

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

Introduction: What is this programme about?

Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

Practical + additional information

DIGITAL SOCIETY **A NEW MASTER PROGRAMME**

Digital Society Master programme

Introduction: What is this programme about?

Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

Practical + additional information

DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION



DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION

THE
SIMPLE ANSWERS
TO THE QUESTIONS THAT GET ASKED
ABOUT EVERY NEW TECHNOLOGY:

WILL <input type="checkbox"/> MAKE US ALL GENIUSES?	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> MAKE US ALL MORONS?	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY WHOLE INDUSTRIES?	YES
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> MAKE US MORE EMPATHETIC?	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> MAKE US LESS CARING?	NO
WILL TEENS USE <input type="checkbox"/> FOR SEX?	YES
WERE THEY GOING TO HAVE SEX ANYWAY?	YES
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY MUSIC?	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY ART?	NO
BUT CAN'T WE GO BACK TO A TIME WHEN—	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> BRING ABOUT WORLD PEACE?	NO
WILL <input type="checkbox"/> CAUSE WIDESPREAD ALIENATION BY CREATING A WORLD OF EMPTY EXPERIENCES?	WE WERE ALREADY ALIENATED

<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

2023

26 SEP 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 OCT Digital transformation domain: art (working title)

Dr. Chris Salter

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 OCT Datafication: computer science

Dr. Philip Cudré-Mauroux

Professor at the University of Fribourg, Director of the eXascale Infolab

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

Dr. des. Angela Müller

Head of AlgorithmWatch CH, Head of Policy & Advocacy at AlgorithmWatch

31 OCT Datafication: work (working title)

Dr. Sarah Genner

Board member, consultant at genner.cc

07 NOV Governance & values: law (working title)

Dr. Pascal Pichonnaz

Professor at the Fribourg University Law Faculty, Director of the European Law Institute, Vienna

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

Dr. Margarita Boenig-Liptsin

Assistant Professor for Ethics, Technology and Society, ETH Zurich

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

Dr. Julia Amann

Project lead strategy & innovation, Careum Zurich

28 NOV Religion and technology - a twofold approach

Dr. Oliver Krüger

Professor for the Study of Religions at the University of Fribourg

05 DEC The Power of Digital Platforms

Dr. Philip Balsiger

Professor for economic sociology, University of Neuchâtel

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

Dr. Yannick Rochat

Assistant professor in game studies at the University of Lausanne

HUMAN-IST / COLLOQUIUM DUIF
BLVD. DE PÉROLLES 90
CH-1700 FRIBOURG

UNIFR.CH/GO/DIGITALSOCIETY



Digital Society

Digital Transformation in Society & Culture

Public Lecture Series

Tuesdays 16:15-17:45

Unifr, Blvd. de Pérolles 90, room B130

16 SEPT Opening Lecture – exceptionally at 17:00

Wikipedia Explained: Who Builds it, Why it Matters

Jenny Ebermann

Executive Director, Wikimedia CH

23 SEPT How Tech-Hype Transforms Society

Dr. Jascha Bareis

Institute Human-IST, University of Fribourg

30 SEPT Trustworthy Data Spaces in Switzerland

Dr. Felix Gille

Enterprise Architect, Trustworthiness and Identification, Federal Chancellery, Digital Transformation and ICT Steering Sector

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

Dr. Olivier Glassey

STS-Lab, University of Lausanne

14 OCT Born-digital Data in Historical Research

Dr. Rachel Huber

Walter Benjamin Kolleg, Digital Humanities, University of Bern

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

Prof. Dr. Roger Søraa & Silvia Ecclesia

Science and Technology Studies (STS), Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

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

Prof. Dr. Meg Jing Zeng

Department of Communication and Media Research (IKMZ), University of Zurich

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

Dr. Madeleine Pape

Centre for Gender Studies & Institute of Social Science, University of Lausanne

25 NOV The Platformization of Payment

Dr. Markus Unternährer

University of Lucerne

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

Dr. Diana Betzler

Institute for Management of Associations, Foundations and other Nonprofit Organizations, Mobiliar Cluster for Resilience, University of Fribourg

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

Dr. Marisa Tschopp

Institute Human-IST, University of Fribourg; Scip AG

Autumn
semester
2025

DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION



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

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

More information

➔ unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety


🏠 > Studies

FR | DE | EN QUICK LINKS 🔍

UNI FR UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

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

🏠 · Master · Interdisciplinary · Digital Society



Master

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

Introduction: What is this programme about?

Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

Practical + additional information

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

Module 2

(15 ECTS credits)

Theories and Case Studies

elective learning units

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
- ➔ “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
- ➔ “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

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

Introduction: What is this programme about?

