



Welcome to Media Informatics

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

Head of Program: Prof. Ulrike Meyer, Prof. Stefan Decker
Academic Advisory Team: Rene Roepke, Rezaul Karim

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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
- Lubna Ali
 - Responsibilities:
 - t.b.a.
 - Contact: msc-mi@b-it-center.de

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/>

Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen

- 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
 - Data Mining
 - Human Computer Interaction
 - etc.

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 international@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‘:
 - Identity Management „RWTH Single Sign-On“ (see [details](#))
 - Student ID „Blue Card“ (see [details](#))
 - Transportation Ticket „Semester Ticket“ (see [details](#))
 - RWTH-Mail „firstname.lastname@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 with internal messaging system (not email)
- 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

Getting your Uni Bonn ID (1/3)

- You need a Uni Bonn ID to use various Uni Bonn services (e.g. eCampus)
- Please visit the following site to fill out a online registration form:
 - <https://www.hrz.uni-bonn.de/en/all-services/uni-id-identity-management>
 - 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 (2/3)

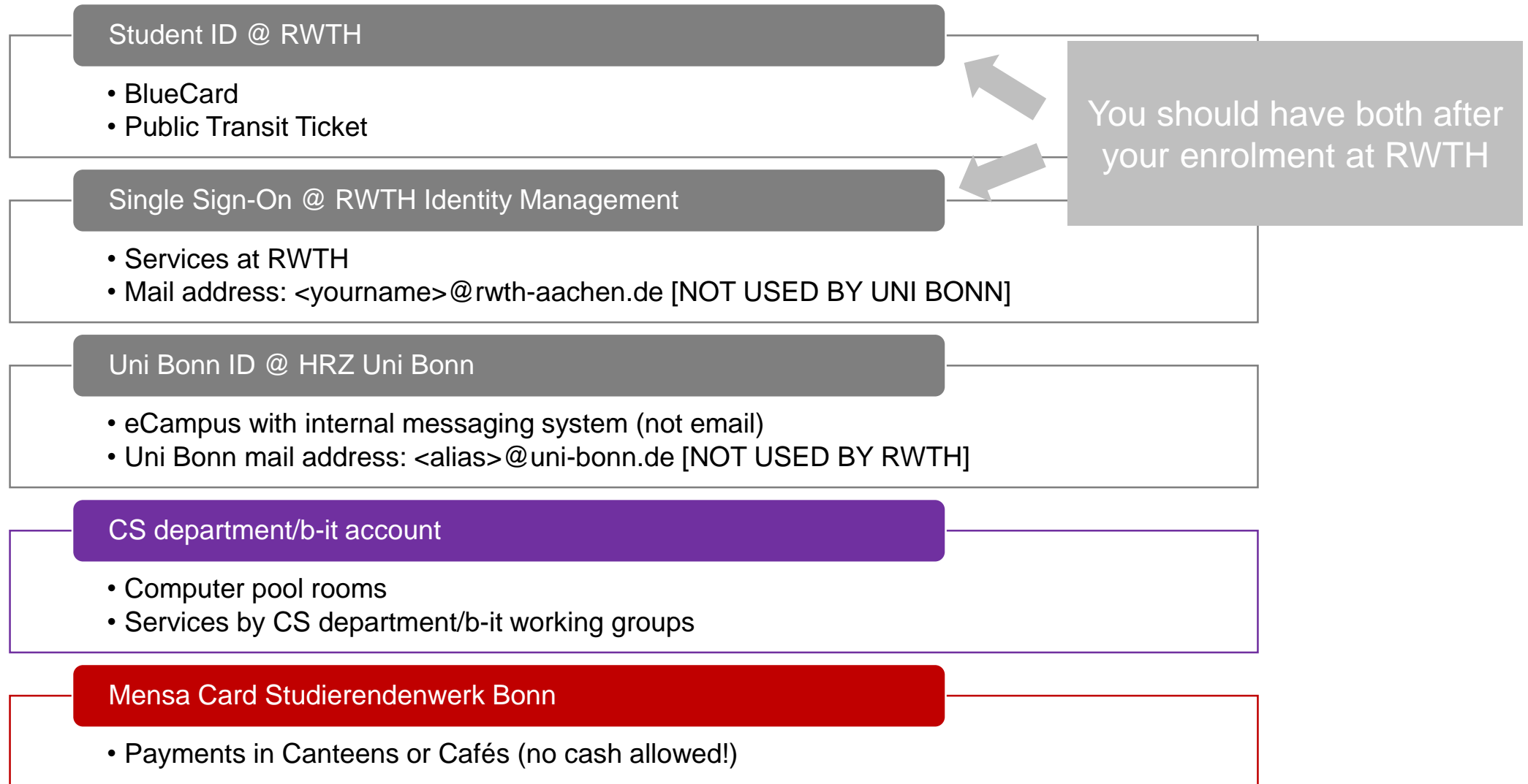
- Next steps:
 - Sign and scan the printed registration form.
 - Attach a scan of your passport and the current enrolment certificate (download in RWTHOnline -> Documents; after enrolment at RWTH).
 - Now please send your a scan of the signed form, of your passport and the enrolment certificate to ids@uni-bonn.de
 - The Uni-ID will be send to you by e-mail
 - To renew your Uni-ID, send your current enrolment certificate each semester to ids@uni-bonn.de

