Guideline Application for winter term 2025/2026
Academic Essay

Students must indepenently compose an academic essay as part of the SCS application process.

Instructions for the winter term 2025/2026

Define "smart city". Describe how you want to contribute to the smart city of the future. Take your existing and future professional skills, knowledge, and experiences into account. You may establish a relation to ongoing projects. Reflect on success and risk factors. Give your essay a title.

Criteria

The following criteria will be evaluated:

- Originality
- Logical argument
- Well-structured argument
- Grammar and spelling
- Plagiarism

Structure

The essay can be structured as follows:
- Introduction and definition of problem your contribution will solve (approx. 20%)
- Problem statement based on listed literature sources (approx. 20%)
- Description of approach to solution(s) (approx. 30%)
- Description of skills, knowledge and experience that help you solve the problem (approx. 20%)
- Reflections on risks and potentials (approx. 10%)

Remarks

- Length 1-2 pages or 600-900 words
- Back your arguments with a total of 3 to 5 bibliographical references.
- Demonstrate that you are able to work independently and to present complex coherences in a simple and comprehensive way.
- Demonstrate that you are able to express yourself and abstract.
- Please note that we will run a plagiarism check to identify passages copy-pasted from other sources.

Please submit this essay together with your other application documents in due time. Poorly submitted essays lead to an incomplete application, which cannot be considered.