

**Study regulations
of the Faculty of Medicine of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena
for the study program eHealth and Communication with the final degree Master of
Science
as of 1. April 2021**

**In consideration of the
First amendment of 21 January 2021
(Official “Verkündungsblatt” [Announcement bulletin] of the Friedrich Schiller
University Jena No. 1/2021 p. 49)**

**In consideration of the
Second amendment of 23. May 2024
(Official “Verkündungsblatt” [Announcement bulletin] of the Friedrich Schiller
University Jena No. 3/2024 S. 167)**

In accordance with § 3 (1) in conjunction with § 38 (3) of the Thuringian University Law (ThürHG) of May 10, 2018 (GVBl. p. 149), last amended by article 128 of the law of December 18, 2018 (GVBl. p. 731), the Friedrich-Schiller University Jena issues the following amendment to the study regulations of June 6, 2019 (“Verkündungsblatt” [Announcement bulletin] of Friedrich Schiller University Jena 07/2019, p. 243), amended by the First Amendment Regulations of January 21, 2021 (“Verkündungsblatt” [Announcement bulletin] of Friedrich Schiller University Jena 1/2021, p.49). The Council of the Faculty of Medicine approved the amendment on 12.03.2024; the Council of the Faculty of Biosciences approved the amendment on 15.04.2024; the Senate of Friedrich Schiller University Jena approved the amendment on January 19, 2021. The President of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena approved the regulations on January 21, 2021.

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§ 1

Scope of application and purpose

These study regulations regulate the objectives, content and structure of the part-time postgraduate course in eHealth and Communication leading to a Master of Science degree (abbreviated to M.Sc.) at the Faculty of Medicine of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena. It applies alongside the associated examination regulations in their current version and the module catalog approved by the Faculty Council.

§ 2

Admission requirements

(1) Admission to the postgraduate Master's study program requires the successful completion of a professionally qualifying university degree that prepares students for the practice of an academic health profession (e.g. medicine, pharmacy, nutritional sciences, psychology [...]) or has specific links to further academic qualifications in the field of digital health information by focusing on information technology and computer science or communication science.

(2) Along with the first university degree, proof must be provided of study and examination achievements corresponding to at least 240 credit points according to the European Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Graduates of relevant study programs with fewer than 240 credit points will be admitted if they can prove in a case-by-case examination that they have achieved an equivalent competence profile through their career.

(3) All applicants must provide evidence of professional experience in the healthcare system and in communicating with patients. Applicants are expected to have at least one year of relevant work experience in a healthcare sector, e.g. in hospitals, clinics, medical practices, pharmacies, health insurance companies or health ministries.

(4) English language skills at level B 2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages are required if the student wishes to study the degree program in the English-language branch. The relevant certificates must not be older than three years at the time of application. English language proficiency is also deemed to be proven if the degree certificate and diploma supplement of the degree recognized in accordance with (1) show that the first university degree was taught entirely in English. Notwithstanding Section 2 (3) of the Enrolment Regulations of Friedrich Schiller University Jena, no knowledge of German is required to study in the English language branch.

(5) Informative application documents must be submitted in due time and form, documenting the existence of the requirements mentioned in (1) - (4). Applications for a case-by-case assessment in accordance with (2) sentence 2 must be accompanied by suitable evidence of relevant additional qualifications or extended practical professional experience, which enable an overall assessment of the knowledge and skills acquired at university and outside of university.

§ 3

Duration and organization of studies

(1) The standard period of study is three semesters, including the time required for the Master's examination.

(2) The course is organized on a part-time basis. The modules are offered in online format. A full-time online week is planned at the beginning of the first and second semesters. There will be a final weekend at the end of the third semester for the presentation of the Master's thesis. Both the online week and the final weekend can be held as hybrid events.

(3) The degree program can be completed in German or English. With their application, students decide on the German or English language branch of the degree program and must provide corresponding certificates in accordance with Section 2. A change of language branch within the degree program is excluded.

(4) The English and German language branches of the degree program are identical in terms of content, structure and organization. The degree program differs only in the language of instruction and the linguistic preparation of teaching materials and examinations.

