**Academic and Examination Regulations for the Science and Technology Studies (STS) Master’s Degree Program at the Technical University of Munich**

*July 2016, note: not legally binding!
The legally binding document for this study program is, exclusively, the officially published GERMAN text of the program-specific Academic and Examination Regulations*

In accordance with Art. 13 (1) sentence 2 in conjunction with Art. 58 (1) sentence 1, Art. 61 (2) sentence 1 and Art. 43 (5) of the Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz (BayHSchG) [Bavarian Higher Education Act] the Technical University of Munich issues the following Subject Examination and General Academic Regulations (Fachprüfungs- und Studienordnung, FPSO):

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§ 34
Applicability, Academic Titles

(1) These Subject Examination and General Academic Regulations for the Master’s Program in Science and Technology Studies (FPSO) complement the General Academic and Examination Regulations for Bachelor’s and Master’s programs at the Technical University of Munich (APSO) of 18 March 2011 as amended. The APSO shall have precedence.

(2) Upon successful completion of the master’s examination the degree “Master of Arts” (“M.A.”) is awarded. The academic title may also be used with the name of the university “(TUM)”.

§ 35
Commencement of Studies, Standard Duration of Study, ECTS

(1) The master’s program in Science and Technology Studies (STS) at the Technical University of Munich commences, as a rule, in the winter semester.

(2) The number of classes in required, required elective (optional: elective) subjects needed to obtain the master’s degree is 90 credits (30 weekly hours per semester) spread over three semesters. In addition, a maximum of 30 credits/six months is scheduled for the completion of the master’s thesis pursuant to § 46. The number of coursework units and examinations in required and required elective subjects to be completed in the Science and Technology Studies (STS) master’s program according to Appendix 1 is a minimum of 120 credits. The standard duration of study for the master’s program will be a total of four semesters.

§ 36
Eligibility Requirements

(1) Eligibility for the master’s program in Science and Technology Studies (STS) is demonstrated by

1. a qualified bachelor’s degree obtained after a program of at least six semesters from a domestic or foreign institution of higher education or at least an equivalent degree in the following degree programs
   a) sociology, ethnology, history, philosophy, political science, communications or media studies, psychology
   b) MINT subjects (mathematics, information technology, natural sciences, and technology)
   c) life sciences and medicine

2. an adequate knowledge of the English language; students whose native language or language of instruction is not English must demonstrate proficiency through an acknowledged language test such as “Test of English as a Foreign Language” (TOEFL) (with at least 88 points), “International English Language Testing System” (IELTS) (with at least 6.5 points) or “Cambridge Main Suite of English Examinations”; or any of the language tests available on the web page of the Admissions and Enrollment Office of the Technical University of Munich, all of which are accepted by the Academic Affairs Commission; alternatively adequate language skills may be proven through a good grade in English (corresponding to at least 10 out of 15 points) awarded by a domestic higher education entrance qualification. If, in the undergraduate program, 12 credits were obtained for examinations administered in English language examination modules (verified by a certificate of the institution of higher education), adequate proficiency in English is deemed proven.

3. passing of the Aptitude Assessment pursuant to Appendix 2.
(2) A degree is considered a qualified degree within the meaning of subsection 1 if such degree requires the successful completion of examinations that are equivalent to the examinations in the scholarly oriented bachelor’s program at the Technical University of Munich specified in subsection 1, no. 1, and correspond to the subject-specific requirements of the master’s program.

(3) For Aptitude Assessment in accordance with subsection 2, required modules of the relevant bachelor’s program at TUM named in subsection 1, no. 1 or an equivalent institution of higher education, will be considered. If students do not meet all credit requirements, the Aptitude Assessment Commission can, in accordance with Appendix 2, no. 3, require students to complete additional fundamentals exams pursuant to subsection 1 to verify their qualification as stipulated in Appendix 2, no. 5.2. The candidate must be informed thereof after review of the documentation during the first stage of the Aptitude Assessment.

(4) The comparability of programs, the subject-specific aptitude as well as the equivalence of degrees acquired from foreign institutions will be decided upon by the Examination Board in compliance with Art. 63 of the Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz [Bavarian Higher Education Act].

§ 37
Modular Structure, Module Examination, Courses, Fields of Study, Language of Instruction

(1) General provisions concerning modules and courses are set forth in §§ 6 and 8 of the APSO.

