TUM Master’s Day
March 28th, 2022

TUM Department of Social Sciences and Technology (SOT)

Department for Science, Technology and Society
Welcome to the Department of Science, Technology and Society!

We will present the STS (Science and Technology Studies) and the RESET (Responsibility in Science, Engineering and Technology) programs and gladly answer all your questions!
• **STS 0: Methods in STS** and **Basic Ideas and Concepts of STS** for those students with no prior knowledge in this field i.e. who do not fulfil the requirement of having gained 8 ECTS points in this field before taking up their studies.

• Proof of **German language skills** for non-German students (no requirements regarding the level and type of certificate)

All requirements need to be fulfilled within the **first year of the M.A. program!**
Application

Step 1

B.A. Final Grade (max. 30 Points) + Letter of Motivation (max. 12 Points) + Essay (max. 17 Points)

50-59 Points: Admission
30-49 Points: Invitation for Interview
0-29 Points: Rejection

Step 2

B.A. Final Grade (max. 30 Points) + Interview (max. 29 Points)

30-59 Points: Admission
0-29 Points: Rejection
M.A. Program “Responsibility in Science, Engineering and Technology” (RESET)

- Practice-oriented learning
- Innovative term structure
- Interdisciplinary and international student groups
- Stay-abroad options
- Small project and student groups
- Extra-curricular activities

Individual support from staff and faculty

Focuses on both the technical and social aspects of responsibility in today’s highly technologized societies

Access to the Elite Network of Bavaria

Networking and career opportunities across disciplinary and institutional boundaries
Technology and Society

- Ethics
- Politics
- Economics
- Law
- Media

Methods in STS

Skills Courses (e.g. English Writing, Moderation)

Sem 1

STEM 1 & 2 with Intensive Mentoring

STS Core Topics 1-3

Skills Courses (e.g. Project Management, Statistics)

Sem 2

Master’s Blog

Science School

Internship

Sem 3

Practicing Research in STS

Sem 4

Master’s Thesis

Colloquium
INTRODUCTION
Semester 1

Modul STS 1: Practices and Politics of Science and Technology
10 Credits

Modul STS 2: Philosophy of Science and Technology
5 Credits

Modul STS 3: History of Science and Technology
5 Credits

Lecture Series & Academic Skills
5 Credits

Methods 1
5 Credits

KEY ISSUES
Semester 2

Core Topics in STS
Choice of 3 modules
5 Credits each

STS-MINT
7 Credits

Methods 2
8 Credits

ADVANCED STUDIES
Semester 3

Advanced Topics in STS
Choice of 4 modules
5 Credits each

Practicing Research
10 Credits

THESIS
Semester 4

Master’s Thesis

Colloquium
30 Credits

120 Credits

Topics for modules STS 1-3, Core and Advanced Topics:

There is a “Basic Methods”-course to complete before the studies start. The course gives an overview about all basic methodical tools in social sciences. Additionally, the entire first semester of both the STS and the RESET program consists of courses that will introduce you into social sciences and form a common ground for the rest of your studies. For details on the M.A. Politics and Technology, please also contact the according offices.
The average grade of some Bachelor Programs is much lower than others, will that be taken into account? Any tips for the application?

This is of course taken into account. We differentiate for example between humanities, MINT/STEM-subjects and social sciences. It’s quite clear that it can be harder to obtain 1,0 in mathematics than in German Language Studies. Additionally, the application process also considers your essay and your letter of motivation.
Q & A

What would you say are the differences between this MA and other STS Master's across Europe? Why should we choose to study STS at a technical University with no tradition in humanities and social sciences rather than at a "classical" university? Is the Department enough involved in the study of social sciences?

The STS program at TUM has a strong interdisciplinary focus; TUM being a technical university also offers interactions with STEM classes (STS-MINT). All our researchers have a Social Sciences/Humanities background (different research fields) and the lecturers and research groups at the department have the finger on the pulse of current STS research. Traditionally, there have been three social sciences departments at TUM (EDU, GOV, former MCTS/STS Department). With the restructuring of the schools, the three departments merged to the School of Social Sciences and Technology and represent the research in social sciences at TUM in a united form.
For your classes, the literature is provided by the lecturers; further readings can be acquired via the TUM library and especially by the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek where you can also register with your TUM student ID.

An LMU cooperation is planned via the Rachel Carson Center (from 2023 on); additionally, we work on a potential library cooperation.
Is there a possibility to do an internship or a period of studying abroad during the studies?

In both programs there is the possibility to do an internship. It’s mandatory in RESET and voluntary in the STS program. (Domains: Consulting, Policymaking Institutions, Companies)
The teaching staff is composed of professors and academics, often also with a professional STS background. There are going to be guest lecturers. Different teaching methods in different programs: RESET with a more practical approach (project work as in the immersion project, organizing a simulated conference like the science school, internship and reflection of the internship), STS in a seminar-based format with more focus on academic research and regular courses.

Special events for students of both programs like the “Spring Gathering” complete the overall study experience. There students get a budget to hire speakers and organize a conference with overnight accommodations in an attractive environment, e.g. in the Bavarian Alps or the Alpine foreland.
TUM hosts a page for accommodation offers, so does the Studentenwerk. Studentenwerk also offers psychological support; TUM organizes the mental health program TUM4health. Additionally, we circulate all mental health places to go in our recurring newsletter. For our new students, we offer a buddy program – the new students can choose to have a buddy from a higher semester helping them with questions around classes, everyday uni life and everything else they need.

Concerning jobs and internships, we regularly circulate offers via the student mailing lists.

Q & A

Are students supported during their studies by the University? (accommodation, tutor/study support, funding and job haunting, psychological support etc.)
Q & A

What does it take to become an international student at TUM? Which masters program will be most suitable for me to apply as an Industrial Engineer?

Please contact the general student advising: [https://www.tum.de/en/studies/support-and-advice/support-during-studies/studentadvising](https://www.tum.de/en/studies/support-and-advice/support-during-studies/studentadvising)
1. Augustenstraße 46
2. Arcisstraße 21
3. Deutsches Museum
4. Virtual spaces (Moodle, Zoom)
Internship

- RESET: during the first half of the 3rd semester (between August and December)
- 8 weeks, full-time (or equivalent)
- can be done in Germany or abroad
Stay Abroad

- Best option: **Internship abroad**
- Other options: Study abroad via the TUMexchange or ERASMUS+ Programs
- Further information can be found here:
  https://www.international.tum.de/en/go-international/

Photo: Franziska Zhu / TUM