Implementation Provisions

for the Data Science Fundamentals programme at the University of St.Gallen [AB DSF][1]

of 20 June 2017

Pursuant to Art. 7[bis] of the Examination Regulations for Bachelor's Studies at the University of St.Gallen of 6 March 2002

the Senate Committee of the University of St.Gallen

issues the following implementation provisions:

A. Main part

I. General provisions

Art. 1 Scope of application

[1] These provisions shall be applicable to the Data Science Fundamentals programme:

a) the admission requirements,
b) the programme structure,
c) the examinations,
d) the examination results and the certificate,
e) the organisation and administration of the programme.

Art. 2 Purpose of the programme

[1] The Data Science Fundamentals provides students with an opportunity to acquire fundamental knowledge of data science (programming, statistics, machine learning and artificial intelligence), as well as the skill to actively contribute to projects in this field (i.e. data-driven projects).

[2] Students will learn to pursue well-founded reflections on the social, economic and ethical consequences of the modern world's increasing "data-drivenness". The multidisciplinary character of the programme shall be ensured by interweaving issues such as programming and statistics with social and ethical reflection.

II. Admission requirements

Art. 3 Admission conditions

[1] Admission to the Data Science Fundamentals shall be open to undergraduates engaged in Bachelor's studies at the University of St.Gallen.

[2] Applications for the programme shall be accompanied by the following documents:

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[1] Pursuant to Art. 123 of the University Statutes of 25 October 2010 (No. 217.15, Consolidated Statute Book of the Canton of St.Gallen), only the German version of these implementation provisions shall be legally binding.

a) curriculum vitæ (1 page);
b) letter of motivation (1-2 pages);
c) current grade transcript of the Assessment Year.

[3] The programme directors shall determine the maximum score that can be attained per admission criterion in accordance with Art. 3(2). If required, they shall be able to establish additional criteria (such as passing a test).

[4] The students who attain the highest score shall be admitted according to the number of programme places available.

Art. 4 Admission on a temporary basis

[1] Admission shall only be valid for the academic year in question and shall lapse if the student fails to occupy the programme place or to attend the Fundamentals of Data Science Workshop in the first programme semester. Checking on this shall be incumbent on the programme directors.

III. Programme structure

Art. 5 Scope

[1] The programme shall extend to 24 ECTS credits and can only be started in the Autumn Semester.

Art. 6 Courses

[1] The programme shall consist of the following courses, which shall be taught annually and basically in English:

1) Fundamentals of Data Science Workshop (8 credits)
   The course must be completed in the first semester and cannot be allocated to either core studies or contextual studies.
2) Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Data Science (4 credits)
   The course must be completed in the second semester and shall be allocated to core studies.
3) Electives (12 credits)
   These courses can be allocated to core studies or contextual studies.

[2] The allocation shall be conducted by the directors of the programmes (majors) and of contextual studies and shall be published.

IV. Examinations

Art. 7 Examination type and time

[1] The examination type and time shall be determined jointly by the faculty members in charge of the courses and by the programme directors.

Art. 8 Adoption of students' grade into Bachelor's studies

[1] Students shall sit the examinations in the context of their Bachelor's studies.

[2] If students are enrolled in the Fundamentals of Data Science programme, the grades they are awarded in these examinations shall be adopted into their Bachelor's studies.

Art. 9 Crediting of extramural courses/credits

[1] Students shall only be able to attend elective courses outside the University of St.Gallen.

Art. 10 Subsidiarity

[1] The provisions of the Examination Regulations for Bachelor's studies of the University of St.Gallen of 6 March 2002 (ER BA) shall be applicable in addition to these implementation provisions.

V. Examination result and certificate

Art. 11 Pass grades

[1] The examination of the Data Science Fundamentals shall be deemed passed if

a) a student's grade average of all course examinations is at least 4.00, and
b) the student has not scored more than 4 negative weighted credit points in accordance with Art. 22 EM BA.

[2] Students who are awarded a fail grade in an examination shall be able to resit this examination once, such resit only being possible if a student has failed the programme at the first attempt and then has to attend the course once more. Pass grades of the first attempt shall be adopted into the second attempt.

Art. 12 Certificate

[1] Students who have passed the examination shall be awarded a certificate signed by the President and the programme directors.

[2] This certificate is not an academic degree and shall only attain its legal validity in conjunction with the Bachelor's degree.

VI. Organisation and administration

Art. 13 Programme director

[1] The overall responsibility for the programme shall be incumbent on the programme director, who shall be appointed by the School of Economics and Political Science (SEPS).

[2] The programme director's functions shall include the following, in particular:

a) the conceptualisation of the programme, with the proviso that the programme shall consist of courses from all the Schools;
b) appointment of the main faculty members;
c) approval of further faculty members and guest speakers;
d) supplying the School with the necessary information about the courses (faculty members, subject-matter, etc.);
e) budgeting;
f) evaluation of the programme.

Art. 14 Administrative director

[1] The administrative director shall be responsible for the operative organisation of the programme.

[2] He/she shall be the contact point for students and central administration, with which he/she cooperates.

B. Transitional provisions, repeal and amendment of other documents

Art. 15 Transitional provision

[1] DSF students who attended the Data Science Fundamentals course taught in Autumn Semester 2017 shall have the programme credited to the Data Science Fundamentals programme and removed from their majors.

[2] The Dean of Studies shall be able to revise the programme title on application of the programme directors until the end of the academic year 2019/2020.

C. Effectiveness

Art. 16 Effectiveness

These implementation provisions shall enter into force as from 1 August 2018.