

10./11. March 2026

## **M. A. DIGITAL SOCIETY**

**A 90 ECTS CREDITS MASTER MAJOR**  
**ALSO: A 30 ECTS CREDITS MASTER MINOR**

### **Presentation**

**Prof. Dr. Anna Jobin**  
Assistant Professor at the Human-IST Institute  
Digital Society Study Advisor

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY**

## **A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**



### **THE PROGRAMME**

- **Training to analyse digital transformations**
- **Social sciences and interdisciplinary**
- **Course topics in line with current public debates**
- **Unique in Switzerland**

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY**

## **A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**



### **WHY?**

- **You are curious**
- **Unique in Switzerland**
- **Added value for employment**
- **The “digital” is too important to leave it to computer science**

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY BEHIND THE PROGRAMME**

## **Prof. Dr. David Bozzini**

- Prof. Dr. David Bozzini is the **academic head** of the Digital Society master program. He is a social anthropologist interested in researching information security and digital surveillance.



## **Prof. Dr. Denis Lalanne**

- Prof. Dr. Denis Lalanne is a computer scientist by training and the director of the institute Human-IST, the institutional home of Digital Society. His research is situated in the domain of Human Computer Interaction (HCI).



## **Prof. Dr. Oliver Krüger**

- Prof. Dr. Oliver Krüger is professor for the study of religions at and a member of the digital society board. His research and teaching focus mainly on the sociology of religion, transhumanism and new media.



## **Prof. Dr. Andreas Hadjar**

- Prof. Dr. Andreas Hadjar is professor of sociology, social policy and social research at the study division sociology, social policy and social work, specialized in studying inequality, and on the digital society board.



# **DIGITAL SOCIETY** **A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**

## **Digital Society Master programme**

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Introduction: What is this programme about?

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Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

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Practical + additional information

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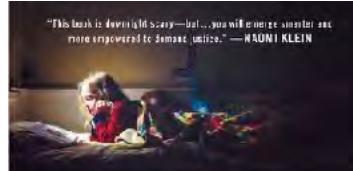
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Practical + additional information

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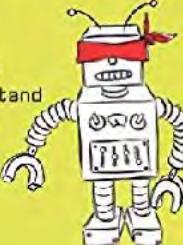


**AUTOMATING  
INEQUALITY**  
HOW HIGH-TECH TOOLS PROFILE,  
POLICE, AND PUNISH THE POOR

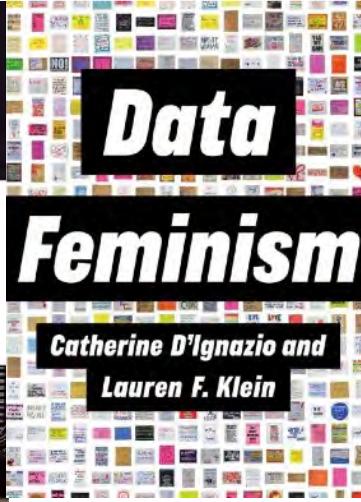


**ARTIFICIAL  
UNINTELLIGENCE**

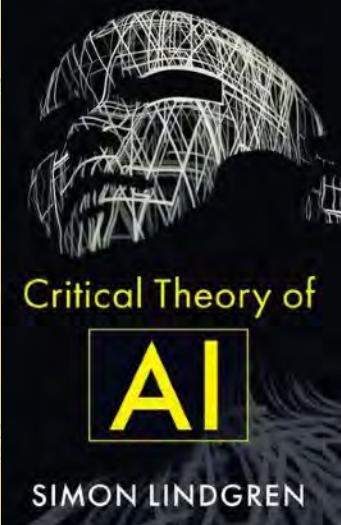
How  
Computers  
Misunderstand  
the World



MEREDITH BROUSSARD



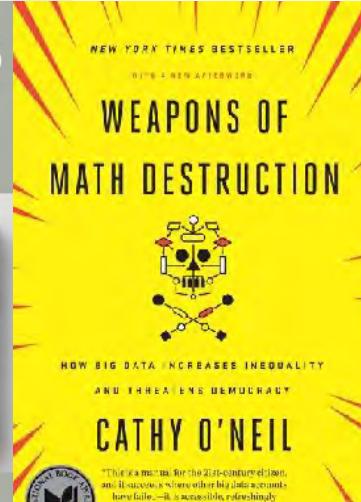
**Catherine D'Ignazio and  
Lauren F. Klein**



**Critical Theory of  
AI**  
SIMON LINDGREN

**DIGITAL METHODS**  
RICHARD ROGERS

This painting is not available in your country.



