

WELCOME TO TU DARMSTADT

M.Sc. Materials Science
Introductory Lecture WiSe25/26

Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld

Coordinator in the Office for Student Affairs
& Departmental Exchange Coordinator

*This talk will be uploaded to the
Materials Science webpages at
**Master/Information for new Master
students***

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Six categories of students in the audience:

1. International Incomings in Master's programme
2. National Incomings in Master's programme
3. Double degree Master students (FAME, AMIR, EC Lyon, Tongji)
4. Exchange students (**not** in Master's programme; e.g. Erasmus)
5. Bachelor's students in Materials Science (TU Da) who did not graduate yet
6. Bachelor's graduates in Materials Science (TU Da), now in Master's programme

Part I & Part II

Part II

AGENDA

Part I

For students new to TU Darmstadt

- 1** Orientation on campus
- 2** TUCaN, Moodle
- 3** Further support (Mentoring, IT)
- 4** Presentation by Student Union

BREAK

Part II

Framework and formalities of the M.Sc. Materials Science

- 5** Support (mentoring programme, departmental contacts)
- 6** Suggested Schedule & Elective Courses
- 7** Academic Achievements (exam types, exam registration, GPA, special course settings)
- 8** Labs (RL I & II, ARL)
- 9** Exchange Programmes



BUILDINGS AT CAMPUS LICHTWIESE

Other important buildings:

- Mensa L4|01 (canteen)
- HMZ L4|02 (library, lecture halls, seminar rooms)



MAIN MATERIALS SCIENCE BUILDING

- Office for Student Affairs
- Dean's office
- Student Council (Fachschaft)
- Seminar rooms
- Labs and offices

L2|01

Peter-Grünberg-Str. 2 (*formerly Alarich-Weiß-Str.*)



LAB AND OFFICE BUILDING: M³

L2|07

Peter-Grünberg-Str. 16

(formerly Alarich-Weiß-Str.)

Materials science labs and offices on 1st and 2nd Floor,
some on Ground Floor



OFFICE BUILDING

L6|01

Otto-Berndt-Str. 3

Materials Science Offices on 2nd and 4th Floor,
some on Ground Floor and 3rd Floor



CHEMISTRY BUILDING

L2|02

Peter-Grünberg-Str. 4

Materials Science Labs and Offices 4th and 5th Floor
(Surface Science group)

TUCAN

TUCaN = central system for organization of studies and teaching

- Registration for **modules**, **courses** (within modules) and **exams**
- Check your **grades**

Important:

- activate your TU-ID (see description in letter)
- [Configure your TU email](#)

Further information on TUCaN:

1. https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/studienorganisation_und_tucan/index.en.jsp
2. Flyer at the Office for Student Affairs
3. Fachschaft (student union)



In case of problems:
Don't Panic!

Ask fellow students, then the
Office for Student Affairs:
studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de.

TUCAN

7 – 11 November 2025: TUCaN will be down

➤ Export your schedule **BEFOREHAND!**

A message will be send through TUCaN as a reminder



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Ask fellow students, then the
Office for Student Affairs:
[studienbuero@mawi.tu-
darmstadt.de](mailto:studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de)

COURSE STRUCTURE

A **module** is a self-contained learning block with thematically determined learning achievements, predetermined workload (expressed in credits) and clear assessment criteria. A module may include **one or more courses** and **one or more exams**.

You must be **registered for a module** in order to **register for courses** that are part of that module.

When you register for a module, you are **not** automatically registered for the associated exam (exceptions: Lab courses, seminars, discussion with mentor).

More Information on [modules and courses](#) and [module registration in TUCaN](#)

- Module A
 - Course 1 (Lecture)
 - Course 2 (Exercise)
- Module B
 - Course 3 (Lab)
- ...

MOODLE

E-Learning platform

- Platform for online course material and activities
- Notification function for news and changes regarding your courses

Access

- Automatic registration for a moodle course with TUCaN course registration
 - Log-in with TU-ID
 - Courses can be found in your Dashboard
-
- Further information and log-in: <https://moodle.tu-darmstadt.de/>



In case of problems:

Ask fellow students or lecturer

For technical problems:

moodle@tu-darmstadt.de

[+49-6151-16-71130](tel:+49-6151-16-71130)

MOODLE

No TU-ID yet → Guest Access

Access

- Automatic registration for a moodle course with TUCaN course registration
- Log-in with TU-ID
- Courses can be found in your Dashboard

Instructions for access as guest

- Visit <https://moodle.tu-darmstadt.de/>
- Change language to English at right top if desired
- At right top corner, open block drawer by clicking the „<“ sign
- Click “Anmelden als Gast”
- Click “Access as a guest” in the resulting pop-up window
- Click “Course Catalogue” at top left
- Click the desired course
- Enter the Password FB11WiSe25 and then click “Submit”(attention: with copy and paste you might copy a trailing space that you need to delete)