Getting your Uni Bonn ID

What is it for?

- Access to eCampus and its messaging system <<https://ecampus.uni-bonn.de/>>.
- A dedicated email address @uni-bonn.de <<https://mail.uni-bonn.de/>>.
-
- More info at
- <https://www.hrz.uni-bonn.de/de/services/e-mail-kalender-kontakte/e-mail?set_language=en>,
- via "manage ID" several settings can be seen and some of them modified to your needs.

Accounts/Cards/IDs



CS department/b-it services

<https://startup.informatik.uni-bonn.de/language>

- 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 after you received your Uni Bonn ID**
 - <https://startup.informatik.uni-bonn.de/language>
- For more details, visit:
 - https://gsg.informatik.uni-bonn.de/doku.php?id=de:accounts:students:manage:meinformatik#ein_neues_konto_beantragen

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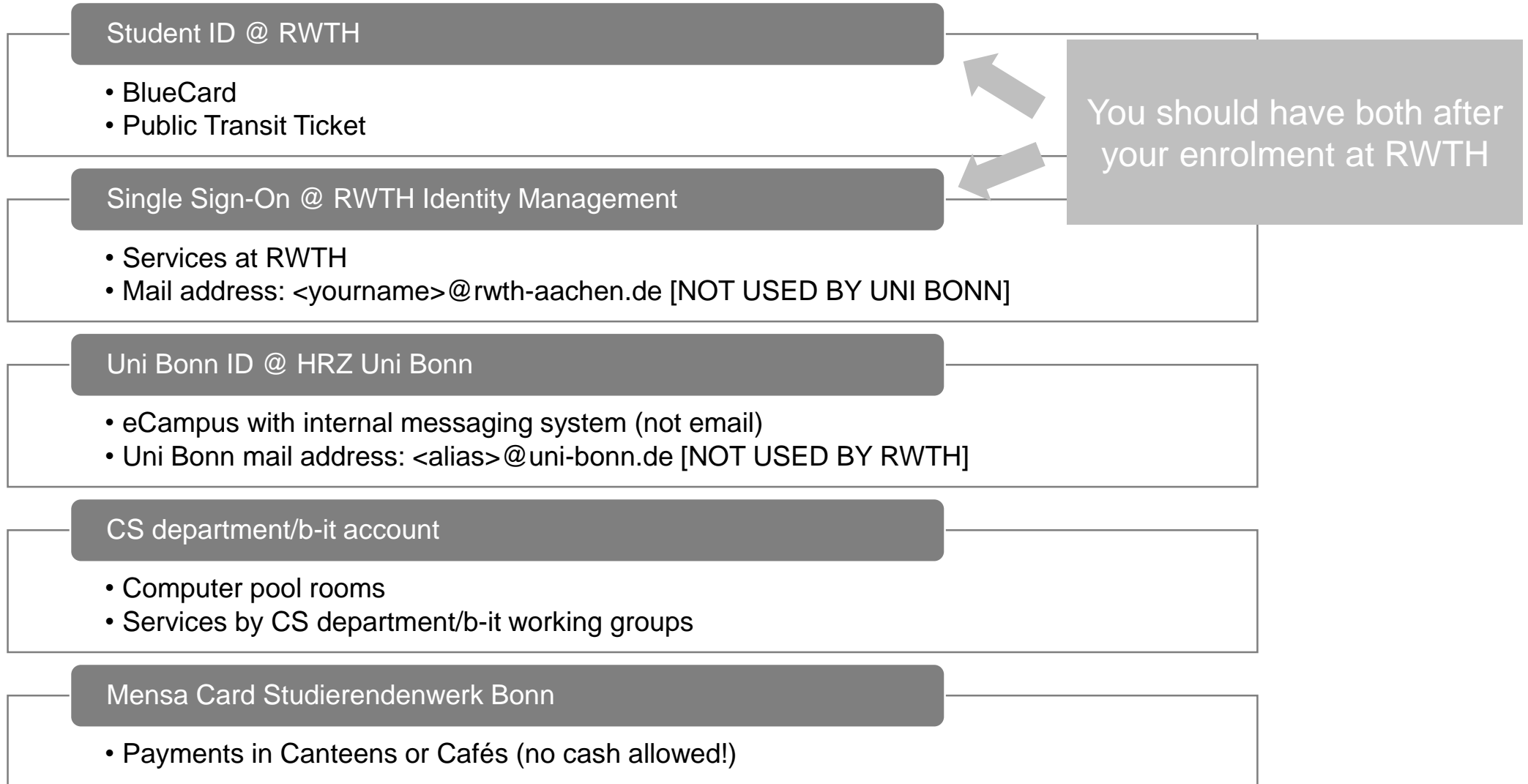
- Payments in Canteens or Cafés (no cash allowed!)

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 RWTH student ID to proof you are a student and 5.00 Euro for deposit.
 - Alternatively, you may download your Enrolment Certificate under Documents in RWTHonline!
- Check the following page for more information
 - <https://www.studierendenwerk-bonn.de/en/food-drink/>
- In case of questions, also contact:
 - <https://www.studierendenwerk-bonn.de/ueber-uns/infopoint/>

Accounts/Cards/IDs



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 Ifl/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

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Compulsory Modules | At least 78 CP | 18 – 22 CP |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Computer and Communication Technology | | 14 – 22 CP |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Technology | | 14 – 26 CP |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Use and Impact | | 4 – 16 CP |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Practical Labs | | 16 – 20 CP |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Communication Skills | | 12 CP |