**CATHY O'NEIL**

"This is a must-read for the 21st-century citizen, and it succeeds where other big-data accounts have failed. —is accessible, refreshingly

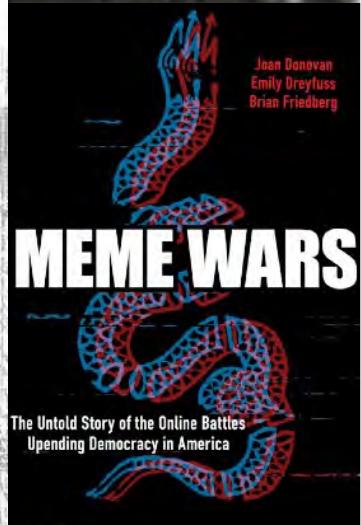
FRANK PASQUALE

**THE  
BLACK BOX  
SOCIETY**

The Secret Algorithms  
That Control Money  
and Information

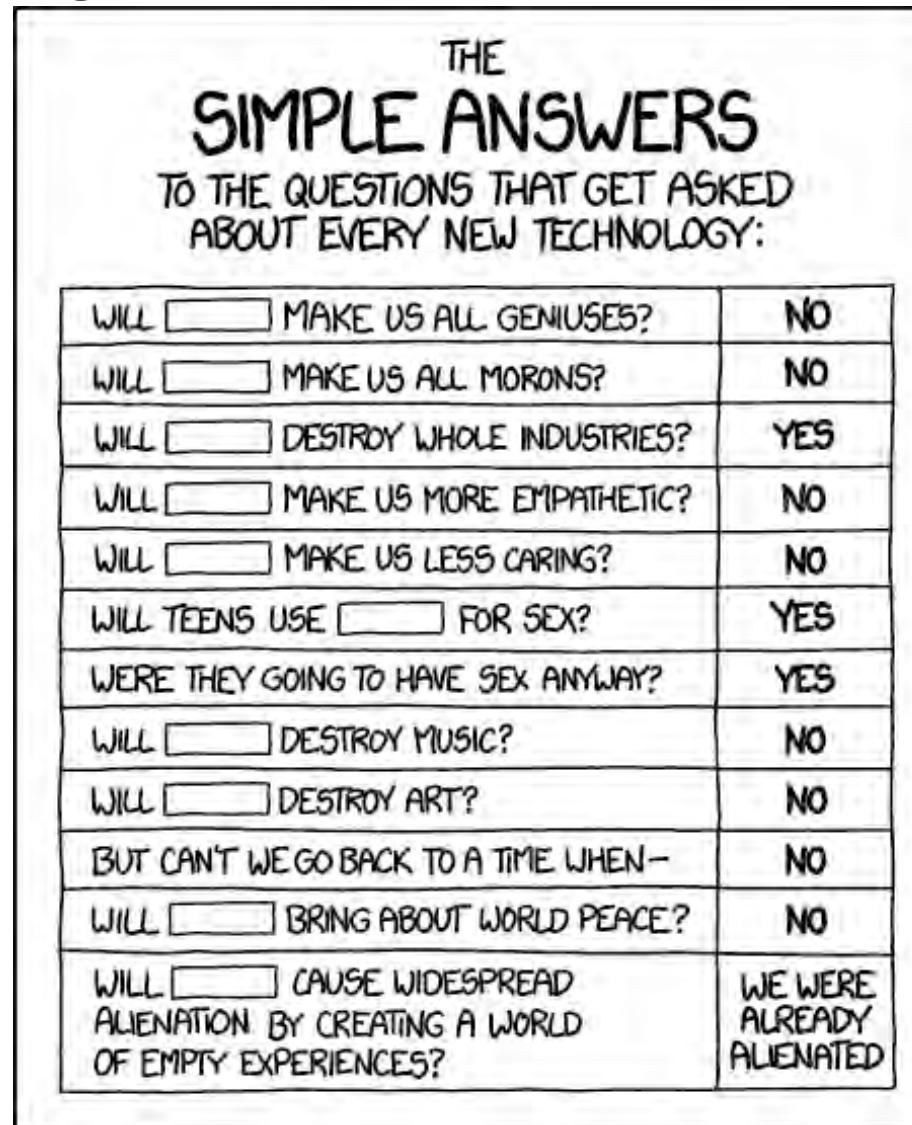


**RUHA  
BENJAMIN  
RACE  
AFTER  
TECHNOLOGY**



**MEME WARS**  
The Untold Story of the Online Battles  
Upending Democracy in America  
Joan Donovan  
Emily Dreyfuss  
Brian Friedberg

# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION



<http://xkcd.com/1289/>

# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

The impact *of* (digital) Technology



# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

## The impact *on* (digital) Technology



# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

## The social shaping of (digital) technology



“Technology is never purely technological: it is also social.  
The social is never purely social: it is also technological.  
This is something easy to say but difficult to work with.”

