



# 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 Advisor: Dr. Lubna Ali

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# Academic Advisor

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- Lubna Ali
  - Responsibilities:
    - All issues during your studies (e.g. exams, courses, thesis, visa)
    - General questions
  - Contact: [msc-mi@b-it-center.de](mailto: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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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...

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- 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](mailto:international@rwth-aachen.de).

## After enrolling at RWTH Aachen University

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- 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

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- 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

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## 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)

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- 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)

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- 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](mailto: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](mailto:ids@uni-bonn.de)

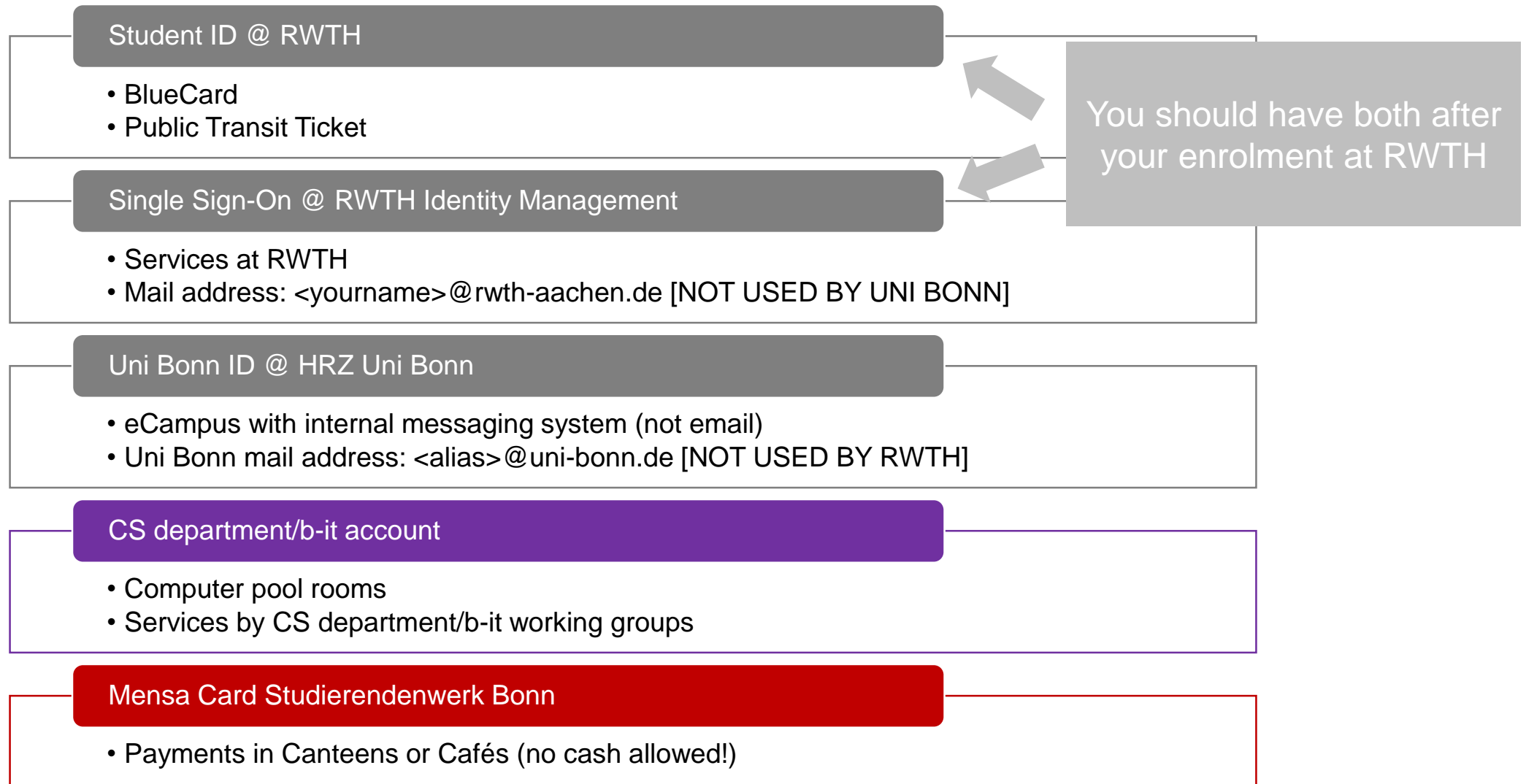
# Getting your Uni Bonn ID

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## 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](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.