(2) The curriculum listing the required and elective modules is included in Appendix 1. Students who have not verified their knowledge of German in the application process will be conditionally admitted with the stipulation that they complete at least one module, in which they acquire integrative knowledge of German. The offer will be announced by the Examination Board accordingly. Optional completed extracurricular courses, e.g. German courses offered by the language center, will also be recognized.

(3) Within the frame of measures stipulated in Appendix 1, students of the master’s program STS can draw up an individual plan of studies. Optionally, two of the following areas of concentration may be selected:

1. Philosophy of science and technology.
2. History of science and technology.

An area of concentration is deemed completed, when 30 credits have been verified in the master’s thesis module, as well as at least 15 credits in the following modules relevant to the chosen area of concentration:

- STS-Mint and/or
- Fields of practice and/or
- Core Topics modules up to a maximum of 10 credits and/or
- Advanced Topics modules up to a maximum of 10 credits

Students must complete 45 to 60 credits of coursework and examination requirements in the chosen area of concentration.

Towards the end of the first semester, together with a mentor, students need to establish a plan of studies for the completion of requirements in the area of concentration. Each member of the Department or School who is authorized to administer examinations at TUM pursuant to the Hochschulprüferverordnung [act governing examiners at institutions of higher education] may be assigned as mentor.
The assignment of the master's thesis, STS MINT, Fields of Practice and the mentioned elective module catalogs Core Topics and Advanced Topics to the areas of concentration will be determined at the commencement of work on the thesis or at the beginning of the semester based on the respective contents. 

When an area of concentration has been deemed completed, it will be entered in the transcript of records. 

An area of concentration will not be deemed completed if the criteria have not been fulfilled in accordance with sentence 3 and therefore no entry will be made in the transcript of records. 

Studiability of the plan described in sentence 5 for completing the requirements for the area of concentration is ensured at all times.

(4) Generally, the language of instruction in the master’s program in Science and Technology Studies (STS) is English.

§ 38
Examination Deadlines, Progress Monitoring, Failure to Meet Deadlines

Examination deadlines, progress monitoring, and failure to meet deadlines are governed by § 10 of the APSO.

§ 39
Examination Board

Pursuant to § 29 of the APSO the board responsible for all decisions concerning examination matters shall be the Master’s Examination Board for the master’s program in Science and Technology (STS).

§ 40
Recognition of Periods of Study, Coursework, and Examination Results

The recognition of periods of study, coursework and examination results is governed by the provisions of § 16 of the APSO.

§ 41
Continuous Assessment Procedure, Types of Assessment

(1) In addition to written examinations (Klausuren) and oral examinations, types of assessment pursuant to § 12 and § 13 of the APSO include, in particular, project work, presentations, learning portfolios, research papers and parcours examinations.

a) A Klausur is a supervised written examination. In these written examinations, students are expected to demonstrate, within a limited amount of time and using predefined methods and resources, their ability to identify problems, find solution strategies and, if required, implement them.

b) Project work is designed to reach, in several phases (initiation, problem definition, role assignment, idea generation, criteria development, decision, implementation, presentation, written evaluation), the defined objective of a project assignment within a given period of time and using suitable instruments.

In addition, project work may include a presentation in order to assess a student’s communication competency in presenting scholarly work to an audience. 

The specific components of each project work assignment and the related competencies to be assessed are delineated in the module description. 

Students are expected to demonstrate that they are able to complete the tasks in a team environment.

A student’s contribution to group work which is to be
assessed as a component of an examination must be clearly identifiable and gradable. This also applies to each individual’s contribution to the group result.

c) A research paper is a written assignment in which students work independently on solving complex scholarly or scholarly/application-oriented problems, using the scientific methods of the related discipline. Students are expected to demonstrate that they are able to solve problems corresponding to the learning results of the module in question in compliance with the guidelines for scholarly work – from analysis and conception to implementation. Research papers, differing in their requirement standards, may take the form of a conceptual framework/theory paper [Thesenpapier], abstract, essay, term paper, seminar paper, etc. The research paper may be complemented by a presentation or a colloquium for the purpose of assessing the student’s communication competency in presenting scholarly work to an audience. Specific details on each research paper and the related competencies to be assessed are set out in the module description.

d) A presentation is a systematic and structured oral performance supported by suitable audio-visual equipment (such as beamer, slides, posters, videos) for the purpose of demonstrating and summarizing specific issues or results and paring complex problems down to their essential core. For the presentation, the student is expected to demonstrate that he or she is capable of preparing a certain topic within a given time frame in such a way as to present or report it in a clear and comprehensible manner to an audience. In addition, the student is expected to demonstrate that he or she is able to respond competently to any questions, suggestions or discussions brought by the audience and relating to his or her subject area. The presentation may be complemented by a brief written precis. The presentation may be prepared either individually or in groups. A student’s contribution to group work which is to be assessed as a component of an examination must be clearly identifiable and gradable. This also applies to each individual’s contribution to the group result.