Bijker, W. E. & Law, J. *Shaping technology/building society: studies in sociotechnical change*. (The MIT Press, 1994)

# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

## Digital Society: Digital Transformation in Society & Culture

Tuesdays 17:15-18:45

UniFR, Blvd. de Pérolles 90, room A230

### 26 Infrastructures as Power in the Internet Governance Ecosystem - Opening lecture

Dr. Francesca Musiani  
Associate Research Professor and Deputy Director, Centre Internet et Société, CNRS, Paris

### 03 Digital transformation domain: art (working title)

Dr. Chris Salter  
OCT Professor of Immersive Arts, Director of the Immersive Arts Space, Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK)  
Professor Emeritus, Design and Computation Arts, Concordia University, Montreal, QC, Canada

### 10 Datafication: computer science

Dr. Philip Cudré-Mauroux  
OCT Professor at the University of Fribourg, Director of the eXascale Infolab

### 17 Algorithms & AI vs. Democracy & Human Rights?

Dr. des. Angela Müller  
OCT Head of AlgorithmWatch CH, Head of Policy & Advocacy at AlgorithmWatch

### 31 Datafication: work (working title)

Dr. Sarah Genner  
OCT Board member, consultant at genner.cc

### 07 Governance & values: law (working title)

Dr. Pascal Pichonnaz  
NOV Professor at the Fribourg University Law Faculty, Director of the European Law Institute, Vienna

### 14 Digital Transformation, Continuation, or Consolidation? A case study of data and justice.

Dr. Margarita Boenig-Liptzin  
NOV Assistant Professor for Ethics, Technology and Society, ETH Zurich

### 21 Digital Transformation in Healthcare: A human-centered approach

Dr. Julia Amann  
NOV Project lead strategy & innovation, Careum Zurich

### 28 Religion and technology - a twofold approach

Dr. Oliver Krüger  
NOV Professor for the Study of Religions at the University of Fribourg

### 05 The Power of Digital Platforms

Dr. Philip Balsiger  
DEC Professor for economic sociology, University of Neuchâtel

### 12 The study of games: What do they reveal about society

Dr. Yannick Rochat  
DEC Assistant professor in game studies at the University of Lausanne

2023

## Digital Society

## Digital Transformation in Society & Culture

## Public Lecture Series

Tuesdays 16:15-17:45

Unifr, Blvd. de Pérolles 90, room B130

### 16 Opening Lecture – exceptionally at 17:00

Wikipedia Explained: Who Builds it, Why it Matters  
SEPT Jenny Ebermann  
Executive Director, Wikimedia CH

### 23 How Tech-Hype Transforms Society

Dr. Jascha Barea  
SEPT Institute Human-IST, University of Fribourg

### 30 Trustworthy Data Spaces in Switzerland

Dr. Felix Gille  
SEPT Enterprise Architect, Trustworthiness and Identification, Federal Chancellery, Digital Transformation and ICT Steering Sector

### 07 Social Media : the Endless Sociotechnical Reengineering of our Connected Lives

Dr. Olivier Glassey  
OCT STS-Lab, University of Lausanne

### 14 Born-digital Data in Historical Research

Dr. Rachel Huber  
OCT Walter Benjamin Kolleg, Digital Humanities, University of Bern

### 21 Experiences and Insights from the Project “BIAS:Mitigating AI Bias in the Labor Market”

Prof. Dr. Roger Seraa & Silvia Eclesia  
OCT Science and Technology Studies (STS), Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

### 04 Constructed and Crooked: The Moral Agency of Gen-AI

Prof. Dr. Meg Jing Zeng  
NOV Department of Communication and Media Research (IKMZ), University of Zurich

### 18 Misogyny, Feminist Actors, and the Online Harassment of Imane Khelif

Dr. Madeleine Pape  
NOV Centre for Gender Studies & Institute of Social Science, University of Lausanne

### 25 The Platformization of Payment

Dr. Markus Untermaier  
NOV University of Lucerne

### 02 From the Traditional Village to Virtual Togetherness: Rethinking Community in the Digital Age

Dr. Diana Betsler  
DEC Institute for Management of Associations, Foundations and other Nonprofit Organizations, Mobiliar Cluster for Resilience, University of Fribourg