Home Course Catalogue Help ▾

Courses / SoSe 2024 / FB11 Material- und Geowissenschaften

FB11 Material- und Geowissenschaften

SoSe 2024 / FB11 Material- und Geowissenschaften ▾ Search courses 🔍

Endogene Geologie - 11-02-1308-vl ⓘ

Exercises Theoretical Methods in Materials Science - 11-01-9314-ue ⓘ

Forschungsseminar SoSe 2024 - 11-02-9572-se ⓘ

Fortgeschrittenenpraktikum Materialwissenschaft I - 11-01-1028-pr ⓘ

Grundpraktikum Materialwissenschaft II - 11-01-1016-pr ⓘ

Konstruktionswerkstoffe - 11-01-1035-vl ⓘ 📄

Petrologie II: Metamorphe Gesteine - 11-02-1320-vu ⓘ

Project Seminar - 11-02-3402-se ⓘ

Research Lab II - 11-01-4012-pr ⓘ 📄

MASTER'S ORIENTATION AND PEER MENTORING

- Master's Orientation Events
 - Organised by the "Fachschaft" = student union
 - Starts with lunch together right after this orientation event
- ISS programme of TU Darmstadt:
https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/internationale_studierende_1/index.en.jsp
- MasterPlus – Success through Support
https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/internationale_studierende_1/supportprogramme/masterplus/index.en.jsp



MASTERPLUS MENTORING – MATERIALS SCIENCE



Nabodita
Anam Nova



Satyam
Katkhar



Mallika
Boddapaty

- Introduction to the university, the study programme and the department and student life in Darmstadt.
- Study-related support during the first semester and always have an open ear for questions and problems.
- **Departmental workshop programme:**
 - I. How to organize your studies**
Monday, 20th Oct, 15:20 (CEST) in L2|01 room 128 and on Zoom
 - II. Registration for exams**
 - III. Preparation for exams**
 - IV. Exam results & further study planning**
- **Counselling:**
Thursdays, 10:45 – 11:45 in L2|01 (in front of) room 228 and on Zoom



PROGRAMME FOR ACADEMIC & LANGUAGE SUPPORT

Orientation course open to **international master students**.

- Pilot project in WS2025/26
- PALS will help you enhance your **academic performance, communication & networking**:
 - Understanding and navigating the German educational system.
 - Navigating written & oral exams & excelling in academic writing.
 - Enhance communication with classmates and staff within your department.
 - Support studying in English in a multilingual setting.
 - & many more...

- Up to 8 creative light-load workshops spread across your first semester.
- Individualized attention and support.
- 3CP upon completion.
- Taught by professional linguists from the Language Resource Centre.
- Including input from department members.

PALS is now open
for registration!

**Scan for more
information:**





PROGRAMME FOR ACADEMIC & LANGUAGE SUPPORT

Orientation course open to **international master students**.

"We also explored the idea of independent studying, which feels like the cornerstone of academic life in Germany. At first, I struggled with the lack of constant guidance, no frequent reminders, no detailed outlines. But this workshop reframed it.

Independence isn't abandonment, it's trust. Professors expect students to manage their own learning, review materials, and seek out additional resources on their own. It felt intimidating but also empowering."

(Participant from SoSe25)

PALS is now open
for registration!

**Scan for more
information:**



SUPPORT & ADVICE

TU Student Service

- for issues such as application, admission & enrolment, change of degree programme, re-/de-registration, semester fees, health insurance, students' certificate, certificates for official institutions, change of address
 - [International Student Services](#)
 - [Student Service for national students](#)

Studierendenwerk

- Student Life (e.g. financing, accommodation, legal advice, social counselling...)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- [Deutschlandstipendium](#) („Germany Scholarship“)
→ Application until 12 Oct 2025
- Scholarship for more equal opportunities (STIBET I)
- [Prof. Sorin Huss-Fund](#): Support for financing of child care costs
- Financial funding for international students in their final study phase
- Student Assistant („HiWi“) Jobs
 - [Stellenwerk](#)
 - [In the department](#) (e.g. with research groups, as student tutor for lab courses, as mentor, in public relations)

Further information:
[Scholarships at TU
Darmstadt](#)

SOFTWARE

- Link to software from [HRZ](#)
 - **Sophos antivirus** software for free with TU-ID via HRZ
 - **Microsoft Office 365** for free with TU-ID via HRZ
 - **Zoom** client, free of charge
- For **QtiPlot** and **Origin** software see departmental webpage: Office for Student Affairs/Master → Documents and Forms → Software for Students
- [next.Hessenbox](#): Sync & Share system, free of charge, 30 GB for students
- In case of problems: Andreas Hönl, Stephan Diefenbach
 - Phone +49-6151-16-22240
 - Room 204
 - Mr. Andreas Hönl (andreas.hoenl@tu-darmstadt.de)
 - Mr. Stephan Diefenbach (stephan.diefenbach@tu-darmstadt.de)

HARDWARE

New notebooks and PCs with student discount

- <https://www.campuspoint.de>
- <https://www.lenovo.com/de/de/student-discounts/>
- <https://www.notebooksbilliger.de/studentenprogramm/p+c+systeme+campusprogramm>
- <https://dazit.de/lenovo-campus-programm>

Cheap used (refurbished) notebooks and PCs

- <https://www.notebookgalerie.de>
- <https://www.itsco.de>

Free use of PCs in the Computer Pool

- [L2|01, room 227](#)
- [User regulations](#)

A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) of a crystal, likely a metal, showing its characteristic faceted structure. The crystal is a light gray color and is surrounded by a darker, textured material. The background is a deep blue with a greenish-yellow glow, suggesting a microscopic or scientific environment.

