Selection Statutes for the Master’s Program “Mannheim Master in Data Science” (Master of Science) at the University of Mannheim

as at 22 July 2016
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 22/2016, p. 6)

1. Amendment as at 15 December 2016
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 33/2016, p. 25)

2. Amendment as at 15 March 2017
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 07/2017, p. 55)

3. Amendment as at 4 May 2018
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 12/2018, p. 8)

4. Amendment as at 27 February 2019
(Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats) No. 03/2019, p. 88f)

The present version is a non-official version including the aforementioned amendments. Only the version in the Bulletin of the President's Office is legally binding.

In the German language version of these Selection Statutes, this sentence deals with the subject of gender-neutral language. For the English language version, this is not relevant and therefore omitted. This also applies to academic degrees and academic titles.

Section 1 – Scope

(1) The University of Mannheim has its own selection process for the master’s program “Mannheim Master in Data Science”. It is governed by these Statutes.

(2) Sections 2 to 4 of these Statutes apply to all applications, regardless of whether or not there is a limited number of study places or a selection procedure in place; an impediment to admission in accordance with section 4 subsection 2(2) is also considered an impediment to enrollment. By way of derogation from section 4 subsection 3, all decisions shall be made by the examination committee responsible for the master’s program “Mannheim Master in Data Science” instead of the admissions committee if no selection process takes place.

(3) The regulations on admission and enrollment of the University of Mannheim remain unaffected.

Section 2 – Deadlines

(1) Applications for the fall semester shall be submitted by 31 May and for the spring semester by 15 November (definitive deadlines).

(2) Proof of sufficient English proficiency may be submitted by 15 August in case of an application for the fall semester and by 15 January in case of an application for the spring semester.

Section 3 – Form of the Application
The application shall be submitted electronically in the form required by the University of Mannheim; additionally, the documents listed in subsection 2 shall be sent. If it is not possible to submit the application electronically due to hardship, the application may be submitted in writing or verbally on record upon request.

In addition to the electronic application in accordance with subsection 1, the following documents shall be sent in print format:

1. University Entrance Qualification (HZB) or its equivalent from a foreign school,
2. proofs that the admission requirements listed in section 4 and the selection criteria listed in section 7 are met,
3. the signed application for admission form,
4. a CV.

The University of Mannheim may request the original or a notarized copy of the documents listed in subsection 2. Admission may be denied if the documents do not meet the requirements of the university; this includes the form of the documents.

Section 4 – Admission Requirements

(1) Applicants for the master’s program “Mannheim Master in Data Science” (M.Sc.) have to meet the following admission requirements:

1. Applicants are required to have a bachelor’s degree in informatics or mathematics, in a similar program such as bio-/geo-/financial or business informatics, business mathematics, applied/technical informatics/mathematics, an engineering degree with a focus on informatics, particularly computer or software engineering, or a degree recognized as equivalent by the admissions committee from a German or foreign university or an officially recognized public university of cooperative education (Berufsakademie). The degree is considered equivalent if the program of study included courses equivalent to at least 48 ECTS credits in informatics, mathematics, statistics or empirical research methods. ECTS credits awarded for an empirical final thesis shall be counted towards those 48 ECTS credits, if the supervising university teacher is able to confirm the empirical nature of the final thesis. The bachelor’s degree must correspond to at least 180 ECTS credits or have a standard period of study of at least 6 semesters or 3 years.

2. Applicants have to provide proof of sufficient English proficiency. The successful completion of a bachelor’s degree with English as language of instruction and examination of at least 50% of the courses and examinations or a University Entrance Qualification (HZB) from a school with English as the language of instruction serves as proof.
If an applicant has obtained neither of the above, the following test results can serve as proof of English proficiency:

a) Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) – TOEFL Internet Based Test (TOEFL iBT) with a score of at least 72 points; TOEFL Paper-Based Test (PBT) with a score of at least 533 points,
b) Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE),
c) First Certificate in English (FCE), minimum grade C,
d) Certificate in Advanced English (CAE),
e) The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination is accepted with a band score of 6.0 or better (academic modules).
f) Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) with a minimum score of 500 points.
g) Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with a score equivalent to at least 500 GMAT points. For conversion, the GRE results of the two sections Verbal Reasoning and Quantitative Reasoning are placed in the following formula:

\[
\text{Verbal Reasoning} \times 6.38369593312407 + \text{Quantitative Reasoning} \times 10.6230921641945 - 2080.74559330863;\\n\]

the result will be rounded up or down to the nearest increment of ten disregarding the decimal place.
h) Certificate of the language test offered by the "Universität Mannheim Service and Marketing GmbH" with a minimum level of B2 in listening comprehension, written language, spoken language and reading comprehension.
i) continuous attendance of English classes throughout the German secondary school education with a minimum average of 7 points.

Only test results obtained no more than five years prior to the deadline in accordance with section 2 subsection 1 shall be recognized as proof. Any other type of documents serving as proof of an applicant's English proficiency shall be considered sufficient if they can be recognized as equivalent.