### 09 Digital Friends, Therapists and Lovers: Discussing The Future of Human-Machine Relationships

Dr. Marisa Tschopp  
DEC Institute Human-IST, University of Fribourg; Scip AG

Autumn  
semester  
2025



# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION



HUMAN-IST  
HUMAN-CENTRED  
INTERACTION  
SCIENCE &  
TECHNOLOGY

A pole of the University of Fribourg

Home News Institute Studies Research

Home Studies Master Master Digital Society

## More information

→ [human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety](http://human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety)



### Understanding and Shaping Change

Digital technologies and societies co-create each other, transforming work, communication, and social structures. Making sense of this mutual shaping is central to understanding modern life.

## Master Digital Society

The Digital Society Master Programme is an interdisciplinary study programme focusing on the social dimensions and consequences of digital technology in contemporary societies. Taught fully in English, it is offered as a 90 ECTS **master major** and as a 30 ECTS **minor**.

# DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

Studies      FR | DE | EN      :: QUICK LINKS      

UNI  
FR      UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG  
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG      Course offerings

Course offerings      Organisation of studies      Choose Fribourg      Admission      Mobility      Diploma      Support & resources

Master · Interdisciplinary · Digital Society



Master

## More information

→ [unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety](https://unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety)

## Digital Society

### Abstract

The interdisciplinary master programme *Digital Society* teaches students about digital media in society as well as technological change. Students acquire specialist knowledge and methods from sociology, social anthropology and science&technology studies (STS) alongside the fundamentals of IT. The programme provides students with an in-depth exploration of the social dimensions of digital technologies in contemporary societies. Graduates will be prepared to apply the specialist knowledge and methods of both social sciences and technology to issues of digital transformation and fostering interdisciplinary thinking and work. The course is taught in collaboration between

**Apply for admission →**

E-mail       PDF

### Key points

#### Degree conferred

Master of Arts in Social Sciences: Digital Society

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY** **A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**

## **Digital Society Master programme**

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Introduction: What is this programme about?

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Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

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Practical + additional information

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# **DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION**



## **Module 1**

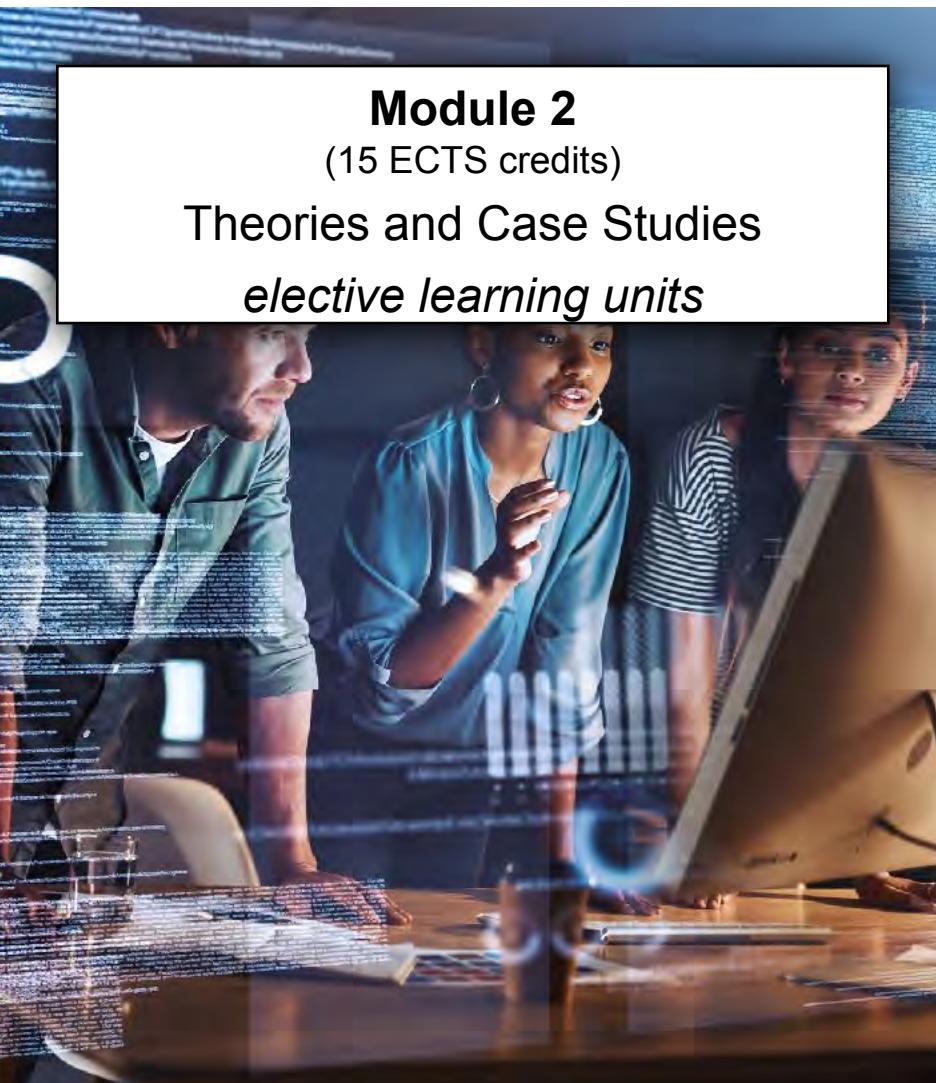
(15 ECTS credits)