ORIENTATION DAY – MASTER MATERIALS SCIENCE

PRESENTATION BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL

SURVEY FOR INCOMING MASTER'S STUDENTS

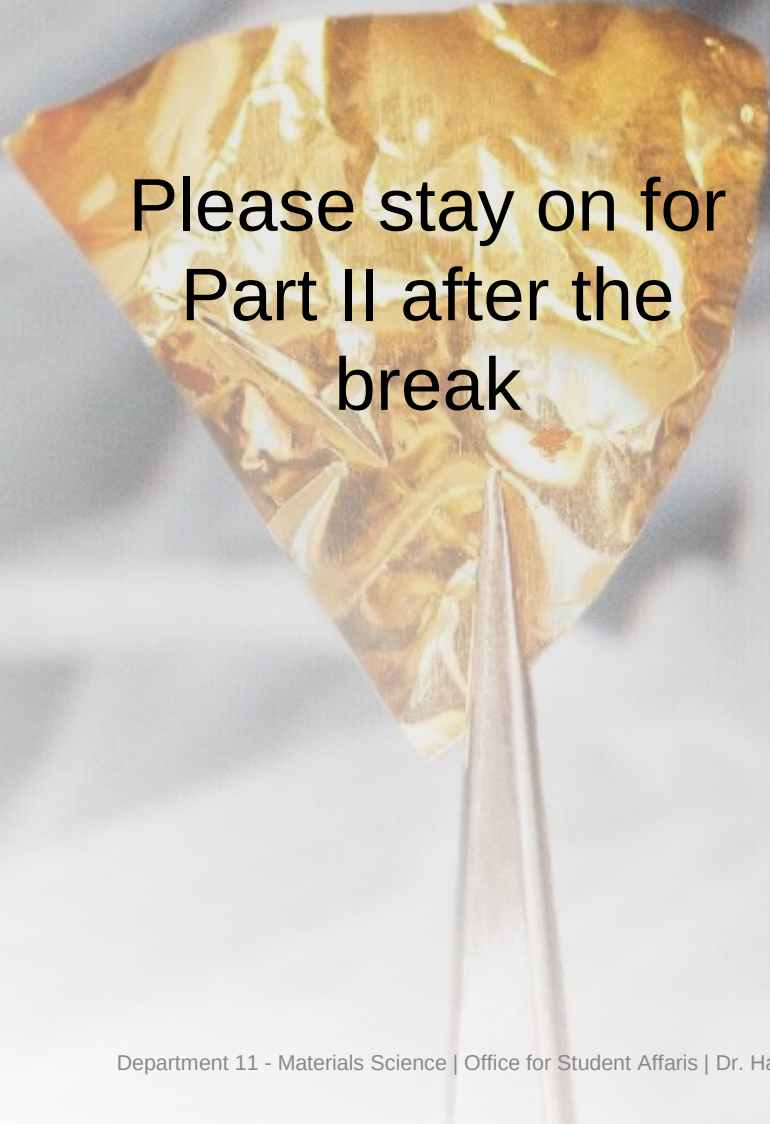
- Voluntary
- Anonymous

Thanks for your support!

<https://form.jotform.com/250902418602349>



END OF PART I



Please stay on for
Part II after the
break

PART II

Framework and formalities
of the
M.Sc. Materials Science

MASTER MATERIALS SCIENCE AT TU DARMSTADT

Introductory Lecture WiSe24/25

Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld

Coordinator in the Office for Student Affairs

This talk will be uploaded to the
Materials Science webpages at
**Master/Information for new Master
students**

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Six categories of students in the audience:

1. International Incomings in Master's programme
2. National Incomings in Master's programme
3. Double degree Master students (FAME, AMIR, EC Lyon, Tongji)
4. Exchange students (**not** in Master's programme; e.g. Erasmus)
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- 5** Support (mentoring programme, departmental contacts)
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ADVICE FOR STUDY-RELATED QUESTIONS

Who to ask

- For content-related questions about your Master programme → [Chair of the examination board, professor mentor](#)
- Formel aspects of your degree → [Office for Student Affairs](#)
- About European Double Degree programmes → [Dr. Joachim Brötz](#)
- About MasterPlus, Research Labs, Exchange programmes and general questions → [Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld](#)
- About Departmental Admission Letter and general questions → [Nina-Elaine Ansorg-Rülke, Ruben Bischler, Magdalena Schmitt](#)
- About first steps as a new student at TUDa, social aspects and study programme → [Your MasterPlus-Mentors](#)



Prof. Dr. Oliver Gutfleisch

Chair of examination board

Room L2|07/111, Phone 16-22140

Office hours: Tuesday 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
during semester times (Please email beforehand to
oliver.gutfleisch@tu-darmstadt.de)



PD Dr. Boris Kastening

Study Coordinator Materials Science; Managing Director Dept.11
Room L2|01/78



Carina Wolf

Office for Student Affairs (M.Sc.): exams, TUCaN
Room L2|01/78, Phone 16-22248



Nicole Wandersleb-Mewes

Office for Student Affairs (M.Sc.): exams, TUCaN
Room L2|01/78

ADVICE FOR STUDY-RELATED QUESTIONS

+ your mentor!