| Module component: Scientific Integrity | Just pass before thesis registration | |
| Master's Thesis | | 30 CP |
| Sum | | 120 CP |

* We use the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System)

| Curriculum | Semester | Credit Points |
|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Compulsory Modules | | |
| Introduction to Computer Graphics | 1. Semester | 6 (or 8) |
| Designing Interactive Systems | 1. Semester | 6 |
| Foundations of Data Science | 2. Semester | 6 (or 8) |
| | | 18 – 22 |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Computer and Communication Technology | | |
| 2-4 Compulsory Elective Modules | 1.-3. Semester | each 4, 6 or 8 |
| | | 14 – 22 |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Technology | | |
| 3-5 Compulsory Elective Modules | 1.-3. Semester | each 4, 6 or 8 |
| | | 14 – 26 |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Multimedia Use and Impact | | |
| 2-3 Compulsory Elective Modules | 1.-3. Semester | each 4, 6 or 8 |
| | | 4 – 16 |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Practical Labs | | |
| Practical Lab | 2.-3. Semester | 6 – 10 |
| Practical Lab Fraunhofer | 2.-3. Semester | 10 |
| | | 16 – 20 |
| Compulsory Elective Modules: Communication Skills | | |
| Technical Writing | 1. Semester | 4 |
| Seminar | 2.-3. Semester | 4 |
| German Language Course (or additional seminar ⁽¹⁾) | 2.-3. Semester | 4 |
| | | 12 |
| Module component: Scientific Integrity | Just pass before thesis registration | |
| Master's thesis | | |
| Master's thesis | 4. Semester | 30 |
| | | 30 |
| Sum | | 120 |

What is a module?

