

UNIVERSITY OF
LUCERNE

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES



COURSE OFFERING

LUCERNE MASTER IN COMPUTATIONAL
SOCIAL SCIENCES (LUMACSS)
FALL SEMESTER 2025



Programme Director and Co-Initiators	3
Administration and Programme Coordinator.....	3
Semester Dates.....	3
Study Programme	4
Course Offering in Fall 2025.....	5
Module Social Sciences	5
Module Statistics and Quantitative Methods	6
Module Computational Sciences and Digital Skills	6
Module Practical Skills	7

Programme Director and Co-Initiators

LUMACSS Programme Director	Prof. Dr. Alexander H. Trechsel alexander.trechsel@unilu.ch Professor of Political Science and Political Communication	3.B12 041 229 55 90
LUMACSS Co-Initiators	Prof. Dr. Sophie Mützel sophie.muetzel@unilu.ch Professor of Sociology with Emphasis on Media and Social Networks	3.A33 041 229 55 63
	Prof. Dr. Mira Burri mira.burri@unilu.ch Professor of International Economic and Internet Law Faculty of Law	4.A31 041 229 53 71
	Dr. Andrea De Angelis deangelis@ipz.uzh.ch Assistant Professor University of Milan	

Administration and Programme Coordinator

Department Address	Department of Political Science Frohburgstrasse 3 6002 Lucerne	
E-Mail	polsem@unilu.ch	
Website	www.unilu.ch/polsem	
Phone	041 229 55 91	
Fax	041 229 50 01	
Administration	Stephanie Deuber stephanie.deuber@unilu.ch	3.B04 041 229 55 91
LUMACSS Programme Coordinator	Dr. Samuel Schmid samuel.schmid@unilu.ch lumacss@unilu.ch	3.A18 041 229 56 04

Semester Dates

Fall semester 2024

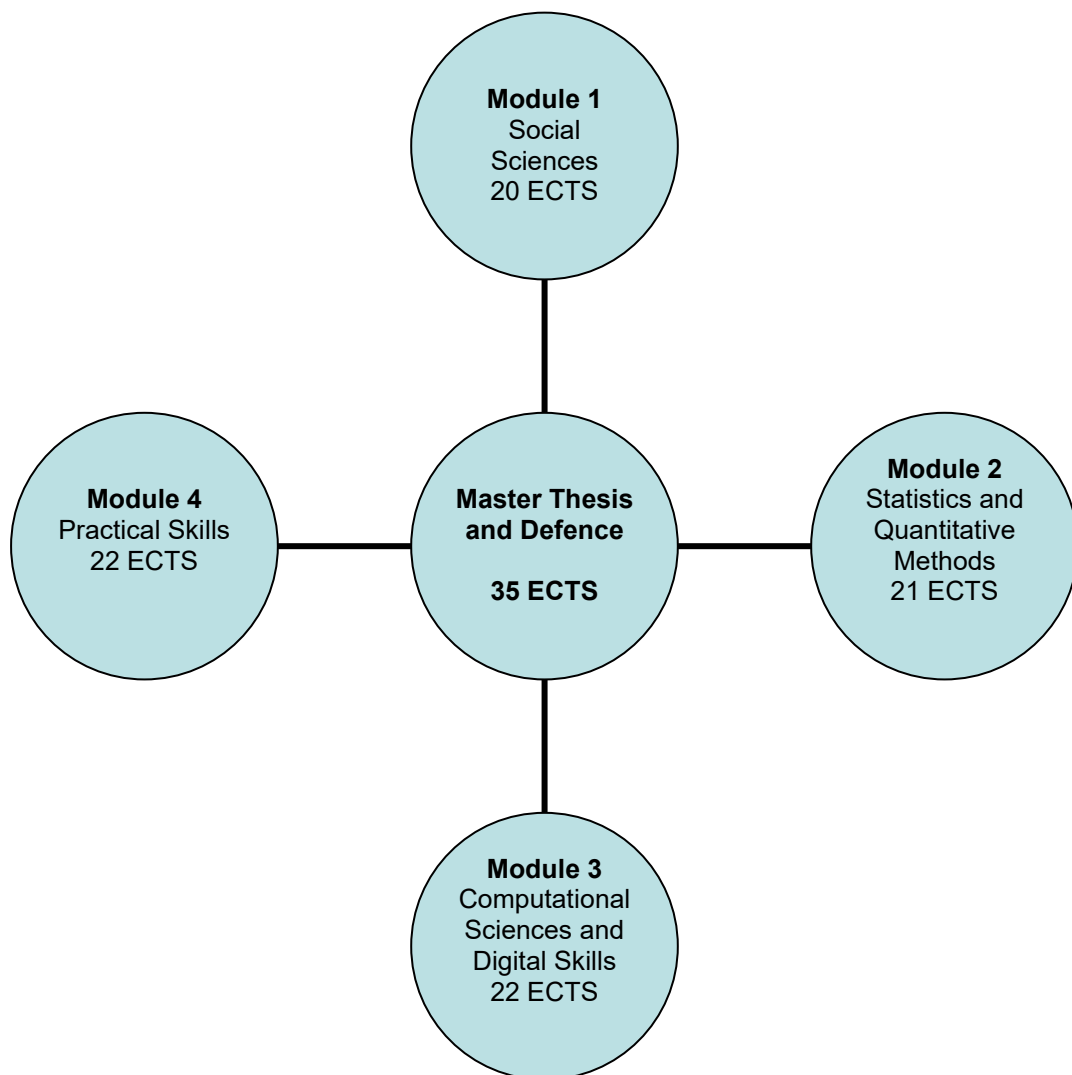
Courses take place from Monday, September 12th to Friday, December 19th, 2025