Office for Student Affairs

Study organisation and study counselling, part-time-studies, studying with a child, recognition of credit points, registration or deregistration of exams, registration of final modules, transcript of records and certificates

Email: studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de

In person: preferably before lunchtime

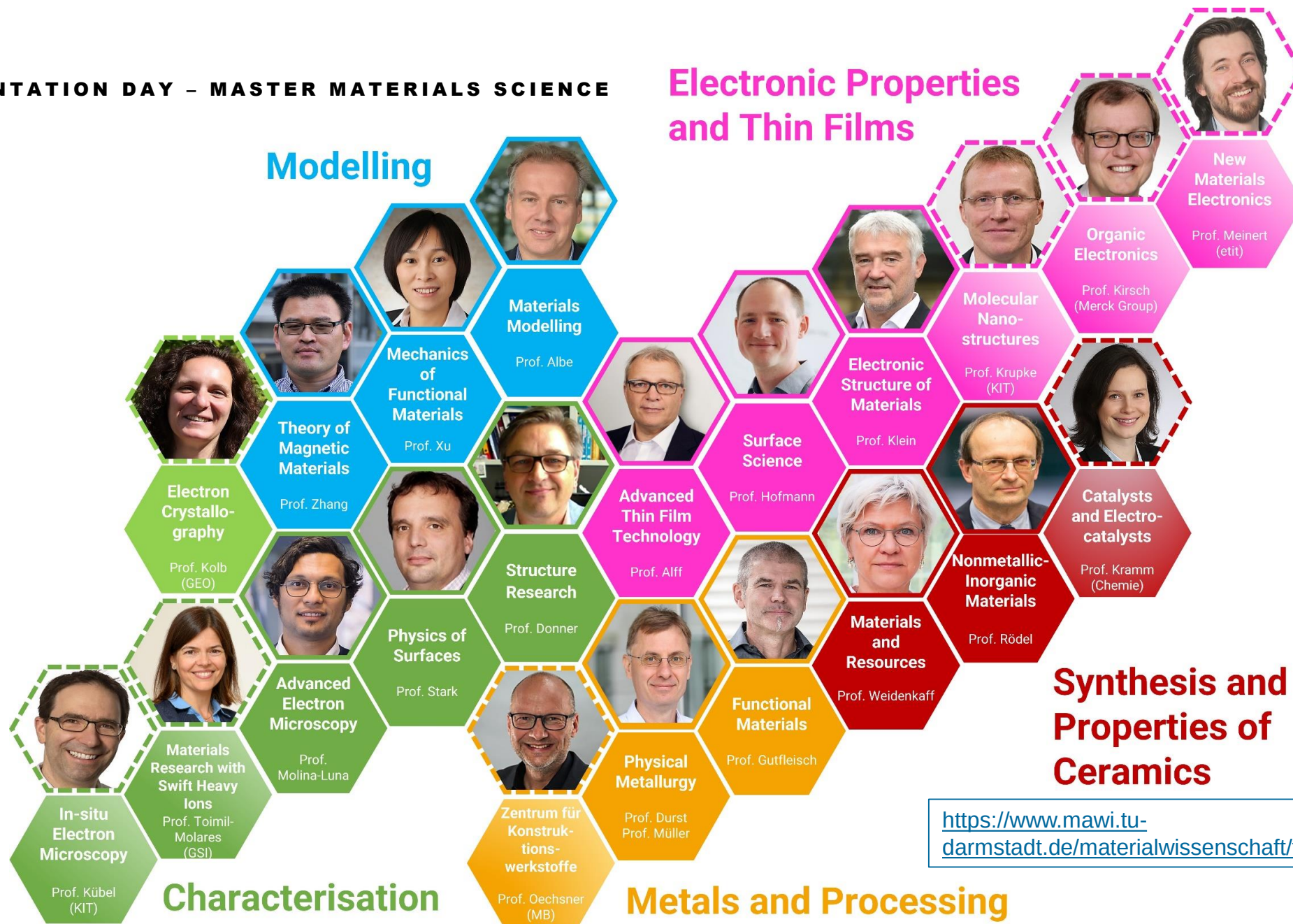
MENTORING PROGRAMME

- Voluntary, but strongly recommended
 - Personal advice on course selection, course of study, study progress
 - Contact person for problems during your studies
 - First contact with one of the Research Groups
- Choose mentor according to your research interests (but may be changed later).
 - Register in TUCaN:
 - register in TUCaN for **module** „Discussion with Mentor – Master
 - register in TUCaN for **course** „ Discussion with Mentor – Master - <name of prof.>“
 - **Arrange for an appointment yourself!**
 - Prepare preliminary „personal schedule“ for discussion with mentor (see slide 36, Excel template available on Master's homepage)
 - The sooner the appointment the better