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the  
Digital Transformation of Society

## **Compulsory learning units**

- Digital Transformation in Society and Culture (public lecture series)
- Social History of Computing and the Internet
- Perspectives in the Social Studies of Technology (PSST)
- Methods in Studies of the Digital Society (MSDS)
- Foundations of Informatics

# DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION



## Elective learning units

- Theories and empirical case studies
- 3 courses/seminars
- 1 research paper tied to a seminar

### Courses and seminars:

- ➔ [human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety](http://human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety)
- ➔ “Courses”

# DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION

## Module 1

(15 ECTS credits)

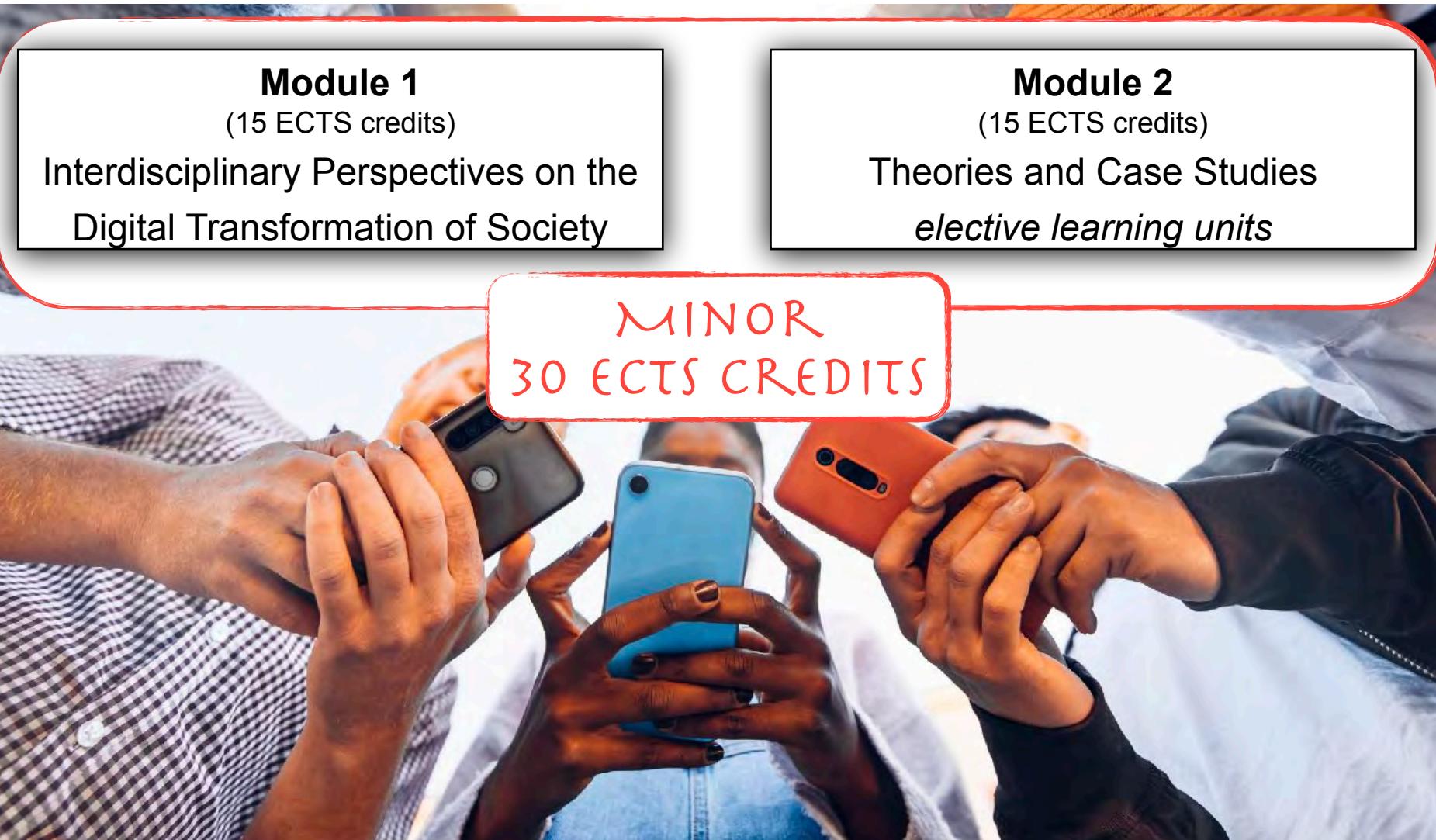
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the  
Digital Transformation of Society

