



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2019

7,262: Software Engineering for Economists

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - Group examination paper with presentation (all given the same grades) (100%)

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,262,1.00 Software Engineering for Economists](#) -- Englisch -- [Zahn Philipp](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Previous experience with programming is helpful but not mandatory. This course requires a lot of initiative on the student's side. Programming skills require practice that goes far beyond what can be taught in class.

Course content

Most economists today face extensive programming work. However, surprisingly few of them have ever been taught how to do this well. Exposure to programming languages is most often limited to mastering {Stata, Matlab, EViews, ...} just well enough in order to perform simple tasks like running a basic regression. However, these skills do not scale up in a straightforward manner to handle complex projects such as a master's thesis, a research paper, or typical work in government or private business settings. As a result, economists spend their time wrestling with software, instead of doing work, but have no idea how reliable or efficient their programs are. This course is designed to make students aware of tools that help producing reliable software code and help creating reliable results.

Course structure

The preliminary program is:

1. Introduction
2. Programming basics
3. Version control
4. Debugging
5. Testing
6. Project workflows
7. Data management

Course literature

Lecture slides. Additional references will be provided along the way.

Additional course information

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Examination information



Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form

Decentral - Group examination paper with presentation (all given the same grades) (100%)

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Term papers

- Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship.
- The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the APA or MLA standards. The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into the text in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C. (2017), *Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien* (12th ed., Cornelsen Schweiz).
- For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers both according to the MLA and the APA standard is never optional.
- Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.
- For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B. (2018), *Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende* (6. Auflage), Zürich: Schulthess, or the recommendations of the Law School).

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Examination content

Lecture slides.

Examination relevant literature

Lecture slides and references given in class.



Please note

Please note that this fact sheet alone is binding and has priority over any other information such as StudyNet (Canvas), personal databases or faculty members' websites and information provided in their lectures, etc.

Any possible references and links within the fact sheet to information provided by third parties are merely supplementary and informative in nature and are outside the University of St.Gallen's scope of responsibility and guarantee.

Documents and materials that have been submitted no later than the end of term time (CW51) are relevant to central examinations.

Binding nature of the fact sheet:

- Information about courses and examination time (central/decentral) and examination type starting from the beginning of the bidding on 22 August 2019
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for decentral examinations after the 4th semester week on 14 October 2019
- Information about examinations (examination aid regulations, examination content, examination-relevant literature) for central examinations as from the starting date for examination registration on 4 November 2019

Please consult the fact sheet again after these deadlines have expired.