Mentoring: Personal
advice by professor



Up to 6 students
per professor



https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/materialwissenschaft/fachgebiete_mawi/index.en.jsp

POSSIBLE MENTORS

- Mr. Prof. K. Albe
- Mr. Prof. L. Alff
- Mr. Prof. W. Donner
- Mr. Prof. K. Durst
- Mr. Prof. O. Gutfleisch
- Mr. Prof. J.P. Hofmann
- Mr. Prof. A. Klein
- Mr. Prof. P. Kirsch
- Mr. Prof. R. Krupke
- Mr. Prof. C. Kübel
- Mr. Ass.-Prof. L. Molina-Luna
- Mr. Prof. R. Stark
- Ms. Prof. M. E. Toimil-Molares
- Ms. Prof. A. Weidenkaff
- Ms. Prof. B. Xu
- Mr. Prof. H. Zhang

For a list of all research groups and links to their webpages see here:

https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/materialwissenschaft/fachgebiete_mawi/index.en.jsp

FURTHER ADVICE AT OUR DEPARTMENT

+your mentor!



Dr. Joachim Brötz

FAME, AMIS, AMIR double degree programmes

joachim.broetz@tu-darmstadt.de
Room L2|01/209, Phone 16-21030,



Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld

International exchange & Master's students

hannah.sonderfeld@tu-darmstadt.de
Room L2|01/209, Phone 16-22245



Nina-Elaine Ansorg-Rülke

Public relations & Master's students

master@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
Room L2|01/208, Phone 16-22283



Ruben Bischler

Public relations & Master's students

master@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
Room L2|01/208, Phone 16-22019



Magdalena Schmitt

Public relations & Master's students

master@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
Room L2|01/208, Phone 16-22280

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

1st Semester	CP CHW	2nd Semester	CP CHW	3rd Semester (optional stay abroad)	CP CHW	4th Semester	CP		
Research Lab I	SE 4 Lab4	Research Lab II	SE 4 Lab4	Advanced Research Lab	SEg 15 Lab24+P2	Master's Thesis and Defense	TE 30		
Quantum Mechanics for Mat. Sci. OR Micromechanics for Mat. Sci.	TE 6 L3+E1	Theoretical Methods in Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1						
Functional Materials	TE 6 L4	Advanced Characterization Methods of Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1						
Surfaces and Interfaces	TE 5 L3	Sustainable Materials	TE 6 L4						
Elective Courses Materials Science (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg 22-26* (all modules need to be graded)						
General Studies (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg/SE 6-10* (modules may be graded or ungraded)						
Mentoring	0	Legend:							
Orientation Day	0								

→ More info: see M.Sc. Materials
Science web page
https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/master_mawi/index.en.jsp

Elective Courses Materials Science	22 - 26 CP*	Compulsory Courses	29 CP
		Elective Courses Mechanics (QM or MM)	6 CP
		Compulsory Lab Courses	23 CP
General Studies	6 - 10 CP*	Master's Thesis	30 CP
Recommended Supplementary Offers	0 CP	Sum	120 CP

Legend:

CP = Credit Points (ECTS system)
CHW = Contact Hours (45min) per Week
TE = Technical Examination = graded exam (max. 3 attempts, except thesis: max. 2 attempts; additionally one oral supplementary examination (mEP) throughout the Master's course)
SE = ungraded Study Examination
SEg = graded Study Examination
L = Lecture, E = Exercises, P = Presentation, Lab = Laboratory Course
* = 4 CP of the total of 32 CP in the elective courses can be freely distributed between the two areas

CP = Credit Point
CHW = Contact Hours per
Week (45 min.)

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

1st Semester	CP CHW	2nd Semester	CP CHW
Research Lab I	SE 4 Lab4	Research Lab II	SE 4 Lab4
Quantum Mechanics for Mat. Sci. OR Micromechanics for Mat. Sci.	TE 6 L3+E1	Theoretical Methods in Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1
Functional Materials	TE 6 L4	Advanced Characterization Methods of Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1
Surfaces and Interfaces	TE 5 L3	Sustainable Materials	TE 6 L4
Elective Courses Materials Science (freely distributable over semesters)			
General Studies (freely distributable over semesters)			
Mentoring	0		
Orientation Day	0		

Elective Courses Materials Science	22 - 26 CP*	Compulsory Courses	29 CP
		Elective Courses Mechanics (QM or MM)	6 CP
		Compulsory Lab Courses	23 CP
General Studies	6 - 10 CP*	Master's Thesis	30 CP
Recommended Supplementary Offers	0 CP	Sum	120 CP

QM / MM (6 CP = 6 ECTS)

Choice:

- Quantum Mechanics for Materials Science
- or
- Micromechanics for Materials Science

The respective other module may be taken as an „Elective Course Materials Science,“ if desired.