## Module 2

(15 ECTS credits)

Theories and Case Studies  
*elective learning units*

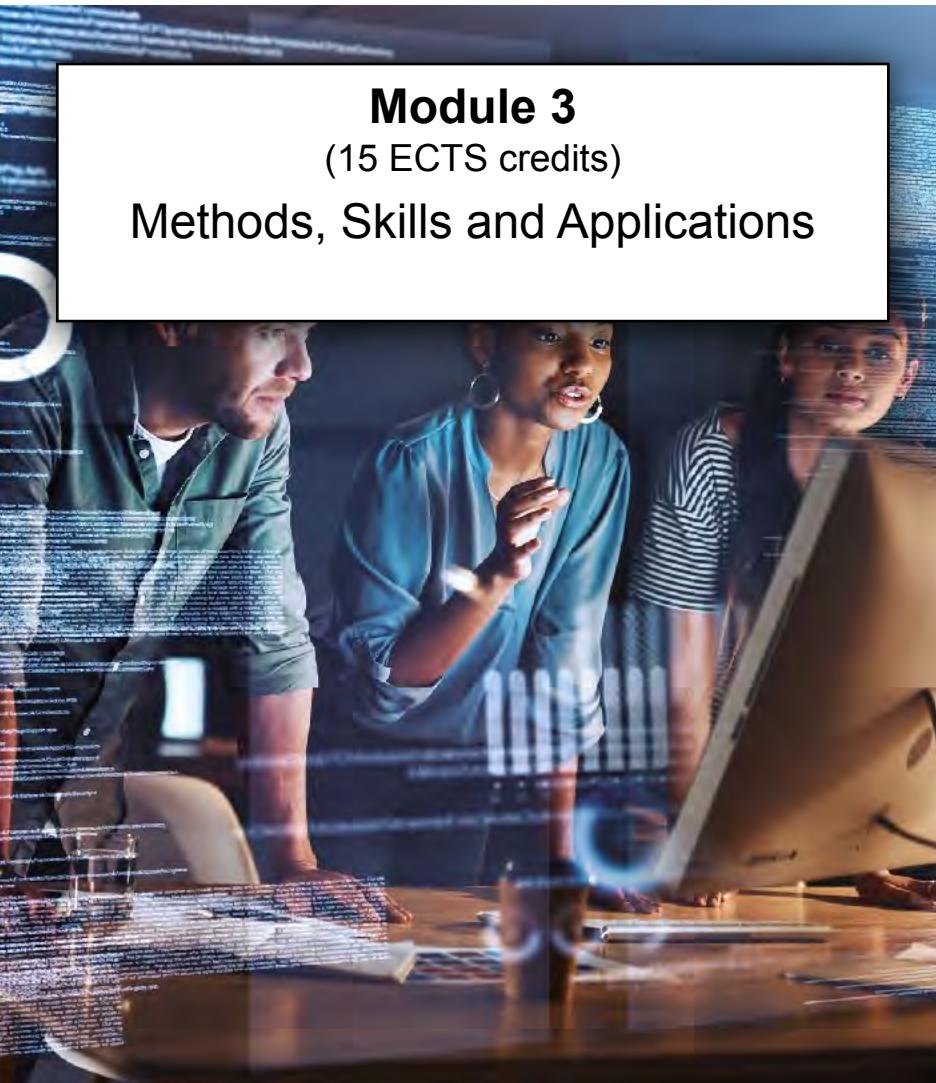
MINOR  
30 ECTS CREDITS



# **DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION**

## **Module 3** (15 ECTS credits)

### Methods, Skills and Applications



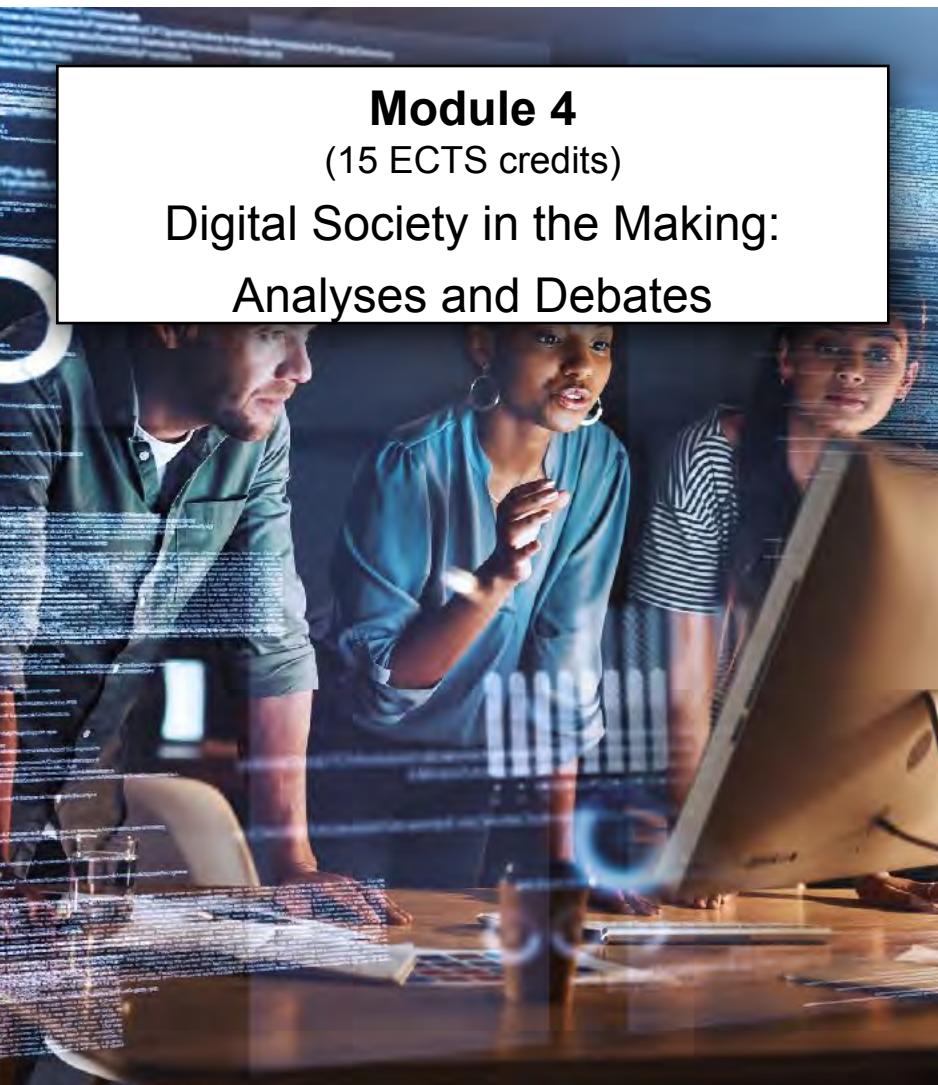
## **Modular learning units**

- Digital Skills (modular)
- Digital Methods (lecture/seminar)
- Science-practice link (study-week, workshop or internship)
- 1 research paper

# DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION

## Module 4 (15 ECTS credits)

### Digital Society in the Making: Analyses and Debates



## Elective learning units

- Analyses and debates
- 2 courses/seminars
- 1 research paper tied to a seminar
- MA colloquium

## Courses and seminars:

- ➔ [human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety](http://human-ist.unifr.ch/digitalsociety)
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# DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION

## Module 1

(15 ECTS credits)

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the  
Digital Transformation of Society

## Module 2

(15 ECTS credits)

Theories and Case Studies  
*elective learning units*

## Module 3

(15 ECTS credits)

Methods, Skills and Applications

## Module 4

(15 ECTS credits)

Digital Society in the Making:  
Analyses and Debates

## Masterexam (Master thesis + defense)

(30 ECTS credits)

MAJOR  
90 ECTS CREDITS

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY ORGANISATION**

## **Module 1**

(15 ECTS credits)

