

Munich, April 2026

Master's Thesis in Collaboration with a Venture Capital Firm

The Dr. Theo Schöller Endowed Chair of Technology and Innovation Management at the TUM School of Management of the Technical University of Munich, headed by Prof. Dr. Joachim Henkel, offers an exciting opportunity for a Master's student to conduct a thesis in the field of AI and entrepreneurial finance in collaboration with DeepTech & Climate Fonds (DTCF), a leading government venture capital fund (GVC) focused on deep tech and climate innovations.

As a master's student, you will be co-supervised by Dr. Gresa Latifi (TUM) and Alexander Pass (DTCF). The project explores the intersection of artificial intelligence and venture capital decision-making. Through this project, you will gain direct insights into real-world investment decision processes while conducting academically rigorous research. Specific research questions and methodological approaches will be discussed and refined jointly.

The thesis provides a stimulating research environment with strong links to industry and the opportunity to contribute to research with high managerial relevance. The selected candidate will have the opportunity to visit the DTCF offices for meetings and collaborative sessions with the co-supervisor Alexander Pass. Recent examples of such collaborative work, including co-authored young researchers have been published in international peer-reviewed journals:

Vismara, S., Latifi, G., Meinzinger, L., & Pass, A. (2025). Generative AI-powered venture screening: Can large language models help venture capitalists? *International Review of Financial Analysis*, 104748.

Qualifications

You should have an excellent academic record and be enrolled in one of our Master's program (Management and Technology, Management & Digital Technology, Master in Management, Finance and Information Management) or a related field, with a strong interest in artificial intelligence, innovation and venture capital. A solid background in empirical and/or analytical research methods and experience with programming (e.g., Python), data analysis, or working with large datasets is highly relevant for this project. Experience working with AI/LLM tools is also required. Particularly welcome are highly motivated candidates who show commitment and enthusiasm for independent academic work.

Your application

To apply, please send a cover letter specifying your motivation to pursue this master thesis, possible starting date, your resume, your Bachelor, and copies of relevant certificates (including, if applicable, Abitur) via email to Dr. Gresa Latifi (gresa.latifi@tum.de). **The deadline for applications is May 05, 2026.**

You can find us at www.tim.wi.de and www.dtcf.de and reach us by email at gresa.latifi@tum.de & a.pass@dtcf.de. We look forward to your application!