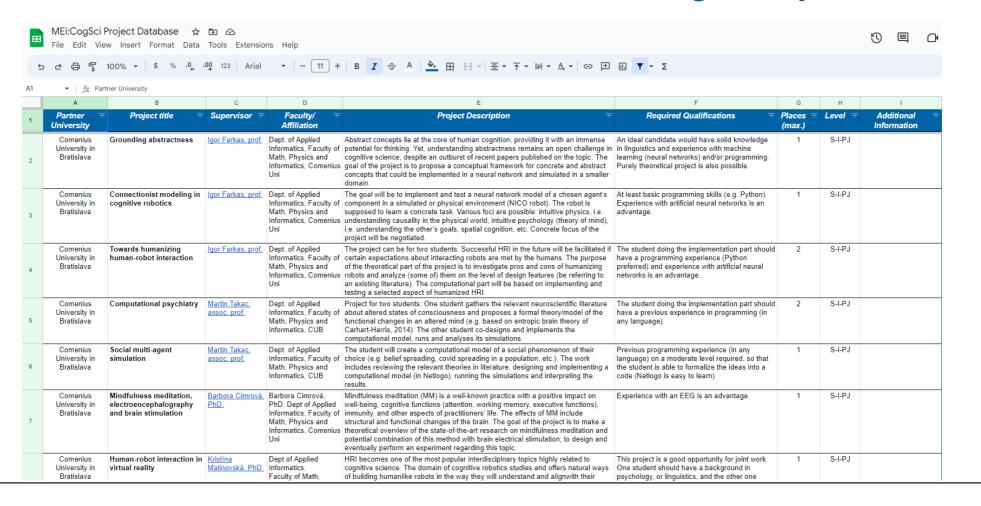
3, 4, 5, go!

3. Registration at the University of Vienna
   & Co-registration at MUW

4. Start: **Fri, Sep 26, 2025** afternoon & Heuriger in the evening
   ◦ Obligatory participation in the first meeting
   ◦ Getting to know each other, mentoring on the choice of modules

5. Introduction to Courses: **Thu, Oct 2, 2025**

Specializations

MEi:CogSci Project Database

Next Steps

1. Application
   - Submitting all relevant documents
   - Deadline: April 7th
   - Nomination: beginning/mid June
2. Registration at the University of Vienna
3. First meeting (end of September)
   - compulsory (!)

Contact

International MEi:CogSci website

University of Vienna MEi:CogSci website

meicogsci@univie.ac.at

University of Vienna MEi:CogSci Team:

• Elisabeth Zimmermann •

• Markus Peschl •

• Udo Schimanofsky •