e) An oral examination is a timed, graded discussion on relevant topics and specific questions to be answered. In oral examinations students are expected to demonstrate that they have reached the qualification objectives laid out in the module descriptions, understood the central concepts of the subject matters covered by the exam, and are able to apply them to specific problems. The oral examination will be held either as an individual or group examination. The duration of the examination is provided for in § 13 (2) of the APSO.

f) A learning portfolio is a collection of written materials compiled by the student according to predefined criteria that exhibits the student’s progress and achievements in defined content areas at a given time. Students are required to explain according to which criteria they have chosen the materials and their relevance for their learning progress and the achievement of the qualification objectives. With the learning portfolio, students are expected to demonstrate that they have taken active responsibility for their learning process and have reached the qualification objectives set out in the module description. Depending on the module description, types of independent study assessment in a learning portfolio may include, in particular, application-oriented assignments, web pages, weblogs, bibliographies, analyses, conceptual framework/theory papers, as well as the graphic representation of facts or problems. The specific components of each learning portfolio and the related competencies to be assessed are set out in the module description.

The parcours examination is made up of several components. Unlike a module examination component, parcours exam components are administered in sequence and completed in a specific time frame and location. Parcours components entail various types of examination, which together evaluate the competency profile of the module as a whole. Possible types of examination in parcours components include those listed in a) through f). The total duration of the parcours examination with all its components is indicated in the module catalogue; type and duration of individual components is specified in the module description.
§ 42
Registration for and Admission to the Master’s Examination

(1) Students who are enrolled in the master’s program in Science and Technology Studies (STS) are deemed admitted to the module examinations of the master’s examination. If admission to individual modules is contingent upon successful completion of certain other modules this will be specified in Appendix 1.

(2) Registration requirements for required and elective module examinations are stipulated in § 15 (1) of the APSO. The registration requirements for repeat examinations for failed required and required elective modules are stipulated in § 15 (2) of the APSO.

§ 43
Scope of the Master’s Examination

(1) The master’s examination consists of:
   1. the module examinations in the corresponding modules pursuant to subsection (2);
   2. the master’s thesis pursuant to § 46.
   3. and the coursework listed in § 45.

(2) The module examinations are listed in Appendix 1. Students must successfully complete 60 credits of required modules and at least 30 credits of elective modules. The selection of modules must comply with § 8 (2) of the APSO.

§ 44
Repeat Examinations, Failed Examinations

(1) The repetition of examinations is governed by § 24 of the APSO.

(2) Failure of examinations is governed by § 23 of the APSO.

§ 45
Coursework

In addition to the examination results specified in § 43 (1), successful completion of coursework in the modules according to Appendix X must be evidenced.

§ 45 a
Multiple Choice Test

The conduct of multiple choice tests is governed by § 12 a of the APSO.
§ 46
Master's Thesis

(1) ¹As part of the master’s examination, each student must write a master’s thesis pursuant to § 18 of the APSO. ²The master’s thesis topic may be determined/the master’s thesis may be supervised by each expert examiner at TUM participating in the STS program (Themensteller). ³Expert examiners as stipulated in sentence 2 are appointed by the Examination Board.

(2) ²Work on the master’s thesis should commence after successful completion of all module examinations. ³Upon request students may be granted early admission to commence the master’s thesis if they reached 60 credits.

(3) ¹The period of time between topic determination and submission of the completed master’s thesis must not exceed 6 months. ²The master’s thesis is considered presented and not passed if the student fails to submit it on time without valid reasons as specified in § 10 (7) of the APSO.

(4) ¹The master’s thesis may be written in either the German or the English language. ²The completion of the master’s thesis consists of a written composition and a lecture on its content to take place during the course of study. ³The lecture is to take place while the thesis is in preparation. The lecture does not affect the grading.

(5) ¹If the master’s thesis was not graded with at least “sufficient” (4.0), it may be repeated once with a new topic. ²Students must renew their application for admission within six weeks from receipt of the grade.

§ 47
Passing and Assessment of the Master's Examination

(1) The master’s examination is deemed passed when all examinations required for the master’s examination pursuant to § 43 (1) have been passed and a plus credits account of at least 120 credits has been achieved.