Applicants are eligible for admission to the master's program "Mannheim Master in Data Science" if they meet the following additional admission requirements:

1. Submission of the application in due time and form. If the bachelor's degree in accordance with subsection 1(1) has not been completed by the end of the definitive deadline defined in section 2 subsection 1, due to the fact that individual examinations have not been completed, but it is anticipated that the degree will be completed in due time before the beginning of the master's program "Mannheim Master in Data Science", admission may be requested provided the applicant is able to prove completion of at least 130 ECTS credits. Within the definitive deadline defined in section 2 subsection 1, proof of the credits earned shall be submitted. In this case, admission is subject to the proven completion of the bachelor's degree in accordance with subsection 1(1) by the date defined in the official letter of admission or by the first registration for an exam at the latest. If proof is not provided in due time, admission to the master's program will be rescinded.

2. There may not be any impediments to admission; a particular impediment exists if an applicant has lost his or her eligibility to take exams in the same program or a program in a similar field of study.
The admissions committee decides whether a degree or a qualification is considered equivalent or comparable and thus meets the admission requirements. The School of Business Informatics and Mathematics guarantees a consistent procedure, in particular if more than one admissions committee was formed. For the recognition of foreign degrees, the recommendations of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs as well as cooperation agreements between universities shall be taken into account. In cases of doubt, the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen - ZAB) is consulted.

Section 5 – Admissions Committee

1. The School of Business Informatics and Mathematics appoints at least one admissions committee for the preparation of the selection procedure. An admissions committee is composed of at least three members. The members shall be staff members whose main employer is the university. At least two members shall be university teachers. The committee members’ term of office is one year. They may be reappointed.

2. Upon completion of the selection procedure, the admissions committee reports its experiences to the school council of the School of Business Informatics and Mathematics and makes suggestions on the further development of the selection procedure.

3. The admissions committee may consult up to two additional persons familiar with the program of study; these persons do not have a vote.

Section 6 – Selection Process at the University of Mannheim

1. If the number of study places in the master’s program “Mannheim Master in Data Science” is limited and if there are more applicants than places, the University of Mannheim conducts its own selection process in accordance with the regulations of higher-ranking legislation.

2. The admissions committee selects potential students based on the selection criteria of section 7 and prepares a ranking. The President shall decide on the candidates to be admitted on the basis of the recommendations of the admissions committee.

Section 7 – Selection Criteria

1. The following criteria will be taken into account for the decision of the admissions committee:
   1. For the final grade or the current average grade according to section 4 subsection 2(1) a maximum of 50 points may be given. The grade, including the first decimal, is translated into points. 50 points may be given for the grade 1.0 and 0 points may be given for the grade 4.0. The points for the remaining grades in between are calculated linearly in steps of 0.1 and rounded. If the higher education institution at which the applicant is pursuing his or her bachelor’s degree does not provide the current average grade, the average grade is calculated from all module grades or examination grades weighted in ECTS credits the applicant has achieved in the course of his or her bachelor’s program up until the selection process. If the applicant does not provide any proof which may serve as a basis to calculate an average grade, he or she is assigned the grade “4.0” for the purpose of the selection process. If the final grade or average grade is indicated in a grading system which does not correspond to the grading system used for the bachelor’s programs of the School of...
2. Relevant professional experience, semesters abroad, relevant awards and relevant voluntary work, which give information on aptitude and motivation for the chosen master's program can add up to a maximum of 20 points. A semester abroad can receive up to 5 points, additional semesters abroad cannot be taken into account.

(2) In order to guarantee a consistent procedure, the school council of the School of Business Informatics and Mathematics can pass general regulations for the conversion of grades as well as for the consideration of professional experience, semesters abroad, awards, and voluntary work in accordance with subsection 1(1-2). The admissions committee is bound by these regulations.

(3) ¹In accordance with subsection 1(1-2), the points are added up; the maximum score is 70 points. ²Based on the score all applicants are ranked in descending order. ³In cases where several applicants hold equal rank, section 20 subsection 3 HVVO applies.

Section 8 – Commencement

This amendment becomes effective the day after its announcement in the Bulletin of the President's Office (“Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats”) of the University of Mannheim.

**Article 2 of the first amendment of 15 December 2016 stipulates:**
These regulations will come into effect on the day after their publication in the Bulletin of the President's Office (Amtliche Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats). During the application process for the fall semester 2017/18 it shall apply for the first time.

**Article 2 of the second amendment of 15 March 2017 stipulates:**
This amendment becomes effective the day after its announcement in the Bulletin of the President's Office (“Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats”) of the University of Mannheim. During the application process for the fall semester 2017/2018 it shall apply for the first time.

**Article 2 of the third amendment of 4 May 2018 stipulates:**
This amendment becomes effective the day after its announcement in the Bulletin of the President's Office (“Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats”) of the University of Mannheim. During the application process for the spring semester 2019 they shall apply for the first time.

**Article 2 of the fourth amendment of 27 February 2019 stipulates:**
This amendment becomes effective the day after its announcement in the Bulletin of the President's Office (“Bekanntmachungen des Rektorats”) of the University of Mannheim. During the application process for the fall semester 2019/2020 it shall apply for the first time.