

Computing Science: Admission with a HBO-diploma (Pre-master)

The information below applies to the curriculum for 2023-2024. You can email academicadvisor.msc.cs@rug.nl should you have any further questions.

Prior education requirement

Admission to the Pre-master's programme is granted on an individual basis by the Admissions Board on the basis of the documents you provide. The following types of qualifications from a university of applied sciences are usually sufficient:

- ICT/Informatica

Other qualifications from a university of applied sciences are usually not considered sufficient for admission to a Pre-master's programme.

Content of the Pre-master's programme

The Pre-master's programme is a challenging programme for students from a university of applied sciences; it can be seen as an entrance examination in itself. You must complete the programme within one academic year, which in practical terms means that you only have two chances to sit each exam; if you fail a particular exam twice, you will not be admitted to the Master's programme and will be expected to stop. If you pass all the course units in your Pre-master's programme, you must also satisfy the English language requirement before you can be admitted to the two-year Master's degree programme. We have learned from experience that students who pass the Pre-master's programme also go on to pass the Master's programme.

Please note: It is a good idea to think long and hard about your ambitions and whether the Pre-master's and Master's programmes will help you to achieve them. The Pre-master's programme is challenging for all students and not all of them manage to complete it. Studying at a research university like the UG is a very different experience from studying at a university of applied sciences. You must be motivated to invest about 6 - 12 months in serious studying, and reserve sufficient hours per week. We advise students to start preparing for the programme in the summer holidays by doing some self-study, for example. Having said this, an above-average, well-motivated university of applied sciences student will normally manage to complete the Pre-master's programme successfully.

The standard Pre-master's programme of 30 ECTS for admission to the MSc Computing Science (track Software Engineering & Distributed Systems), for students with an HBO-degree ICT/Informatica (specialisation Software Engineering), comprises the following course units (you can read more detailed descriptions of the course units on [Ocasys](#).) It really depends on your previous education and individual situation if you are admitted to this standard pre-Master's programme (to be decided by the Admissions Board).

Example Pre-Master Programme:

- Information Security (WBCS004-05 - 1a)
- Introduction to Machine Learning (WBCS032-05 - 1a)
- Advanced Object Oriented Programming (WBCS001-05 - 1a)
- Discrete Structures (WBCS011-05 - 1b)
- Computer Architecture (WBCS010-05 - 1b)
- Calculus for Computing Science (WBCS036 - 2a)

Please note: the programme above is meant as an example, to give you a good idea of what to expect in practice. Depending on knowledge and skills other/different courses may be introduced to this programme for every individual case.