Organisation of the programmes (major, minor)

Practical + additional information

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

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

DIGITAL SOCIETY INTRODUCTION



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

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

More information

➔ unifr.ch/go/digitalsociety

🏠 > Studies


FR | DE | EN QUICK LINKS 🔍

UNI FR UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

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

Course offerings

Master · Interdisciplinary · Digital Society



Master

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

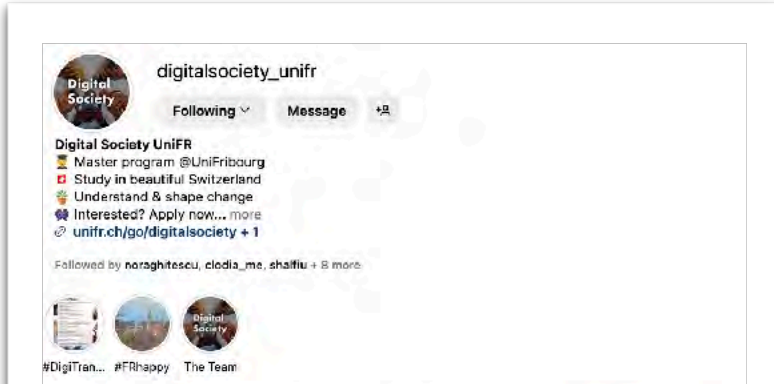
Key points

Degree conferred

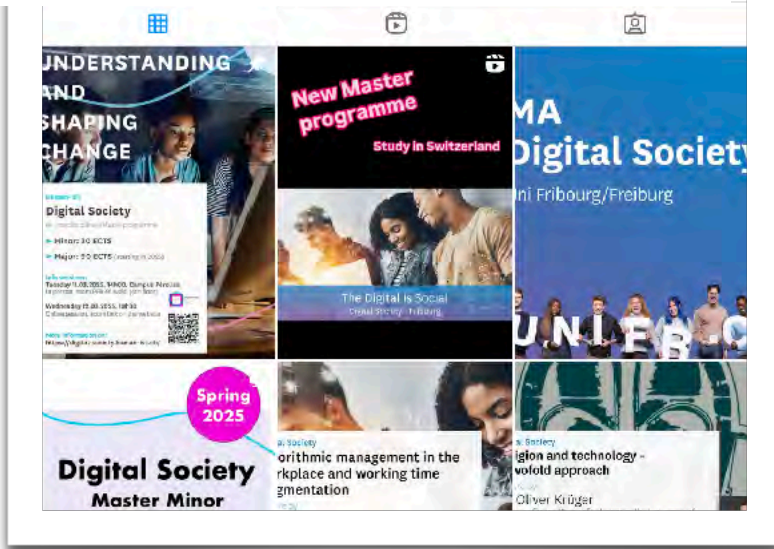
Master of Arts in Social Sciences; Digital Society

DIGITAL SOCIETY

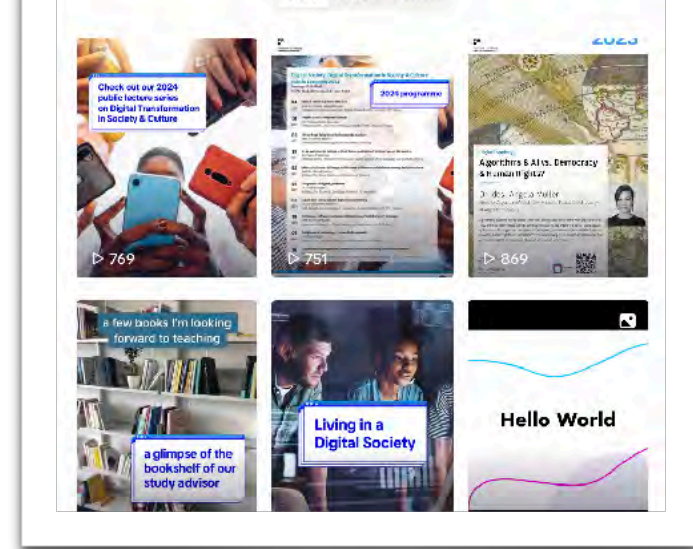
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Instagram: [@digitalsociety_unifr](#)



TikTok: @digitalsociety_unifr^d



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

10./11. March 2026

M. A. DIGITAL SOCIETY

A 90 ECTS CREDITS MASTER MAJOR

ALSO: A 30 ECTS CREDITS MASTER MINOR

Thank you

Prof. Dr. Anna Jobin

Assistant Professor at the Human-IST Institute

Digital Society Study Advisor