



University of Stuttgart
Institut für maschinelle
Sprachverarbeitung

IMS

**Student Meeting //
Studierenden-
versammlung**

November 9, 2023

Sebastian Pado, Stefanie Anstein

A warm welcome to all new students!

- As usual, for the MSc, we accepted computational linguists, linguists, computer scientists (and some others)
 - 15 new BSc students (total 43)
 - 30 new MSc students (total 145)
- We believe in computational linguistics as an interdisciplinary field that profits from diversity
 - Different fields, international student body, gender balance
 - Almost everybody needs to get out of their comfort zone, content-wise

What is going on at IMS

- Personnel side
 - Jonas Kuhn is on medical leave but will return for the summer semester 2024
 - Gabriella Lapesa has left IMS to become professor of CL at HHU Düsseldorf and tem lead at GESIS Cologne
 - Roman Klinger will leave IMS to become professor of CL at Bamberg University
 - Dmitry Nikolaev will leave IMS to become senior lecturer in the linguistics department at the University of Manchester

Due to these development, the selection of electives this semester was more restricted than in previous semesters.

We are aware of the problem and are working hard to hire new lecturers.

What is going on at IMS (continued)

- We have updated our official “program reports” (Studiengangsberichte) including analysis of strengths and weaknesses
- We are working on revisions to the study programs
 - MSc CL from winter 2024/25 (e.g. new compulsory “Intro to DL”)
 - BSc MSV from winter 2025/26 (major restructuring of contents)

Announcements and reminders

- Some of the tuition fees of international students have found their way back to IMS. We have:
 - bought some laptops on loan for theses and presentations – contact `trouble@ims` or fscl@ims
 - established the International Service Point F05 for international students <https://www.f05.uni-stuttgart.de/en/faculty/international-students/>
 - an external psychological advisor (contact via Stefanie)
- Please make sure that mail sent to your IMS email address reaches you. (Default forwarding to your stxxxxxx account.)
- Use services of „Student Counseling Center“, e.g. learning counseling etc.

Registration for exams

- In order to **get credit for any course**, you **have to** register for the corresponding module during the registration period
 - This semester: Nov 15 – Dec 7
 - Info meeting with Stefanie: Mon, Nov 20, lunch break
 - Better safe than sorry: Can **deregister easily** until 1 week before exam date
- Registration of final theses is a multi-step process
 - see <https://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/en/teaching/theses/>
 - new: guidelines for IMS-external examiners

Course and module evaluations

- Please participate in evaluations
 - Course evaluations
 - Carried out during semester, within courses on paper
 - Module evaluations / study program evaluations
 - Carried out after end of semester/exams (by email)
- Evaluations are helpful and important
 - Helpful: Enable us to improve things you are not happy with
 - Important: Evidence for assessments of institutes / study programs by university

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is when you submit content (text, figures, examples) that you **did not develop yourself**
 - This includes close paraphrasing of other people's text:
*We want to see **your understanding***
- Concerns theses and all types of courses
 - E.g., for problems sets („Übungsblätter“) and other types of submissions
 - Plagiarism can be copying or also working together when teams are not allowed
- As students, you are under an honor code not to plagiarize
 - Worst case: Plagiarism can lead to exmatriculation
- University document for prevention: https://www.student.uni-stuttgart.de/pruefungsorganisation/document/Leitfaden_Plagiatspraevention_Studierende.pdf

Plagiarism (cont'd)

- A new aspect of plagiarism is the use of AI assistants (GPT & colleagues)
- General guideline:
 - AI support is **OK** to improve the **form** of your work
 - Extension of spell/grammar/style checking
 - AI support is **NOT OK** to generate **content**
 - Text, programs, grammars, etc.
 - General recommendation: keep log of interactions with AI assistant
- Talk to your lecturers and/or thesis supervisors about specific expectations

Code of conduct

- As of 2019, IMS has a code of conduct
 - Summary of rights and duties of IMS students and staff
 - Goal: A friendly and safe environment
 - Respect, tolerance, emergency contacts
 - Goal: Sustainable use of shared resources
 - Shared ground floor kitchen, computer pools, etc.
 - As an IMS student, you are bound to (also protected by) the CoC
 - Dynamic document: contact students representatives for proposals

<https://msv.stuvus.uni-stuttgart.de/en/code-of-conduct/>

IMS GPU Servers

- There are several student GPU servers at the institute:
 - strauss, kiwi, nandu
- If you use a student GPU server, make sure to be mindful of other people wanting to use it too. In practice, this means:
 - Don't use up the capacity of several GPUs, so other people can also run models.
 - Specify in your program which GPU it should use.
 - With the command *nvidia-smi* you can see which GPUs have free capacity.
 - If you see someone using up all the GPUs, contact them politely or talk to the system administrators
- We have ordered more GPUs!

International service point

- *Fakultät 5* (CS & EE) has an 'International Service Point'
- Service for prospective international students
 - Information on application, enrolment, etc.
- Service for enrolled international students
 - General support with questions about Uni Stuttgart, life in Germany, etc.
- Service for enrolled domestic students
 - Information on exchange programs

`https://www.f05.uni-stuttgart.de/studium/international-service-point/`

Exchange programs

- IMS has established ERASMUS partnerships with Amsterdam, Dublin, Malta
 - A nice opportunity to “get out”
- Requires organization: Think about this **early!**
 - Application deadline: January 15 (for same year’s winter and following year’s summer term)
 - Erasmus Coordinator: Stefanie Anstein
 - See also IMS home page:
<https://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/en/teaching/exchange/>

Responsibilities and points of contact

- Studiengangsmanagerin / study program manager and Fachstudienberaterin / student advisor
 - Stefanie Anstein, `studienberatung@ims`
- Studiendekan / dean of student affairs
 - Sebastian Padó, `pado@ims`
- Prüfungsausschussvorsitzender / head of examinations board
 - Roman Klinger, `roman.klinger@ims`
- Student representatives (Fachgruppe), `fscl@ims`
- University ombuds for students (=mediator)
 - Ursula Meiser, `ursula.meiser@rektorat.uni-stuttgart.de`

Thanks for our attention!

Questions?

Feedback?

(Also possible via student representatives anytime!)