There are no courses taking place on the following dates:

Thursday, October 2 nd	St. Leger's Day (Patron Saint's Day of Lucerne)
Saturday, November 1 st	All Saints' Day
Thursday, November 6 th	Dies Academicus, NO COURSES ONLY IN THE MORNING!
Monday, December 12 th	Day of the Immaculate Conception

Study Programme

The Lucerne Master in Computational Social Sciences (LUMACSS) is an interdisciplinary programme that equips graduates with the knowledge and skills needed to tackle the main social challenges and seize the opportunities of the digital age. LUMACSS has been specially designed for two kinds of students: social science graduates seeking to strengthen their data analytics and digital computation skills; and computational sciences graduates eager to learn how to best apply their computation skills to solve social science puzzles. LUMACSS provides a unique opportunity to combine the social sciences and the computational sciences. The programme offers in-depth teaching and research on digitization and its manifold effects on modern polities, societies, and economies.



Thematically, the four LUMACSS modules combine various disciplines, namely economics, political science, sociology, law, and computational sciences. Methodologically, the programme aims to develop statistical and computational skills that can be applied to those thematic areas, preparing students for the future job market. Coursework comprises a total of 120 ECTS and includes a final master's thesis and its defence.

Course Offering in Fall 2025

- A continuously updated and more detailed **electronic version** of our course offering can be found [here](#).
- **German titles** of courses indicate that courses are taught in German.
- There are **different procedures for registration** [at the different faculties](#) and for courses taught via the [Digital Skills Programme](#):
- **Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**: Registration two weeks before the start of the semester till the end of the first two weeks of the semester via [Uniportal](#)
- **Faculty of Law**: Registration mid-semester, [click here for more information](#)
- **Faculty of Economics**: Registration for materials via OLAT and for exams mid-semester (it is mandatory to take the exam if you register for it!), [click here for more information](#)
- **Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine**: Registration end of semester, [click here for more information](#)
- **Digital Skills**: Registration via registration form, [click here for more information](#)