(2) ¹The module grade will be determined according to § 17 of the APSO. ²The overall grade for the master’s examination will be calculated as the weighted grade average of the modules according to Appendix 1 and the master’s thesis. ³The grade weights of the individual modules correspond to the credits assigned to each module. ⁴The overall assessment is expressed by the designation pursuant to § 17 of the APSO.

§ 48
Degree Certificate, Diploma, Diploma Supplement

¹If the master’s examination was passed, a degree certificate, a diploma and a diploma supplement including a transcript of records are to be issued in compliance with § 25 (1) and § 26 of the APSO. ²The date to be entered on the degree certificate is the day when all examination and course work requirements have been fulfilled.

§ 49
Entry into Force

¹These Subject Examination and General Academic Regulations shall enter into force on the day following their publication. ²They shall apply to all students who commence their studies in the STS master’s program at the Technical University of Munich as of the winter semester 2016/2017.
APPENDIX 1: Examination Modules

Explanation:
Sem. = semester; SWS = Semesterwochenstunden/weekly hours per semester; V = Vorlesung/lecture; Ü = Übung/exercise; P = Praktikum/practicum ZV = Zulassungsvoraussetzung/admission requirement [see § 43 (1)]

Required elective modules:

Introductory Modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Type of instruction</th>
<th>ZV</th>
<th>Sem.</th>
<th>SWS</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Type of Examination</th>
<th>Language of instruction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>STS 1: Practices and Politics of Science and Technology</td>
<td>6S</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>10.</td>
<td>research paper</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>STS 2: Philosophy of science and technology.</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>research paper</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>STS 3: History of science and technology.</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>research paper</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>Lecture Series &amp; Academic Skills</td>
<td>2V + 1U</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>research paper</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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Total: 25.

Research Practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Type of instruction</th>
<th>SWS</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Type of Examination</th>
<th>Language of instruction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>Methods 1</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>research paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>Methods 2</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>learning portfolio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. N.</td>
<td>Practicing Research</td>
<td>2U</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>project work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 15.

The following modules, STS MINT and Fields of Practice can be taken for the purposes of disciplinary and thematic specialization. If and how students complete these modules for the purpose of specialization is to be discussed with the examiner before the start of courses.

STS MINT
Allocation to area of specialization possible pursuant to § 37 subsection 3.

| N.N. | STS MINT                      | 1.5U + 1.5V        | 2   | 3   | 10.  | project work | E |

Fields of Practice
Allocation to area of specialization possible pursuant to § 37 subsection 3.

| N.N. | Fields of Practice             | 1.5U + 1.5V        | 3   | 3   | 10.  | project work | d/e |


Elective modules

Students must complete 15 credits of coursework and examinations in each of the elective module areas Core Topics in STS and Advanced Topics in STS. At least 4 modules in Core Topics in STS will be offered in the summer semester and 4 modules in Advanced Topics in STS in the winter semester. The examination board regularly updates the elective modules course catalog. The elective modules may be allocated to the areas of specialization Philosophy of Science and Technology and History of Science and Technology pursuant to § 37 subsection 3. Allocation to the area of specialization will be announced at the start of semester based on the respective module content.

| N.N. | Core Topics in STS: Biomedicine & Health | 2S | 2. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Core Topics in STS: Co-construction of Technology & Users | 2S | 2. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Core Topics in STS: Epistemology & Ontology | 2S | 2. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Core Topics in STS: Media & Digital Cultures | 2S | 2. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Advanced Topics in STS: Biomedicine & Health | 2S | 3. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Advanced Topics in STS: Co-construction of Technology & Users | 2S | 3. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Advanced Topics in STS: Epistemology & Ontology | 2S | 3. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |
| N.N. | Advanced Topics in STS: Media & Digital Cultures | 2S | 3. | 2. | 5. | Research paper or project work | e |

Master’s Thesis

| N. N. | Master’s Thesis (plus presentation) | Thesis | Practicing Research | 4. | 1. | 30. | d/e |

Credit total for each semester:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credits Required modules:</th>
<th>Credits Elective modules</th>
<th>Credits Master’s Thesis</th>
<th>Total Credits</th>
<th>No. of exams der Prüfungen</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>30.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>5.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>30.</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.</td>
<td>1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX 2: Aptitude Assessment

Aptitude Assessment for the Master’s Program in Science and Technology Studies (STS) at the Technical University of Munich

1. Purpose of the Assessment

Eligibility for the master’s program in Science and Technology Studies (STS), in addition to the requirements pursuant to § 36 (1) no. 1, requires proof of aptitude pursuant to § 36 (1) no. 3 in accordance with the following provisions. The special qualifications and skills of the candidates should correspond to professions in the area of science and technology policy, science and university management, (digital) science communication, and political/policy consulting. Individual aptitude parameters are:

1.1 ability to do research work and/or basic research and methodological work;
1.2 an undergraduate degree/bachelor-level knowledge in one of the disciplines specified in § 36 Subsection 1 No. 1.
1.3 particular aptitude for fields of investigation at the intersection of the engineering, natural, social and human sciences.
1.4 above average verbal and written language skills.