Modules are academic units for courses and examinations

- A module usually consists of:
 - A course
 - An examination
- E.g.:
 - The module „Foundations of Data Science“ consists of:
 - The lecture
 - The exercises
 - The examination, i.e. a written exam
 - The module „Fraunhofer Lab“ consists of:
 - A lab course offered by Fraunhofer
 - Not explicit examination as a lab course is basically a practical exam with milestones and deliverables
 - E.g. the module „Technical Writing“ consists of:
 - A block-course: lecture with integrated exercises
 - An examination, i.e. a written exam

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, Mining Media Data, Explainable AI and Applications
- 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/23ws/brico/>

- Theoretical Computer Science Course offered by Dr. Nuesken, Prof. Noll, Dr. Unger
- 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
 - If it is not mentioned; you are not required to take it.
- **Open and Free for everybody**
 - No Credit Points

Dates for Winter Semester 2023/24

- Semester starts in October 2023
- **Bridging Course**
 - *First Phase* starts October 9th, 2023
 - Details: <https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/23ws/brico>
- All other **classes at b-it** start on October 23th, 2023
- **Classes at RWTH Aachen and Uni Bonn** start on October 9th, 2023 [Overlaps with Bridging Course]
- Further details about the academic calendar can be found [here](#).

Courses at Uni Bonn

<https://basis.uni-bonn.de/>

- MI students are allowed to take many courses 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.

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/>
 - In case of questions, please contact the [Language Center at RWTH](#)
- At Uni Bonn the international office handles course registrations:
 - <https://www.uni-bonn.de/de/studium/internationale-studierende/deutsch-lernen/sdk>
 - In case of questions, please contact [Sonja Hammer](#) 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

<https://supra.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/>

- **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!**

Seminars & Labs from Uni Bonn

<https://basis.uni-bonn.de/>

- 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.

Transfer of Credits

- What can be transferred:
 - Credits from your “4+ year” bachelor and other master programs
 - Your Bachelor programs should have been at least four years!
 - Courses must be Master’s-level CS courses (or 4th year courses)
 - similar to courses in the MI program
 - Maximum: 30 credits
 - Grades of transferred courses have to be better than the German grade of 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)
 - Mapping of your courses to existing courses at b-it
 - 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 → see admission letter or ask msc-mi@b-it-center.de)
- Passing the online course „Scientific Integrity“ (all students)

Systems & Services

RWTHonline – Campus Management System

<https://online.rwth-aachen.de/>

- 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](#)

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](#): Luisa Tylewski (former: Gaby Cüpper and Anna Braun).
- Further information on ZPA, see [here](#).

Examination Board

<https://pa.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/>

- 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.

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
 - https://www.uni-bonn.de/en/studying/studying-in-bonn?set_language=en
 - <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>
- At the library of Uni Bonn you'll need a library card, for more details see
 - <https://www.ulb.uni-bonn.de/en/using-the-library/library-card-and-user-account>

That's it for now!

Too much information?

- 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.**
 - <http://www.b-it-center.de/b-it-programmes/msc-in-media-informatics/description/>
- **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.
- the [IT-ServiceDesk at RWTH](#) for technical issues.
- the [ZPA](#) for exam-related issues.
- the [International Office](#) for organizational issues on your stay.
- the [HRZ at Uni Bonn](#) for issues with your Uni Bonn ID.
- the [Systemgruppe IfI/b-it](#) for issues with your b-it account.
- the [Studierendenwerk Bonn](#) for issues around housing and Mensa Card.