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the  
Digital Transformation of Society

## **Module 2**

(15 ECTS credits)

Theories and Case Studies  
*elective learning units*

## **Module 3**

(15 ECTS credits)

Methods, Skills and Applications

## **Module 4**

(15 ECTS credits)

Digital Society in the Making:  
Analyses and Debates

## **Masterexam (Master thesis + defense)**

(30 ECTS credits)

## **Elective Master Minor**

(30 ECTS credits)

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**

## **Digital Society Master programme**

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# **DIGITAL SOCIETY**

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

- Flexible studies depending on your background and interests
- Programme entirely in English
- Elective classes in FR / DE
- Take classes in any order (exceptions apply)
- Max. duration: 9 semesters for a 90 ECTS Major (12 semesters with another MA minor)
- Admission with a BA (with or without conditions)



# DIGITAL SOCIETY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Admission:

[unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety](http://unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety)

### Due date:

enroll by April 30, 2026

### Language requirements:

None; uni administration in FR/DE

### Cost:

application fee, [semester fees](#),  
exam fees, cost of living

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HUMAN-CENTRED  
INTERACTION  
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TECHNOLOGY

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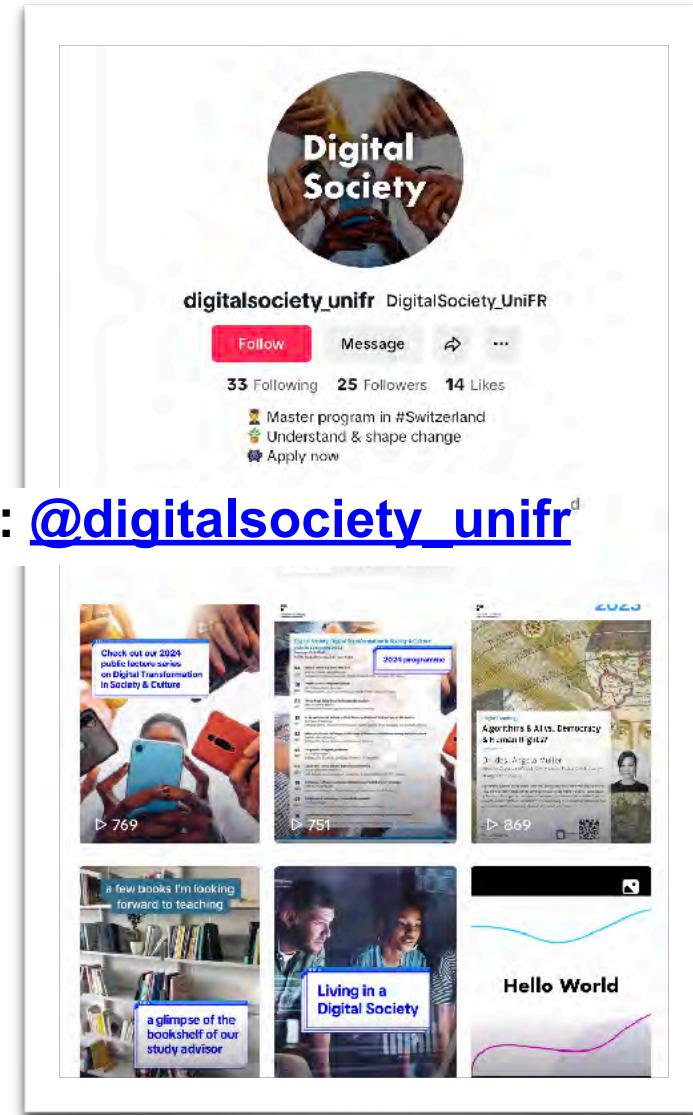
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Master of Arts in Social Sciences: Digital Society

# **DIGITAL SOCIETY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



Instagram: [@digitalsociety\\_unifr](https://www.instagram.com/@digitalsociety_unifr)



TikTok: [@digitalsociety](#) unifr

# DIGITAL SOCIETY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Start any semester:  
**enrol by April 30, 2026** to start  
*Digital Society* in autumn 2026

\*\*\*\*\*

**Questions** re: enrollment, classes, the schedule, or something else?

→ Get in touch a.s.a.p. with the  
*Digital Society* study advisor:  
[anna.jobin@unifr.ch](mailto:anna.jobin@unifr.ch)

10./11. March 2026

## **M. A. DIGITAL SOCIETY**

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**Thank you**

**Prof. Dr. Anna Jobin**  
Assistant Professor at the Human-IST Institute  
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