ELECTIVE COURSES MATERIALS SCIENCE [1/3]

1st Semester	CP CHW	2nd Semester	CP CHW	3rd Semester (optional stay abroad)	CP CHW
Research Lab I	SE 4 Lab4	Research Lab II	SE 4 Lab4	Advanced Research Lab	SEg 15 Lab24+P2
Quantum Mechanics for Mat. Sci. OR Micromechanics for Mat. Sci.	TE 6 L3+E1	Theoretical Methods in Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1		
Functional Materials	TE 6 L4	Advanced Characterization Methods of Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1		
Surfaces and Interfaces	TE 5 L3	Sustainable Materials	TE 6 L4		
Elective Courses Materials Science (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg 22-26* (all modules need to be graded)		
General Studies (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg/SE 6-10* (modules may be graded or ungraded)		
Mentoring	0				
Orientation Day	0				

Choose **Materials Science related** courses
(from the whole TU Course Catalogue)
with an extent of **22 - 26 CP** in total.

→ More info: see M.Sc. Materials Science web
page

[https://www.mawi.tu-
darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/master_ma
wi/index.en.jsp](https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/master_mawi/index.en.jsp)

Especially note the **Info Sheet on the rules
for the Elective Courses**

Elective Courses Materials Science	22 - 26 CP*	Compulsory Courses	29 CP
		Elective Courses Mechanics (QM or MM)	6 CP
		Compulsory Lab Courses	23 CP
General Studies	6 - 10 CP*	Master's Thesis	30 CP
Recommended Supplementary Offers	0 CP	Sum	120 CP

ELECTIVE COURSES

MATERIALS SCIENCE [2/3]

- **Only** modules with numerical grade 1.0, 1.3, ..., 4.0; 5.0 are acceptable!!
- Modules with only pass/fail are **not** acceptable!!

Personal Schedule:

- Choose courses yourself
- This domain concerns your individual **area of specialization**
- You may prepare your personal schedule and discuss it with your mentor

Excel template for personal schedule available on
Master homepage > Documents and forms

Possibilities:

- Courses from „M.Sc. Materials Science module guide“ (check in TUCaN: the department may offer more courses than listed in the module guide)
- Materials Science related courses from outside the department (Physics, Chemistry, Mech. Eng., Electr. Eng., M.Sc. „Energy Science and Engineering“...)
- Your obligatory courses from the M.Sc. Materials Science Course Catalogue (see next slide)

If in doubt, contact the Office for Student Affairs
studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de

ELECTIVE COURSES

MATERIALS SCIENCE [3/3]

→ Question to all freshers who did **not** study the B.Sc. Materialwissenschaft at TU Darmstadt:
Did you get a departmental admission letter, possibly with „obligations“?

Often (not always):

- „Concepts in Materials Physics“
- „Seminar Research Topics in Materials Science“
- „Defects in Crystalline Solids“

▪ **NO DEPARTMENTAL ADMISSION LETTER?**

→ Mail to master@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de!

Note:

- You have to pass these modules before you can register for your Master's thesis. We thus recommend that you take those modules within the first year.
- Only take „Concepts in Materials Physics“ and/or „Defects in Crystalline Solids“ if obligatory for you!
- „Defects in Crystalline Solids“ **may** count for the Master's degree
→ sign up for module 11-01-1040 “Defects in Crystalline Solids” (Additional Achievements” domain in TUCaN)
→ inform Office for Student Affairs if you want to have it count
 - Must be passed within 3 semesters after enrolment
 - Has English recordings of lecture (2 SWS) on moodle
 - Exercise (1 SWS, gives an exam bonus) in English
 - Exam in English

ELECTIVE COURSES

GENERAL EDUCATION [1/2]

1st Semester	CP CHW	2nd Semester	CP CHW	3rd Semester (optional stay abroad)	CP CHW
Research Lab I	SE 4 Lab4	Research Lab II	SE 4 Lab4	Advanced Research Lab	SEg 15 Lab24+P2
Quantum Mechanics for Mat. Sci. OR Micromechanics for Mat. Sci.	TE 6 L3+E1	Theoretical Methods in Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1		
Functional Materials	TE 6 L4	Advanced Characterization Methods of Materials Science	TE 6 L3+E1		
Surfaces and Interfaces	TE 5 L3	Sustainable Materials	TE 6 L4		
Elective Courses Materials Science (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg 22-26* (all modules need to be graded)		
General Studies (freely distributable over semesters)			TE/SEg/SE 6-10* (modules may be graded or ungraded)		
Mentoring	0				
Orientation Day	0				

Elective Courses Materials Science	22 - 26 CP*	Compulsory Courses	29 CP
		Elective Courses Mechanics (QM or MM)	6 CP
		Compulsory Lab Courses	23 CP
General Studies	6 - 10 CP*	Master's Thesis	30 CP
Recommended Supplementary Offers	0 CP	Sum	120 CP

“General Education”: Choose **courses not related to Materials Science** (from the whole TU Course Catalogue) with an extent of **6 - 10 CP** in total.