2. Aptitude Assessment Process

2.1 The aptitude test will be held annually by the TUM School of Education.
2.2 Applications for admission to the aptitude assessment process for the winter semester must be submitted to the Technical University of Munich together with the documents listed in 2.3.1. through 2.3.4. and in § 36 Subsection 1 No. 2 no later than 31 May (absolute deadline) using the online application procedure. Documents listed in 2.3.1. through 2.3.4 and in § 36 Subsection 1 No. 2 that could not be submitted by the deadline specified in sentence 1 due to circumstances beyond the applicant’s control may be submitted by 15 August (absolute deadline). Grade record and degree certificate must be filed no later than five weeks after the beginning of lectures. Admission to the master’s program is, otherwise, not possible in accordance with § 36 of these regulations.

2.3 The application must include:

2.3.1 A transcript of records containing modules amounting to at least of 120 credits. 90 credits thereof must be earned through examinations. For programs not subject to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), the transcript of records must contain at least two-thirds of the credits required for the undergraduate degree, at least 50% of which must be credits earned through examinations; the transcript of records must be issued by the relevant examination authority or academic programs office;

2.3.2 curriculum vitae formatted as a table;

2.3.3 a written statement (1-2 DIN A4 pages) of the reasons for choosing the STS master’s program at the Technical University of Munich in which the candidate explains those specific abilities and interests that make him/her particularly qualified for the program; a candidate’s exceptional motivation and commitment is to be demonstrated by providing details on program-related vocational training, practica, stays abroad, or program-related further education beyond the attendance and course requirements of the bachelor’s program, if necessary by appropriate documentation;

2.3.4 a declaration that both the statement of the reasons for choosing the program and the essay are the candidate’s own work, and that the candidate has clearly identified any ideas taken from outside sources;
3. **Aptitude Assessment Commission**

3.1 The aptitude test is administered by a commission that, as a rule, consists of the dean for academic affairs in charge of the STS master's program, at least two members of the professorial faculty and at least one research associate (wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter). At least half of the commission members must be members of the professorial faculty. A representative of the student body will be a part of the commission, in an advisory capacity.

3.2 The members of the commission are appointed by the faculty council (Fakultätsrat) in consultation with the dean of studies. At least one member of the professorial faculty is appointed as deputy member of the commission. As a rule, the commission is chaired by the dean of studies. Procedural regulations will be in accordance with Art. 41 of the BayHSchG as last amended.

4. **Admission to the Aptitude Assessment Process**

4.1 Admission to the aptitude assessment process requires that all documentation specified in no. 2.3 has been submitted in a timely and complete fashion.

4.2 Applicants who have fulfilled the requirements will be assessed according to no. 5.

4.3 Applicants who are not admitted will receive a notification specifying the reasons and providing information on legal remedies.

5. **The Aptitude Assessment Process**

5.1 The commission will assess, on the basis of the written application documents required under no. 2.3, whether or not an applicant is suitable for a program pursuant to no. 1 (First stage of the aptitude assessment process). For this purpose, the commission evaluates and grades the candidate's documentation on a scale ranging from 0 to 55 points, 0 being the worst and 55 the best possible result:

The following criteria will be applied to the evaluation:

5.1.1 **Final grade**

The grade of the qualification recorded in the first university degree program will be used to assess the skills and knowledge stated in nos. 1.1 and 1.2. The applicant will be awarded one point for each tenth that the average calculated from examinations in the amount of 90 credits, or, in case of programs not subject to the "European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System" (ECTS), the average calculated from 50% of the examinations required for the first degree, is better than 4.0. The maximum number of points is 30. Negative points will not be awarded. If the candidate has submitted a degree certificate containing more than 120 credits with the application, the assessment will be made on the basis of the best graded modules in the amount of 90 credits or, as the case may be, 50% of the examination results required for the first degree.

The applicant needs to submit a list of the results together with the application and confirm their accuracy in writing.

