International Studies in Computational Linguistics (ISCL) is a degree program providing an interdisciplinary mix of linguistics and computer science. The B.A. courses focus on the foundations of analyzing language using linguistics, programming skills, and making the link between the two explicitly. Students typically graduate after three years and then move on to the M.A. program or apply for a position in the language technology industry. Previous knowledge in programming is not required. While knowledge of German is not a prerequisite, a good command of English is necessary.

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ISCL @ Tübingen

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Highlights

• ISCL is an innovative combination of linguistics and computer science.
• Tübingen is one of the leading centers of linguistics and computational linguistics in Europe.
• The program offers the broad and solid basis of knowledge needed to continue with an M.A. program as well as the practical skills needed to succeed in the expanding language technology industry.
• ISCL is a small, focused program, with direct access to professors, advisors, and an active community of peers.

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Applicants for the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) program in ISCL need good command of English, given that all ISCL courses are taught in English. In addition to the Abitur or equivalent high school diploma as required for any B.A. program at German universities, applicants to the ISCL program must either have taken English during the last two years at school in Germany or they must have successfully passed the TOEFL test with a minimum score of 550 (paper-based) or 213 (computer-based), or IELTS with a minimum score of 6.0.

German skills are not required to enroll in the ISCL B.A. program. Foreign students generally take four German classes as part of the degree, while German students enroll in other language courses. Background knowledge in computer programming is not a requirement for enrolling in the ISCL B.A. program.

International students apply to the university by July 15, using the online application form at https://movein-uni-tuebingen.moveonnet.eu. The deadline for arriving and enrolling with the registrar's office in Tübingen is September 30, and the program officially starts the next day.

We advise applicants to apply and arrive in Tübingen in good time. In addition to the academic reasons, early application is also advisable for practical reasons, such as applying for housing in student dormitories, which requires student status. If you are unsure about the requirements and how to prove that you meet them, do contact our advisors in advance via e-mail: info@study-iscl.de.

Further information on our degree programs and up-to-date links to the University’s application site can be found at www.sfs.uni-tuebingen.de/iscl · www.study-iscl.de.

**Profile**

Language is a fundamental feature of human interaction – and in modern life such interaction often makes use of computers. Computational linguistics as the subject matter of the ISCL B.A. program investigates how language can be represented, analyzed and processed. As such it advances the understanding of how language works, and it leads to applications such as web search, machine translation, and speech recognition.

The Department of Linguistics offering the degree houses four professorships, covering the full range from theoretical foundations in linguistics and methods to computational linguistic approaches and applications. Prof. Harald Baayen and Prof. Gerhard Jäger focus on general and quantitative linguistics, while Prof. Erhard Hinrichs and Prof. Detmar Meurers cover computational linguistics from both applied and theoretical perspectives. The department is embedded in a rich interdisciplinary environment at the University of Tübingen, with additional courses being offered by professors of psychology and computer science.

The ISCL B.A. program offers a great learning environment: teaching in small groups, tutorials to accompany many courses, and excellent on-site lab facilities. The department’s good staff-student ratio makes sure you can get intensive individual guidance when you need it.

The program attracts many foreign students as well as international staff, resulting in a vibrant international community. All courses offered for the ISCL program are taught in English. Other courses outside the department can be taken in German.

**Perspectives**

A degree in computational linguistics offers a variety of perspectives. Research units in large companies as well as small start-ups are offering positions. Examples for possible areas include: Search engine development and information retrieval, dialog systems for telecommunication services, opinion mining and sentiment analysis, software development for automatic translation or for assisting human translators, intelligent language tutoring systems, lexicography and dictionary development, speech technology such as voice synthesizers and automatic speech recognition.

The ISCL B.A. degree offers the broad and solid basis of knowledge needed to engage in research at the M.A. level as well as the skills needed to successfully work as a computational linguist in the expanding language technology industry.

**Entry Requirements**

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**How to apply**

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**Keywords**

Natural language processing, computational linguistics, computer science, informatics, linguistics, general linguistics, theoretical linguistics, language technology

**Start of the program:** Winter semester

**Duration:** Typically 3 years

**Credits:** 180 ECTS credit points

**Studying abroad:** Optional, advice given by the department’s Erasmus coordinator

**Language of Instruction:** English

(optional courses outside department in German)