→ More info: see M.Sc. Materials Science web page
https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/master_mawi/index.en.jsp

Especially note the [Info Sheet on the rules for the Elective Courses](#)

ELECTIVE COURSES

GENERAL EDUCATION [2/2]

- Graded (1.0, 1.3, ..., 4.0; 5.0) or ungraded (pass/fail): if graded, grade does **not** count towards GPA
- Choose for yourself or discuss with your mentor
- May also be from natural sciences or engineering, but only if **not** Materials Science-related
- English language courses **only** acceptable if they go beyond the admission level for Master's programme
- Few courses in English language at TU Darmstadt
→ **International students**: Take German language courses:
<https://www.spz.tu-darmstadt.de/index.en.jsp>

Deadline for registration is Tuesday,
14. Oct 2025

Approval:

- List of already approved courses, [see](#):
 - PDF „Approved Elective Modules for M.Sc. Materials Science“ in the [Documents&Forms section for M.Sc. students](#), and
 - PDF „Approved elective modules (German)“ in the [Documents&Forms section for B.Sc. students](#);
acceptable categories are
 - „2. Nicht-technisch-naturwissenschaftliche Wahlpflichtfächer“ and
 - „3. Wahlweise Technisch-naturwissenschaftliche oder Nicht-technisch-naturwissenschaftliche Wahlpflichtfächer (passend für beide Kategorien)“
- For other than already approved choices: If uncertain, write Email to studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de

ADDITIONAL COURSES

„Additional Courses:“ ad libitum

- CP do **not** count towards degree, grades do **not** count towards final GPA
- Additional courses will be listed on a separate transcript

TYPES OF EXAMS: TE, SE, THESIS

Research Lab I	SE 4 <i>Lab4</i>
Quantum Mechanics for Mat. Sci. OR Micromechanics for Mat. Sci.	TE 6 <i>L3+E1</i>
Functional Materials	TE 6 <i>L4</i>
Surfaces and Interfaces	TE 5 <i>L3</i>

TE = „Technical Examination“:

- Graded exam (grades 1.0, 1.3, ..., 4.0, 5.0; oral or written) with only three attempts
- After failing twice in same exam, talk to your mentor!
- If you and the teacher agree: third attempt of written exam may be taken as oral exam
- Once in your M.Sc.: after three failed written attempts: oral last-chance attempt („mündliche Ergänzungsprüfung“)

SE, SEg = „Study Examination“ (SE: pass/fail, SEg: graded):

- Graded or ungraded **study achievement** without limitation regarding the number of attempts
- In Materials Science: Labs, Seminars, where you are automatically registered for „exams“:

Lab: successfully carrying out all experiments

Seminar: Successful seminar talk and seminar participation

Master's Thesis:

- Only two attempts
- Once in each attempt: Possibility to return subject without failed attempt, latest after 8 weeks
- Deadline after 26 weeks (ca. 1/2 year); you may apply for a justified extension of up to 13 weeks

EXAM REGISTRATION RULES

EXCEPTIONS ONLY IN TRULY EXCEPTIONAL CASES

- Exams with a collective date (written or oral):
 - register in TUCaN in time; for Mat. Sci. exams **at least 8 calendar days** before!
 - other rules for exams of other departments; e.g. central reg. periods 1 – 30 June / 15 Nov – 15 Dez
- Oral exams without collective date:
 - First register in TUCaN and then arrange for an appointment yourself!
- Changed your mind? Deregister **at least 8 calendar days before!**
- If you are sick *and* it is too late for deregistering:
 - Get **physician's certificate** that you were „prüfungsunfähig“=„unable to participate in an exam“ or „arbeitsunfähig“=„unable to work“ and submit it to the Office for Student Affairs **within three calendar days after the exam** (if this is Sat, Sun, holiday: next working day thereafter). Scan and email to studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de works, too.
- Other important reasons *and* it is too late for deregistering:
 - Give notice to Office for Student Affairs and be prepared to provide evidence for such reasons

Problems in TUCaN?

→ Contact Office for Student Affairs **BEFORE** deadline!

SOME HINTS FOR EXAMS

Preparing for exams:

- Participate in exercises, if offered
- Do not learn by heart, but try to understand
- Try to understand not only *how* things work, but *why*
- Learn in groups

Oral exam:

- Ask your professor for examples of typical questions
- Ask each other questions

Writing the exam:

- Given time limits are strict
- Read over all questions first
- Start with the easiest questions
- Adjust the level of detail of your answers to the time given

EXAMS – PROOF OF IDENTITY

- Know your matriculation number (not your TU ID) by heart
- Bring photo ID for identification purposes
- Student ID cards are not suitable for this purpose and are not required
- Further information: https://www.tu-darmstadt.de/studieren/studierende_tu/studienorganisation_und_tucan/hilfe_und_faq/artikel_details_de_en_375168.en.jsp

CALCULATION OF FINAL GPA

Grades weighted with CPs of their modules:

- Mandatory lectures
- Quantum Mechanics/Micromechanics
- Elective Courses Materials Science
- Advanced Research Lab (ARL)
- Master's Thesis

No contribution to final GPA:

- Research Labs I & II
- General Education
- Additional Courses

Option to better your grade for mandatory lectures:

Voluntary retake of a passed exam

- One time only during your Master's
- If passed, most recent grade will be used for module grade
- If not passed, retake will not be considered further

See "General Examination Regulations of
Technical University of Darmstadt (APB)"

→ Send email to
studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de



„VORGEZOGENE MASTER- LEISTUNGEN“ FROM B.SC.

(„EARLY MASTER'S ACHIEVEMENTS“)

After enrolment into the Master's programme send Email to
studienbuero@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de

and ask for „Early Master's achievements“ to be moved from
your Bachelor's to your Master's record.

*Only relevant to students with
B.Sc. from TU Darmstadt*

FUNCTIONAL MATERIALS

Only relevant to students who graduated with an „old“ B.Sc. Materialwissenschaft from TU Darmstadt

New B.Sc. and M.Sc. study regulations were installed in WiSe 2015/16:

- „**Functional Materials**“ moved from B.Sc. to M.Sc. curriculum
- „**Materials Engineering**“ moved from M.Sc. to B.Sc. curriculum (now in German and called „**Werkstoffherstellung und -verarbeitung**“)



Consequences for B.Sc. graduates according to **regulations from 2008**:

- You passed „Funktions- und Konstruktionsmaterialien“ as part of your mandatory curriculum and are **not allowed to take „Functional Materials“** for credit again.
- Choose **more elective course(s)** instead: at least **6 CP!**
Encouraged option: „**Werkstoffherstellung & –verarbeitung**“ (5 CP)

→ Please contact the Office for Student Affairs!

LABS (PRAKTIKA)

- Research Lab I & II → Lab courses within the department
- Advanced Research Lab → Individual research project

RESEARCH LAB I

- SL, 4 CP
- Lab course during the semester covering **5 experiments**
- Introductory meeting with Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld:

Wednesday, 15 Oct 2025
at 16:10 – 17:50 (CEST)
in L3|01, Lecture Hall A91

1st Semester	CP CHW	2nd Semester	CP CHW
Research Lab I	SE 4 Lab4	Research Lab II	SE 4 Lab4

and on zoom for those who are not yet in
Darmstadt:

<https://tu-darmstadt.zoom-x.de/j/67406212024?pwd=CB7ecxCahy4B7o808oBjPiaDgG4N8A.1>

Meeting-ID: 674 0621 2024
Kenncode: 903473

Participation in the introductory meeting is mandatory!

- Questionnaire for grouping in moodle

ADVANCED RESEARCH LAB (ARL) AND MASTER'S THESIS

- Own research project
- ARL: SEg, 15 CP; MT: TE, 30 CP

Boundary condition: **only one** of **ARL** and **Master's Thesis** may be carried out externally,
NOT BOTH

“external” := not at a university

- i.e., at a company or external research institution
- exceptions:
 - GSI (@ Prof. Toimil-Molares)
 - MPA/IfW (@ Prof. Oechsner)
 - Fraunhofer IWKS (@ Apl. Prof. Ionescu)
 - KIT (@ Profs. Krupke or Kübel)
 are counted as “internal”

External ARL or Master's Thesis: If the company or research institution requires a non-disclosure agreement (NDA), you need to ask your advisor, if he/she is willing to sign, since nobody else will do so.

3rd Semester (optional stay abroad)	CP CHW	4th Semester	CP
Advanced Research Lab	SEg 15 Lab24+P2	Master's Thesis and Defense	TE 30

Please note the guidelines for
Master theses and, if
applicable, the additional
guidelines for external Master
thesis in the
[Documents & Forms section](#)
for M.Sc. students!

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

- Application period for Erasmus+ places within **Europe** and places **worldwide** with deadline for most applications: **30 Nov 2025, some earlier!**
- All information and further links on our website:
www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/auslandsstudium/index.en.jsp
- More information in RL I introductory session or contact **Dr. Hannah Sonderfeld**
auslandskoordination@mawi.tu-darmstadt.de
- publications for download from DAAD (in German):
www.studieren-weltweit.de/publikationen

Go Out Weeks - Program
Presentation for Materials
Science on 28 Oct, 12:30 CET

Erfolgreich Studieren mit „Studiertechniken“

Link for course in English: [Moodle course Study Skills \(english\)](#)

In dem Moodlekurs [Studiertechniken - HDA](#) finden Studierende



Podcasts,



Vorlagen,



Videos und



Spiele,



die sie beim Lernen und Studieren unterstützen.

<https://moodle.tu-darmstadt.de/course/view.php?id=30555>



TUDA APP

TUDa app & digital student ID card:

- Many TU functions and the digital student ID card in one app.
- With building navigation
- The digital student ID card will be standard from the 2025/26 winter semester
- Paper ID cards will no longer be sent out



MATERIALS SCIENCE AT TU DARMSTADT



Good Luck!

Check the MaWi-Master's homepage:

https://www.mawi.tu-darmstadt.de/studium/im_studium/master_mawi/index.en.jsp

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