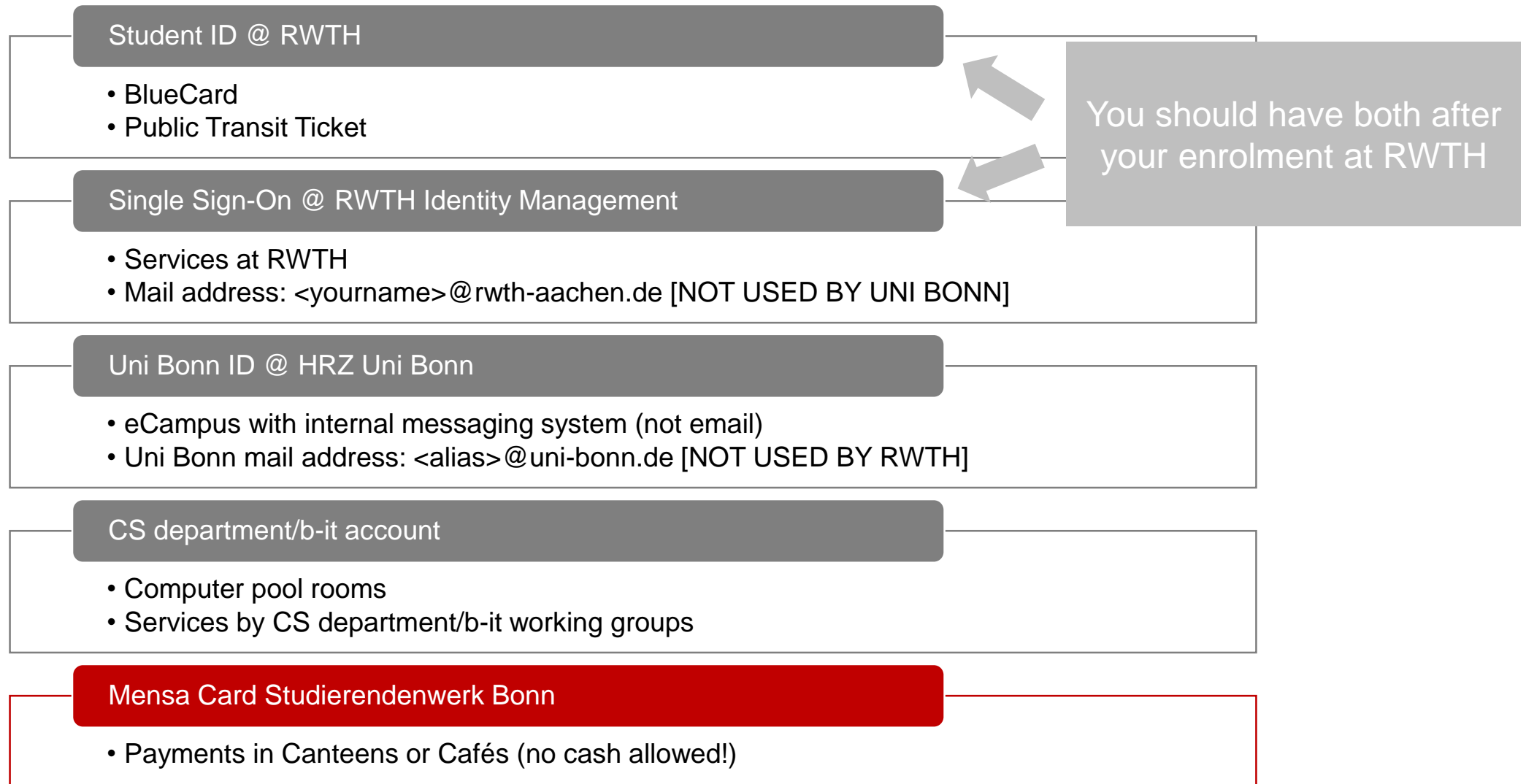
# Accounts/Cards/IDs



### <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](https://gsg.informatik.uni-bonn.de/doku.php?id=de:accounts:students:manage:meinformatik#ein_neues_konto_beantragen)

# Accounts/Cards/IDs



## Mensa Card of Studierendenwerk Bonn

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- 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

### Student ID @ RWTH

- BlueCard
- Public Transit Ticket

### Single Sign-On @ RWTH Identity Management

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

You should have both after your enrolment at RWTH

## Finally – On-boarding completed!

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- 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

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<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

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- 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
<b>Sum</b>		<b>120 CP</b>

\* We use the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System)

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

# What is a module?

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## 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

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- 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)

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- 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

## Bridging course „Foundations of Informatics“

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<https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/24ws/brico/>

- Theoretical Computer Science Course offered by Dr. Nuesken and 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](mailto: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

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- Semester starts in October 2024
- **Bridging Course**
  - *First Phase* starts **October 7th, 2024**
  - Details: <https://crypto.bit.uni-bonn.de/teaching/24ws/brico>
- All other **classes at b-it** start on October **21st, 2024**
- **Classes at RWTH Aachen and Uni Bonn** start on **October 7th, 2024 [Overlaps with Bridging Course]**
- Further details about the academic calendar can be found [here](#).

## Courses at Uni Bonn

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<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 check with [msc-mi@b-it-center.de](mailto:msc-mi@b-it-center.de) to see if the course is accepted for MI.

# German Language Courses

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- 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/Das-Sprachenzentrum/~twdbf/Infostelle-Beratung/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

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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

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- 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

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<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

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<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

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- 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

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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](mailto:msc-mi@b-it-center.de))
- Passing the online course „Scientific Integrity“ (all students)

# Systems & Services

# RWTHonline – Campus Management System

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<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)

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<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.
- Further information on ZPA, see [here](#).

# Examination Board

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<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.

# Prolongation of Residence Permit/Visa

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- 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/](https://pa.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/list_en/certificate-of-progress-of-studies/)

## Sports at Uni Bonn or RWTH Aachen

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- 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://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

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- 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.uni-bonn.de/en/studying/studying-in-bonn?set\\_language=en](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

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- 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?

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- 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 ...

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- [msc-mi@b-it-center.de](mailto:msc-mi@b-it-center.de) for study-related issues.
- [IT-ServiceDesk at RWTH](#) for technical issues.
- [ZPA](#) for exam-related issues.
- [International Office](#) for organizational issues on your stay.
- [HRZ at Uni Bonn](#) for issues with your Uni Bonn ID.
- [Systemgruppe Ifl/b-it](#) for issues with your b-it account.
- [Studierendenwerk Bonn](#) for issues around housing and Mensa Card.
- [Guide for first semester students](#) in the IT Center Help.