Module Social Sciences

Format	Lecturer and Title	Dates
WOS	Karavas: Recht der digitalen Medien	Mo, 10.15-12.00
VL	Karavas: Law and Society in a Global Context	Tue, 10.15-12.00
VL	Furrer: Digitale Rechtsgeschäfte	Thu, 16.15-18.00
VL	Burri: International Law of Contemporary Media	Wed, 10.15-12.00
VL	Burri: International Intellectual Property Law	Wed, 14.15-16.00
VL	Puschmann: FinTech & InsurTech – Digitalization of the Financial Services Industry	Block course
KVL	Trechsel: Political Behaviour and Communication	Tue, 12.15-14.00
KVL	Blatter: Einführung in die Demokratietheorien	Tue, 14.15-16.00
KVL	Rieder: Politikevaluation mit Anwendungen in Politikfeldern in der Schweiz	Mo, 14.15-16.00
KVL	Schaffer: Einführung in die Internationalen Beziehungen	Wed, 10.15-12.00
MSE	Porciuleanu: Political Behaviour and Parties in Central and Eastern Europe	Block course
MSE	Hayes: Blockchain and Sociology	Tue, 12.15-14.00
MSE	Bochsler: Wahlen und Demokratisierung	Block course
MSE	Hänze: Climate Change and (spatial) Inequality	Fortnightly Thu, 10.15-14.00
MSE	Mützel: Relationale Soziologie: Theoretische Ansätze und empirische Studien	Tue, 14.15-16.00
MSE	Schramm: Introduction to the Political System of the European Union	Block course

Legend

KOL: Kolloquium; KVL: Kolloquialvorlesung; MSE: Masterseminar; UEB: Übung; VL: Vorlesung; WOS: Workshop

Module Statistics and Quantitative Methods

Format	Lecturer and Title	Dates
KVL	Schlegel: Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences	Wed, 12.15-14.00
KVL	Diaz-Bone: Advanced multivariate statistics	Thu, 14.15-16.00
VL	Sontheim: Causal Analysis	Thu, 10.15-12.00
UEB	Tutorial Causal Analysis	Wed, 14.15-16.00
VL	Scheufele: Analysing and Forecasting Economic Time Series	Wed, 16.15-18.00
MSE	Canalejo-Molero: Research Design and Methods in Quantitative Research	Fortnightly Thu, 14.15-18.00
MSE	Diaz-Bone: Forschungsseminar: International comparative survey research	Thu, 10.15-12.00
MSE	Abril Poncela: Applied Causal Inference	Block course
MSE	Schwegler: R for the social sciences	Mo, 12.15-14.00

Module Computational Sciences and Digital Skills

Format	Lecturer and Title	Dates
MSE	Mundt: Introduction to R for Data Science & Computational Social Science	Block course
VL	Cilurzo / Habicht: Data Science Toolkits and Architectures	Fortnightly Thu, 16.15-19.00
VL	Mannino: Supervised Machine Learning	Block course
VL	Meierer / Bachman: Python – A non-technical Introduction for Business Analytics	Block course
VL	Sontheim: Data Handling	Block course
VL	Waelti: Introduction to Computer Science and Programming	Fortnightly Tue, 16.15-20.00
VL	Meierer / Bachmann: Machine Learning for Mere Mortals: Workflow, Key Models, & Coding	Block course
WOS	Umit: Bluesky Data: Collection, Cleaning, and Analysis	Infos on Digital Skills
WOS	Hoes/Klüser: Experimental (Survey) Methods in Social Sciences	Infos on Digital Skills
WOS	Attalides: Introduction to Machine Learning in R	Infos on Digital Skills
WOS	Attalides: Introduction to Statistics in R	Infos on Digital Skills
WOS	Attalides: Introduction to Building Packages in R and Version Control	Infos on Digital Skills
WOS	Attalides: Introduction to SQL	Infos on Digital Skills
MSE	Fechner: Statistical Learning Models for the Health Sciences in R	Tue, 12.30-14.00

KOL	Mützel: Kolloquium Medien und Netzwerke (laufende Abschlussarbeiten)	Mo, 16.15-18.00
KOL	Schenk: Forschungsstammtisch (Studierendenkolloquium)	Tue, 18.15-20.00
KOL	Diaz-Bone: Kolloquium für laufende Abschlussarbeiten	Mi, 16.15-18.00
KOL	Schaffer: Kolloquium BA- und MA-Abschlussarbeiten (quantitative Arbeit)	Tue, 18.15-20.00

Module Practical Skills

In the module on Practical Skills, for the free study credits, students have access to a selected offering across all Faculties of the University.