The overall grade average is calculated as a weighted grade average. The grade weights of the individual modules correspond to the credits assigned to each module.

5.1.2 **Letter of motivation**

The applicant's written statement of purpose will be evaluated by two committee members and graded on a scale of 0 – 5 points. The motivation letter will be assessed using the following criteria:

1. ability to apply rules of English grammar and spelling,
2. ability to phrase the reason for their application in a matter-of-fact yet appealing way;
3. ability to reflect on the areas of overlap between their own competencies and relevant questions at the intersection of the engineering, natural, social and human sciences, to effectively structure those reflections, and to describe the relationship between their personal interests and the content of the degree program in a well-structured manner,
4. ability to convincingly prove his or her special aptitude and motivation for the master's program by giving arguments and meaningful examples, such as vocational training, practica, stays abroad (cf. No. 2.3.3.) specifically related to program content.
5. ability to linguistically emphasize important points of their reasoning in an appropriate way.
2. The committee members assess each of the five criteria independently, awarding a maximum of one point each. 3. The points total will be calculated as the arithmetic means of the individual assessments, rounded up to the nearest full point.

5.1.3 **Aptitude Assessment Interview**

5.1.3.1 1. The applicants will be invited for an aptitude assessment interview. 2. Interview appointments will be announced at least one week in advance. 3. Time slots for interviews must be scheduled before expiration of the application deadline. 4. The interview appointment must be kept by the applicant. 5. If the applicant is unable to attend an aptitude assessment interview due to reasons beyond his/her control, a later appointment may be scheduled upon a student’s well-grounded request, but no later than two weeks before the beginning of classes.

5.1.3.2 1. The aptitude assessment interview is to be held individually for each applicant. 2. The interview lasts at least 20 but not more than 30 minutes for each applicant. 3. The interview will focus on the following topics:

1. ability to critically assess subject-related issues and identify application problems at the intersection of the engineering, natural, social and human sciences.
2. interdisciplinary scientific and work experience acquired in courses, research projects, internships, etc.
3. thorough research experience acquired in courses containing a research focus, through participation in research projects, etc.
4. ability to employ the methods and theories of social science and the humanities to reflect on the conditions and consequences of science and technology.
5. Personal impression (after the interview) Applicants will be evaluated, for example, on their ability to convincingly support a thesis using arguments and meaningful examples, as well as appropriately respond to interview questions.

4. The above topics may cover the documentation submitted pursuant to 2.3. 5. Any subject-specific academic knowledge that is to be taught in the STS master’s program will not affect the decision. 6. With the applicant’s approval, a representative of the student body may sit in on the interview.

5.1.3.3 1. The aptitude assessment interview will be conducted by at least two members of the commission. 2. Each member will grade each of the five interview topics on a scale from 0 to 20, 0 being the worst and 20 being the best possible result. 3. The points awarded by each member will be calculated as the arithmetic means of the five equally-weighted topics. 4. The points total of the assessment interview is calculated as the arithmetic means of the individual member’s assessments. 5. Decimal places must be rounded up.

5.2 1. The applicant’s points total will be the sum of the points earned in 5.1.3.3 (interview 0-20) and 5.1.1 (final grade: 0-30) and 5.1.2 (Letter of motivation 0-5 points). 2. Applicants with 35 or more points will be deemed suitable. 3. In those cases where it is determined that only some subject-specific requirements for the master’s program are missing from undergraduate studies, the aptitude assessment commission may require that applicants complete fundamentals exams amounting to a maximum of 30 credits. 4. These fundamentals exams must be successfully completed in the first year of study. 5. Failed fundamentals exams may be repeated only once and at the next examination date. 6. The Examination Board may make the admission to individual module examinations dependent on the successful completion of the fundamentals exam.

5.3 1. The applicant will be notified of the result of the aptitude test determined by the commission in writing. 2. The notice must be signed by the TUM Board of Management. 3. Signatory power may be delegated. 4. A rejection notice must specify the reasons for the rejection and provide information on legal remedies.
5.4 Admissions to the STS master’s program shall apply to all subsequent applications for this program.

6. Record
1. The aptitude assessment process must be documented, including the date, duration and location of the assessment, the names of the commission members, the applicant’s name, and the decision of the members of the commission as well as the complete results. 2. This record must contain the essential reasons for the decision and the topics discussed at the interview held with the applicants; these reasons and topics may be recorded in note form.

7. Repetition
Applicants who have failed the aptitude test for the STS master’s program may register for one repetition of the Aptitude Assessment Test.