§ 4

Beginning of studies

The Master's program usually begins in the summer semester.

§ 5

Objective of the study program

(1) The aim of the Master's study program as a part-time continuing education course after a first university degree that qualifies students for a profession is to provide knowledge and insights into eHealth technologies and their applications in the healthcare sector. At the end of the course, students should be able to

- know and apply the characteristics of changed communication and literacy due to advancing digitalization in the healthcare system;
- select eHealth applications for specific tasks and implement them or respond to eHealth applications used by communication partners and actively shape the interaction;
- identify and analyze problems in the eHealth sector from different perspectives and offer an adequate communication model to solve them, especially for communication partners with different eHealth literacy levels;
- deal with ethical, economic/commercial and legal issues relating to eHealth applications and their successful implementation;
- be able to analyze and work on the above points in various settings and non-profit and profit organizations (e.g. clinics, health insurance companies, media, research, teaching).

(2) The course should enable students to critically assess scientific findings, think in an interdisciplinary way and analyze complex issues across disciplines, interpret findings and develop solutions. Successful completion of the course qualifies students for further academic qualification within the scope of a doctorate.

§ 6

Structure of the study program

(1) The course has a modular structure and covers a total of 60 credit points (CP) according to the European Transfer and Accumulation System. Each module forms one learning and examination unit. The modules are made up of different forms of learning and work, such as online seminars, self-study and examinations. A module usually spans over one semester. The workload per semester comprises 20 CP. For the award of one credit point, a workload of 30 hours of attendance and self-study is assumed.

(2) The study program consists of

1. the modules eHealth Literacy (10 CP), eHealth Media Communication (10 CP), eHealth Applications (10 CP) und eHealth Management (10 CP), which are the basis for later work at the intersection between patients, digital media and institutions
2. the Master's thesis (20 CP).

(3) The eHealth Literacy module teaches the basics of literacy and eHealth literacy in particular for the future application of digital health services in communication with various stakeholders in the healthcare system. This includes aspects of scientific literacy, media literacy, computer literacy, decision-making and shared decision management as well as learning and communicating knowledge in these areas.

(4) In the eHealth Ethics & Media Communication module, the basics of communication in the healthcare sector and techniques for acquiring and transferring knowledge are presented and discussed. In particular, the presentation and impact of possible eHealth applications in the field of

public relations and medical journalism are examined and evaluated. The concepts of medical ethics are presented and their significance for eHealth applications and their use in communication is reviewed.

(5) The eHealth Applications module critically examines current digital health services and their technical foundations, areas of use, requirements and applications. Possible areas include telemedicine, general information management, documentation systems or research and teaching (big data).

6) The eHealth Implementation module teaches students about the German healthcare system and the required steps for the successful implementation of eHealth applications within it. This includes market analysis, external quality assurance, internal quality management, as well as aspects of digital leadership, change management and corporate communication and culture.

(7) In all modules, key scientific qualifications and working techniques are taught alongside specialist knowledge. All modules are designed to train skills in scientific research, the critical analysis of own and third-party data and the presentation of scientific results. Social skills such as teamwork and interdisciplinary, multi-professional work will be enhanced.

(8) The study program is completed by the Master's thesis. Through writing the Master's thesis, students should prove that they are capable of scientific work and can analyze and work on questions and problems from the field of eHealth.

§ 7

Student advisory service

(1) The study coordinator is available for individual study organization. The module supervisor provides advice on module-specific study issues.

(2) The Central Student Advisory Service of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena is available for non-subject-specific study problems.

§ 8

Tuition fees

Tuition fees are charged for the part-time continuing education course in eHealth and Communication.

§ 9

Equality Clause

Status and function descriptions in these regulations apply equally to women and men, regardless of their grammatical gender, as well as to persons who do not or cannot be assigned to either of these genders.

§ 10

Date of effect

These study regulations shall enter into force on 23. May 2024 after their publication in the "Verköndungsblatt" [Announcement bulletin] of the Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

Jena, 23. May 2024

Prof. Dr. Walter Rosenthal
President of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena