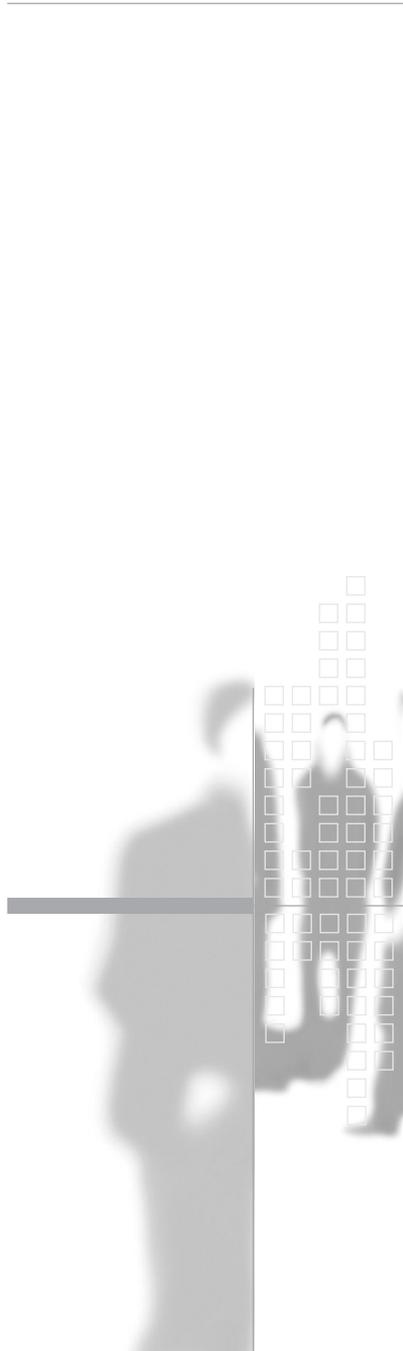


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STUDYING IN SWITZERLAND

UNIVERSITIES

2007

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Rektorenkonferenz der Schweizer Universitäten
Conférence des Recteurs des Universités Suisses
Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Swissere
Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities

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Berne, 2007 (7th edition)

SWISS HIGHER EDUCATION

(by SCTE, KFH, and CRUS, Berne 2007)

SWITZERLAND

The country and its people

Switzerland is a small country of 41,284 square kilometres located in Europe between France, Germany, Austria, the Principality of Liechtenstein (FL), and Italy. Its capital is Bern. The country is one of the most mountainous in Europe: the Alps, Pre-Alps, and Jura occupy more than two-thirds of its land area. Contrasting with these mountainous regions is the Swiss plateau, which is home to a majority of the country's 7.4 million people.

Over two-thirds of the population live in urban areas. Zurich is Switzerland's largest city, with about 345,000 people. Four other cities have populations in excess of 100,000: Geneva, Basel, Bern, and Lausanne. Zurich, Bern, and Geneva are all three placed on the second rank with respect to European cities' public safety and offer high quality of life which makes them to popular places of residence.

Geographically diverse, Switzerland is also diverse in terms of its spoken languages. This small country recognises no fewer than four national languages. German is spoken by 64% of the population, French by 20%, Italian by 6.5%, and Romansh by less than 1%. About 9% speak other languages. A fifth of the population is made up of resident foreigners.

Economy

Switzerland's unique dual education and training system provides a vast range of educational options, from vocational training and apprenticeships to university-level education, thereby producing a well qualified workforce at all levels. On account of Switzerland's high-quality education system and its multicultural society, a large part of the population is fluent in several languages. As the workforce is generally highly motivated, Switzerland ranks fifth among the world's leading national economies with respect to overall productivity.

Switzerland's size has enabled well-developed networks between the various fields of expertise in research, development, and industry. Its location in the heart of Europe is another advantage. Situated at the nexus of European technologies and cultures, Switzerland is equidistant between America and Asia. Close ties with the EU assure direct links to European science and innovation programmes. Bilateral contracts with the EU provide Swiss-based companies with excellent market access to more than 450 million consumers. And last but not least, Switzerland has an almost ideal size – and spirit – to qualify as a pilot market in which manufacturers can analyse market response to new products.

Political organisation

Switzerland is a confederation comprising 26 cantons. In 1848, Switzerland adopted a new constitution marking the power of the central government while at the same time leaving a relative degree of sovereignty in the hands of the cantons. It constituted a decisive step towards a modern democracy. It promoted centralisation without rejecting liberalism, in line with Swiss traditions. This federalist system is still in force today.

Endowed with their own constitutions, their own governments and their own laws, the cantons have the right to legislate in quite a lot of areas. In areas such as education they enjoy broad powers.

Direct democracy is entrenched firmly at each level (Confederation, cantons, communes). Citizens do not only elect the members of their parliaments, but also the members of their governments, except for the Federal Council. Moreover, important questions are submitted to popular elections for constitutional questions, or following the exercise of the popular right of initiative and referendum. In Switzerland, members of Parliament are not professionals; they fulfil their local or federal mandates along with other jobs.

THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN SWITZERLAND

Education has always been an overriding priority in Switzerland, as evidenced by an outstanding level of resources allocated to Swiss schools and different types of universities. Switzerland's unique dual education and training system provides a vast range of educational options, from vocational training and apprenticeships to university-level courses.

Pre-school education (kindergarten) and compulsory schooling (primary and lower secondary) both take place in the communes. The Confederation ensures that primary education satisfies standards of quality, and guarantees compliance with the principle of free education. At the upper secondary level, the Confederation is responsible for vocational training. Recognition of the relevant certificates – the Federal Certificate of Competence and the Professional School-Leaving Certificate – is also a federal matter. General education at the upper secondary level and in the gymnasias, in particular, is the responsibility of the cantons which regulate the school-leaving examinations marking the completion of these academically oriented secondary-school studies. The Confederation recognises these diplomas insofar as they satisfy the relevant conditions. The diplomas certify that their holders have the required general knowledge and aptitudes to take university-level studies.

Higher education in Switzerland, fitting into the general dual system, covers the range from academic to applied studies by charging two types of institutions with the different training tasks. Twelve doctoral/research universities (ten cantonal universities and two Federal Institutes of Technology) offer theoretically oriented, scientific bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. Professionally oriented studies are offered at the 8

universities of applied sciences («Fachhochschulen» / «Hautes écoles spécialisées») and at the 15 universities of teacher education («Pädagogische Hochschulen» / «Hautes écoles pédagogiques»). In the universities of applied sciences integrated are also the top education in music, theatre, and fine arts.

At all the different types of universities the Bologna declaration is implemented.

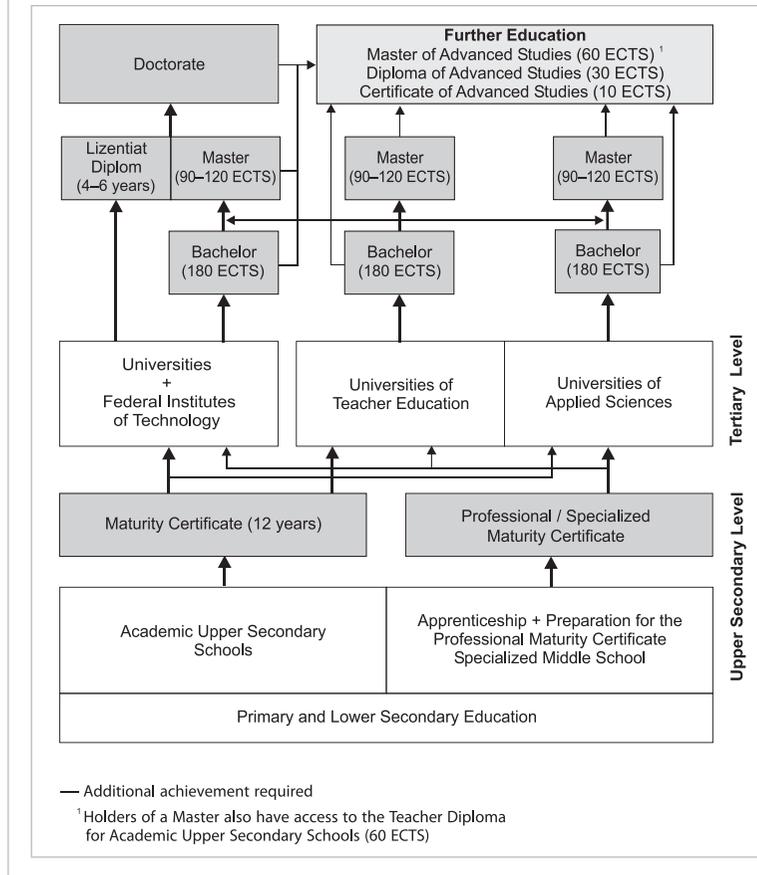
Holders of a maturity certificate («gymnasiale Matura») have access to the doctoral/research university or a university of teacher education. They also can enrol, after completing a one-year internship or work placement, in a university of applied sciences.

Holders of a professional maturity certificate («Berufsmaturität») are entitled to study at a university of applied sciences or, after passing a supplementary examination, at one of the doctoral/research universities. Holders of a professional maturity must sit for a further examination to be admitted to a university of teacher education.

The modern, diversified but coherent system of Swiss higher education is perfectly suited to the needs of students, the scientific community, modern society, and the economy and it is directly compatible with other European educational systems.

A perfect example for the coherence of the Swiss Higher education system is the harmonisation of the semesters: Switzerland is the first and only country in which all higher education institutions start their courses in the same weeks of each year, beginning in September 2007. The autumn semester begins in week 38 and the spring semester in week 8 (in each of the following years). Today, other European countries are discussing on how to follow the Swiss example.

The Swiss Higher Education System



DOCTORAL/RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

Ten cantonal universities and two Federal Institutes of Technology are labelled www.swissuniversity.ch. They are currently the only research universities in Switzerland that are allowed to confer doctoral degrees. The ten cantonal universities are in Basel, Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Lausanne, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, St. Gallen, Italian-speaking Switzerland, and Zurich. Most of them have been evolving over a number of centuries in step with societal and economic needs, always in harmony with a humanist ideal. Since the mid-19th century, the Confederation has played an active role in national science policy. While it began by creating its own polytechnic in Zurich, the Confederation now has six institutions comprising the two Federal Institutes of Technology in Lausanne

(EPFL) and in Zurich (ETHZ) and four research institutes, the Paul Scherrer Institute, the Federal Institute for Woodland, Snow and Landscape Research, the Federal Laboratory for Materials Testing and Research, and the Federal Institute for Water Supplies, Waste Water Treatment and Water Resources Protection. The two Federal Institutes of Technology (ETHZ and EPFL) are known worldwide and have brought forth many Nobel Prize laureates. In addition to the federal institutes, Switzerland's cantonal universities also have excellent reputations on account of their high-quality research. In recent worldwide rankings at least five of the Swiss universities (depending on the ranked area) have always been amongst the 50 best universities of the world, which means they guarantee to all potential students the possibility of choosing among high-quality courses in different universities and in different cultural regions of Switzerland within a reachable distance. Although each of the universities has its own characteristics, they all basically have the same structure combining research and education (a prerequisite for those students, who intend to follow their studies up to a doctorate level). The twelve Swiss universities are divided into faculties or departments, including theology, law, economic and social sciences, arts, natural science, and medicine (Fribourg and Neuchâtel offer but basic medical courses). St Gallen is renowned for economics, social sciences and law ? especially in German-speaking Europe, but also in the US and Asia. Lucerne, the youngest institution to qualify as a Swiss university, in 2004, succeeds in offering Catholic theology, humanities, and law. The second youngest Swiss university, the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) in the Italian-speaking canton of Switzerland, is not only famous for its courses in architecture with Prof. Mario Botta, but also offers economics, communication sciences, and informatics. The two Federal Institutes of Technology are well known for producing highly qualified engineers, architects, and scientists and work closely together with their counterparts, the University of Zurich and the University of Lausanne, respectively, in study areas such as the human sciences.

In addition, there are some smaller institutions offering a limited curriculum which confer diplomas in association with a traditional university. The following are considered as public institutions of higher education: the Graduate Institute for International Studies (Institut universitaire de hautes études internationales, IUHEI) in Geneva, the Graduate Institute for Advanced Public Administration (Institut de hautes études en administration publique, IDHEAP) in Lausanne, and the Graduate Institute of Development Studies (Institut universitaire d'études de développement, IUED) in Geneva. They are not allowed to confer doctoral degrees without specifically associating to one of the twelve doctoral/research universities.

For more information see www.swissuniversity.ch, www.crus.ch, www.proff.ch. Specific information for doctoral candidates and researchers on: www.sbf.admin.ch/eracareers.

UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Switzerland has since 1997 seven public-funded universities of applied sciences (UAS), which are organised regionally. Since 2005 there is also a private UAS which is recognised by the Swiss authorities.

The universities of teacher education were created in 2001 and train teachers in Switzerland. The universities of teacher education have the same principals like the universities of applied sciences – they offer a practice-oriented education – but are for the most part independent establishments.

Universities of applied sciences

Practice-oriented university-level education is offered by seven universities of applied sciences regulated by public law (as well as one private university of applied sciences). These universities are organised regionally and all have several campuses.

The universities of applied sciences in the German-speaking part of Switzerland are:

- Berne University of Applied Sciences (BFH, Berner Fachhochschule) with campuses in Berne, Burgdorf, Biel, Zollikofen, and Magglingen
- University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz) with campuses in Brugg/Windisch, Olten, Basel, and Muttenz
- University of Applied Sciences of Eastern Switzerland (FHO, Fachhochschule Ostschweiz) with main campuses in St. Gallen, Rapperswil, Buchs, and Chur
- University of Applied Sciences of Central Switzerland (FHZ, Fachhochschule Zentralschweiz) with campuses in Lucerne and Horw
- University of Applied Sciences of Zurich (ZFH, Zürcher Fachhochschule) with campuses in Zurich, Winterthur, and Wädenswil

The university of applied sciences in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland is:

- University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI, Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana) with campuses in Lugano, Manno, Canobbio, and Verscio

The university of applied sciences in the French-speaking part of Switzerland is:

- University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland (HES-SO, Haute Ecole Spécialisée de la Suisse Occidentale) with main campuses in Geneva, Lausanne, Sion*, Sierre*, Fribourg, Yverdon-les-Bains, Changins, Neuchâtel, and La Chaux-de-Fonds.
(* offering, in part, degree programs in German)

The universities of applied sciences (UAS) cover the following areas of knowledge and research:

- Engineering and Information Technology (all UAS)
- Architecture, Building Engineering and Planning (all UAS)

- Agriculture and Forestry (BFH and HES-SO only)
- Chemistry and Life Sciences (all UAS except FHO, SUPSI and FHZ)
- Design (all UAS except FHO)
- Social Work (all UAS)
- Health (all UAS except FHZ and FHNW)
- Business, Management and Services (all UAS)
- Applied Psychology (ZFH and FHNW only)
- Applied Linguistics (ZFH only)
- Sports (BFH only)

A distinctive feature of Swiss universities of applied sciences is their integration of artistic courses of study in

- Theatre Arts (ZFH, BFH, and SUPSI only)
- Music (all UAS except FHO)
- Fine Arts (all UAS except FHO).

Universities of applied sciences provide a practice-oriented education, accommodating the needs of both students and the job market. They offer an excellent learning environment: small campuses, a communal atmosphere, a good learning infrastructure, well-equipped laboratories, a good student/faculty ratio, small study groups, student-oriented classes, and highly qualified teachers who are often involved in research and/or professional practice.

In addition to their bachelor's and master's degree programs, the UAS offer a wide range of federally recognised courses in continuing education to facilitate lifelong learning among graduates. Their flexible organisation allows UAS to respond quickly to the needs of both students and the professional environment.

In all departments, the UAS also conduct distinguished research which aims at solving problems related to their professional fields. With their research, the UAS form an important link in the innovation chain. Research at the UAS is also connected to instruction, with students gaining research expertise in their respective professional fields. In the artistic courses of study, the main emphasis is on the development of students' artistic identity.

As the education they receive is practice-oriented, students graduating from UAS have very good prospects on the job market. The most recent studies show that 96% of students find employment in their professional field within twelve months of graduating. The education supplied by the UAS meets the demands of the job market. A UAS degree also serves as an entry qualification to further studies at universities both in Switzerland and abroad.

Universities of teacher education

In most cases, teachers working at the different levels of the school system (initial and continuing education) are trained in the universities of teacher education which are financed by the cantons. In some cases the teachers are trained in universities or in other tertiary institutions.

Today, Switzerland has fifteen¹ universities of teacher education which train teachers for the pre-school, primary, secondary I, and, to a large extent, secondary II level and also for some specialized domains like special needs education, speech and language therapy, and psychomotor therapy.

Thirteen of them are independent establishments (Bern; Biel/Porrentruy/La Chaux-de-Fonds; Brig/St-Maurice; Chur; Freiburg/Fribourg; Kreuzlingen; Lausanne; Locarno; Luzern/Schwyz/Zug; Rorschach; Schaffhausen; St.Gallen; Zurich²) while two universities of teacher education form part of universities of applied sciences (in Basel/Brugg/Solothurn and in Zurich). In Geneva, the university trains future pre-school and primary school teachers.

The University of Fribourg and a Geneva cantonal teacher education institute offer training courses for secondary levels I and II. In Zurich, training of teachers for secondary level II is provided by an institute which is managed jointly by the university, the Federal Institute of Technology and the university of teacher education.

The Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training is responsible for the training and further education of teachers for the vocational education. By autumn they will provide a Master of Science in vocational training.

The universities of teacher education award bachelor's or master's degrees for the following domains: pre-primary education, primary education, secondary education, special needs education, speech and language therapy, and psychomotor therapy. Besides this, the universities of teacher education provide a master of advanced studies and are currently working on master study courses as well. The universities of teacher education are responsible for tuition (initial and continuing training), applied research, development and evaluation; they also provide other services like consultation, introduction to the profession, mobility and others.

¹ By September 2007 there will be fourteen universities of teacher education because of the fusion between Rorschach and St.Gallen.

² For special needs education.

RELATIONS BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES, UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND UNIVERSITIES OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Cooperation and transfer possibilities between the different types of Swiss higher education institutions are essential. A perfect balance between cooperation and division of tasks are the objective of Switzerland's higher education institutions. The Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS), the Rector's Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH), and the Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (SCTE) therefore encourage exchange programmes and work together readily.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

Switzerland participates as an «indirect partner» in the European Union's education programmes (Lifelong Learning Programme, [LLP], Leonardo da Vinci, Youth Programme). Swiss participation and scholarships awarded to foreign students who come to Switzerland are temporarily financed by the State Secretariat for Education and Research, SER.

The Information and Coordination ERASMUS Switzerland (ICES) agency, hosted by CRUS, is responsible for allocating the resources for ERASMUS student mobility grants to the participating higher education institutions.

The higher education institutions introduced the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which seeks to foster student mobility by ensuring the recognition of credits obtained elsewhere.

Lastly, with the entry into force of the bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the EU, Swiss scientists will have access to EU programmes to encourage mobility for researchers.

RESEARCH IN SWITZERLAND

Switzerland has superior qualities and skills in education, science and technology which are recognised internationally. The competitiveness of Switzerland is due to the considerable investment into research. On a percentage basis, the amount Switzerland spends on research and development in relation to gross domestic product (GDP) puts this country near the top of the list. More than two-thirds of these resources come from the private sector with the major interest coming from the chemical, pharmaceutical, electronics, and metallurgical industries.

The federal legislation puts the onus for the promotion of scientific research on the Confederation, which in turn has created various instruments including in particular the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss Innovation Agency (Commission for Technology and Innovation, CTI) to carry out this task.

The Swiss National Science Foundation is the most important instrument of the Confederation for the promotion of research and the development of a new generation of scientists. The foundation which was set up in 1952 supports scientific research at Swiss higher education institutions and independent research institutes. The main thrust of the foundation's activity is the financial backing of high-quality individual projects in the sphere of general basic research. The promotion of young scientific talent is achieved through grants for future and advanced researchers and exchange programmes with various partner countries. The SNSF is also responsible for carrying out the National Research Programmes (NRP) and for the National Centres of Competence in Research

(NCCR). A special programme of the SNSF called DORE promotes the research in the fields of social sciences, health sciences, school education, music, and fine arts.

The Swiss Innovation Agency (CTI) is the federal agency promoting applied research and development of economic interest. The CTI promotes the development and application of new technologies and methodology. It brings dynamic companies and institutions and researchers at all types of universities together by supporting their cooperation in applied research and development. CTI services range from action programmes in different fields of the economy, the public services, and cultural life to the support for setting up of new firms and services. The tools of the CTI can also be used by small and medium-sized enterprises or other institutions with needs in new knowledge.

Basic research is carried out in Switzerland mainly by universities and the Federal Institutes of Technology. The universities of applied sciences on the other hand concentrate on applied research and development and pursue the establishment of close contacts between their research units and those in the private sector. Research is one of the emphases at the universities of teacher education as well. The main research at the universities of teacher education will be developed in the context of the professional didactics and the master study courses.

Efforts to integrate Swiss research activities into those taking place internationally began in the early 1950s; since then these efforts have been consistently reinforced through Swiss membership in the most important international research organisations and Swiss participation in the main international research programmes.

KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Switzerland ranks fifth among the world's leading national economies with respect to overall productivity. Cooperation and synergies on the cantonal, national, and international levels make Switzerland an almost ideal place to identify solutions designed to develop products to market maturity.

There are a large number of institutions and tools in Switzerland for promoting and supporting research and establishing contacts to promote exchanges between Swiss universities, universities of applied sciences, and businesses. During the last ten years, the cantonal universities, Federal Institutes of Technology and the four research institutes have either created technology transfer departments or designated officers responsible for relations with industry.

The universities of applied sciences act as a transmission belt between research and industry. All of the universities of applied sciences have a technology transfer service. The cooperation between the UAS and the private sector has developed rapidly over the past 10 years.

Besides the activities of the CTI, an important instrument for the creation of synergies between the public and private sectors is the so-called European Union Framework

Programme for Research and Technological Development. These programmes encourage cooperation on a European level between universities and firms, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises. Swiss participation in these programmes is one of the most important priorities of this country's international science policy.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Internationality begins on campus, amongst students. Switzerland has the highest share of international students in Europe (17%), on bachelor and advanced studies levels, most of them coming from other European countries.

Internationality means also promoting the mobility of students and researchers, and hence depends on cooperation. Swiss higher education institutions are reliable partners in European exchange and research programmes. Bilateral agreements ensure and facilitate cooperation between higher education in Switzerland and European partners.

Higher education institutions themselves have numerous bilateral agreements with countries throughout the world. The international relations of universities are generally managed both by rectorates and their international officers and by faculties, depending on the type of cooperation. A good example for cooperation is the host of the Annual EAIE Conference (European Association for International Education) in 2006, the University of Basel, which is situated in the so-called «Dreiländereck», the international triangle of countries formed by Switzerland, Germany, and France. Here, internationality is a regional feature. Thousands of people cross one of the borders every morning to reach their workplaces. Since 1991, seven universities located on the Upper Rhine and close to national borders have formed EUCOR, the cross-border Confederation of Upper Rhine Universities. The joint EUCOR student card grants unhindered mobility and access to the seven partner universities. Through joint programmes and courses, and through joint research initiatives and staff exchanges, internationality has become a matter of everyday life at the EUCOR universities. A similar programme also takes place at the universities of applied sciences of north-western Switzerland with homologous higher education institutions in France and Germany.

Active participation on the level of the three Swiss higher education rectors' conferences is secured by membership in organisations such as the European University Association, the Academic Cooperation Association, and the Network of the Universities of Applied Sciences and on platforms such as the above-mentioned EAIE and the NAFSA, an association of international educators and an organisation promoting international education and providing professional development opportunities to the field in the USA. These efforts ensure Switzerland's integration in the process of promoting visibility as well as quality of higher education.

In view of the increasing importance of international exchange in the area of science, the State Secretariat for Education and Research will be concentrating its efforts in 2008–2011 on the networking of Switzerland internationally as a university and research location. The focus on

cooperation areas conducive to the mobility of students, teaching staff, and researchers will be confined to Europe as well as to non-European partners. Increasing efforts are geared to collaboration with suitable non-European partner countries and regions amongst which the most important will be China, India, Russia, and South Africa.

Recognition of diplomas

In neighbouring countries ...

In addition to these multilateral relations, Switzerland also attaches great importance to bilateral agreements, in particular with neighbouring countries, in order to ensure student mobility and mutual recognition of diplomas. It has concluded bilateral agreements with Austria, Germany, Italy, and France. These agreements govern the recognition of the diplomas of all higher education institutions.

...and elsewhere

Switzerland acceded to the university conventions of the Council of Europe and UNESCO in 1991 and ratified a new joint convention, the Lisbon Convention, in 1998. Among other measures, this convention provides for a «Diploma Supplement» (DS), which is a description of the qualification to be attached to each diploma awarded by a university or university of applied sciences.

In general, foreign universities recognise the Swiss maturity certificate as a qualification giving access to university studies. Both the Lisbon Convention and the Bologna Declaration recommend the introduction of the Diploma Supplement. The universities of applied sciences and the universities of teacher education have introduced Diploma Supplements.

Reforms in the higher education system

Internationalisation, and mainly the implementation of the Bologna Declaration, is the major reforming factor in Switzerland. The implementation of quality assurance and accreditation procedures on the basis of international criteria and standards are some of the most important elements in the frame of the Bologna implementation process Switzerland is now pursuing.

A structural reorganisation of the Swiss higher education system is being prepared for the period after 2012. It is planned to introduce a framework law to regulate the universities, universities of applied sciences, and universities of teacher education, and to apply uniform funding principles to them. Responsibility at federal level is to be concentrated in a single department, with joint bodies being created to take on overall steering of the higher education system.

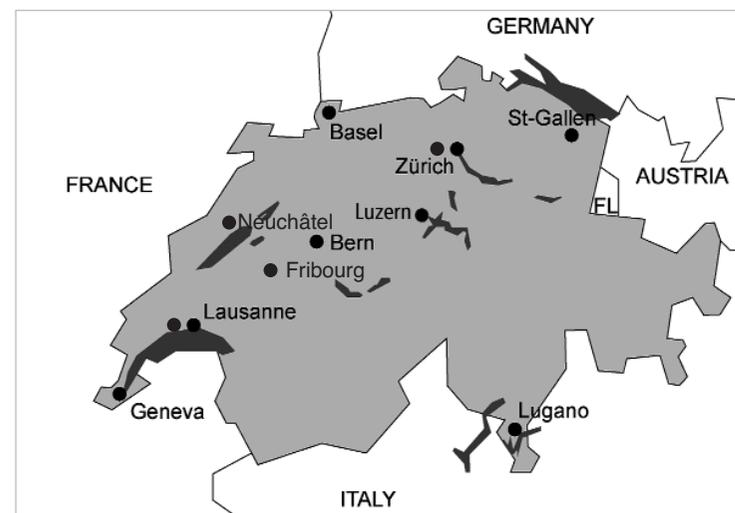
INFORMATION FOR FOREIGNERS WISHING TO STUDY IN SWITZERLAND

By Leander Amherd, lic. phil., Information and Documentation Centre, Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, March 2007

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SWISS HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

There are 12 official universities in Switzerland (10 cantonal universities and 2 federal institutes of technology) as well as 8 universities of applied sciences, 15 universities of teacher education and a number of other institutions of higher education.

Switzerland



The following may also be considered as institutions of higher education: the Graduate Institute for International Studies (Institut universitaire de hautes études internationales, IUHEI) in Geneva, the Graduate Institute for Advanced Public Administration (Institut de hautes études en administration publique, IDHEAP) in Lausanne, the Graduate Institute Kurt Bösch (Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, IUKB) in Sion, the Graduate Institute of Development Studies (Institut universitaire d'études du développement, IUED) and the Distance Learning University Switzerland FS-CH.

In addition to the institutes of higher education mentioned above, there are a number of private colleges which offer courses based on the Anglo-American system. The studies and examinations offered by these colleges are not recognised in Switzerland. Some of these colleges may even offer courses which are not serious. We therefore advise anyone interested in following such a course to make careful initial investigations into the problem of recognition. The subsequent information refers to university studies.

The universities of Basle, Berne, Lucerne, St Gall, Zurich and the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich are located in the German-speaking part of Switzerland. The universities of Geneva, Lausanne and Neuchâtel, as well as the Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne are in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. The University of Fribourg is situated in a bilingual canton. Therefore the teaching language is French and/or German. The Università della Svizzera italiana is located in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland. The academic year is divided into two semesters. The lectures last in autumn semester: calendar week 38–51 and in spring semester: calendar week 8–22.

Beginning in the winter semester 2001/2002, the Swiss universities started adjusting their curricula to the Bologna Declaration. Under this new two-tiered system, the first grade awarded is the Bachelor's degree (180 ECTS credits or three years full-time study) and the second one the Master's degree (90–120 ECTS credits or one and a half years full-time study). A Bachelor's degree is the pre-requisite for admittance to studies at Master's level. A Master's degree and good grades are the pre-requisite for undertaking a doctorate.

Furthermore, the universities can confer Master's degrees in further education, the so-called Masters of Advanced Studies – MAS (a minimum of 60 ECTS credits or one year of full-time study). A MAS does not give access to doctoral studies.

Since implementation of the new two-tiered study system has not been completed yet, degrees according to the former system are still being awarded. The first grade awarded is the Lizentiat/Licence or Diploma with a total length of full-time studies of 4 to 5 years and 6 years for medical studies (no ECTS credits). However, experience shows that they usually last 1 or 2 years longer. The Lizentiat/Licence and Diploma correspond to a Masters' degree level in the United States; at most Swiss universities, they are the pre-requisite for undertaking a doctorate.

It is expected that by 2011 only grades according to the new two-tiered system will be awarded.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Language Ability:

Good knowledge of the language of instruction (either German, French or Italian, see page 16, General Information about Swiss Higher Education Institutions) is a pre-requisite for admission to any Swiss university.

In the meantime, universities are offering more and more study courses in English, in particular Master level studies.

Foreign School or College Certificates:

To be admitted to a university, candidates must possess either a state-recognised Swiss

maturity certificate or another foreign certificate recognised as equivalent by the university. The university in question decides whether to recognise the certificate and whether the holder is entitled to be admitted to studies. Some faculties reserve the right to decide who is admitted even if students are in possession of normally recognised certificates.

More information on the assessment of your certificate can be found in the list compiled by the Committee for Admissions (<http://www.crus.ch/mehrspr/enic/kza/index.htm>).

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS TO SWISS UNIVERSITIES

Candidates who either hold certificates which are only partly recognised for admission or who are asked by the university to take an entrance examination have to pass the examination in Fribourg. These examinations are held twice a year (summer session 2007: 27 June – 6 July 07; autumn session 2007: 29 August – 7 Sept. 07; summer session 2008: 11 June – 20 June 08).

A special course designed to prepare students for the entrance examination is held in Fribourg between October and the end of June. The course fee is CHF 4950.– The address for both events is:

Cours d'introduction aux études universitaires en Suisse (Preparatory courses),

Rue de Rome 1, CH-1700 Fribourg

Tel.: +41 (0)26 347 16 16; Fax: +41 (0)26 347 16 17

E-mail: info@vkhs.ch <http://www.vkhs.ch>

Entrance Examination for the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology:

Candidates who hold certificates which are only partly recognised have to pass an entrance examination at the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (Zurich and Lausanne).

Deadline for applications for the Institute of Technology in Zurich:

- 15th July 2007 for the August examination session

ETH Zürich, Zulassungsstelle, Rämistrasse 101, HG F 21.3, 8092 Zürich

Tel. +41 -44-632 56 53

Deadline for applications for the Institute of Technology in Lausanne:

- 1st June 2007 for the summer examination session
- 15th August 2007 for the autumn examination session

There is a one-year course at Lausanne which prepares candidates for the examination. CMS, EPFL, AA-EBM CMS, CH-1015 Lausanne.

Tel.: +41 (0)21 693 22 95 (secrétariat), Fax +41 (0)21 693 62 90

<http://cmswww.epfl.ch/>

Entrance Examination for the University of St Gall:

The University of St Gall accepts only a restricted number of foreign students, all of whom have to sit for an entrance examination. Candidates holding a maturity certificate which is recognised for admission at the University of St Gall additionally have to pass the entrance examination for foreign students in St Gall. The exams are held about 2 months before the winter semester starts. Candidates who hold matriculation certificates which are only partly accepted must pass the examination in Fribourg (see above).

agreements of Swiss universities is available under «International Cooperations» at <http://www.swissuniversity.ch/info>

COST OF STUDIES

Studying expenses per semester: 2006/2007 (in CHF)

	Uni BS	Uni BE	Uni FR	Uni GE	Uni LA	Uni NE	Uni ZH	Uni SG	ETHZ	EPFL	Uni LU	USI
Tuition fees	700	600	500	500	580	515	640	900	580	633	785	2000
Semester fees	–	55	105	–	–	–	49	120	64	–	–	–
Additional fees for foreigners	–	–	150	–	–	275	100	150	–	–	–	2000
Total for foreigners per semester	700	655	755	500	580	790	789	1170	644	633	785	4000
Total for foreigners per year	1400	1310	1510	1000	1160	1580	1578	2340	1288	1266	1570	8000

Living expenses: between CHF 18 000.– and 28 000.– per year (depending on the location of the university and personal demands)

SCHOLARSHIP

Various scholarships are offered through bilateral agreements between governments and/or universities or within the frame of a pool. Scholarships are granted to post-graduate candidates from both industrial and developing countries. In fine arts and music scholarships for advanced students are limited to countries which offer reciprocal student programmes. Candidates should, in the first instance, find out from their own country's authorities whether they are entitled to a governmental scholarship or should approach the Swiss embassy or consulate in their home country. The universities themselves can supply information about scholarships which they may give. Before applying, candidates (who must be under 35 of age and proficient in German, French or Italian) should get in touch with a professor or with the direction of the post-graduate program at the chosen Swiss educational institution in order to get a written confirmation of acceptance. Further information can be obtained at ESKAS, Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students, Hallwylstrasse 4, CH-3003 Berne, phone: +41 (0)31 323 26 76, fax: +41 (0)31 323 30 20, or on Internet: <http://www.sbf.admin.ch/eskas-e.html>. Information on international cooperation

HOW TO PROCEED WHEN WISHING TO STUDY IN SWITZERLAND

Contact the university of your choice. The pre-application-procedure for some universities can be done online. You find the addresses at the end of this brochure. For the application you will need

- the original or a certified copy of the secondary school leaving certificate
- photo

Immigration Formalities:

When you have received confirmation of acceptance by a Swiss university, please contact the Swiss embassy in your country for information on entry formalities for Switzerland. You will have to show proof that you have adequate financial means to support yourself during your studies.

Residence Permit:

You will have to apply to the police department dealing with aliens after your arrival in Switzerland to obtain a residence permit. You will have to present the following documents:

- a valid passport, if necessary with a visa
- confirmation that you have been accepted by a Swiss university
- a guarantee of sufficient financial means to support yourself during your studies (e. g. bank statement)
- statement concerning your address in Switzerland

The residence permit will only be issued if your financial means are guaranteed. In addition, you will have to renew the residence permit annually. Foreign students are allowed to work up to 15 hours a week as long as the duration of the studies is not prolonged.

INFORMATION SERVICE FOR FOREIGNERS

The Information and Documentation Service of the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS) informs Swiss students about studying abroad and foreign students about study offers and admission criteria in Switzerland.

If you are looking for information on studying in Switzerland, please contact:

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS)

Information and Documentation

Sennweg 2, CH-3012 Berne, Switzerland

Tel.: +41 (0)31 306 60 44 (Mo–Fr 8.30–11.30), Fax: +41 (0)31 306 60 20

E-mail: iud@crus.ch <http://www.crus.ch/deutsch/iud> or <http://www.crus.ch/franz/iud>

STUDY PROGRAMMES OFFERED AT THE SWISS UNIVERSITIES

By Leander Amherd and Tiziana Tafani, Information and Documentation Centre, Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, March 2007

At the beginning of the winter term 2006/07, all the remaining study programmes / all subjects (medicine 2007/08) have been changed to the two-tiered system according to the Bologna reform. Since Master's programmes generally commence three years after the start of the Bachelor's programmes, the transition phase from the old to the new system will last till 2010. The list of programmes offered at the Swiss universities is therefore a transitory list. For more up-to-date information or details on each subject, please check the websites of the universities.

In the table below are listed those study programmes that have already been published by the universities on their respective websites (status quo March 2007). Specialisations are not listed separately.

Sources: Websites of the universities

ABBREVIATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITIES IN SWITZERLAND

Universities in the German-speaking part:

BE	Universität Bern	ZH	Universität Zürich
BS	Universität Basel	ETHZ	Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
LU	Universität Luzern		
SG	Universität St. Gallen		

University in the Italian-speaking part:

USI Università della Svizzera italiana

Universities in the French-speaking part:

GE	Université de Genève
LA	Université de Lausanne
EPFL	Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne
NE	Université de Neuchâtel

University where courses are taught in French and/or German:

FR Universität Freiburg/Université de Fribourg

Key to the Study Programmes:

B bachelor's degree M master's degree D diploma
1 only first year of studies 2 only until the 2nd pre-diploma

1. Theology, Religious Studies

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Catholic Theology				B/M	B/M					B/M			
Christian and Religious Studies				B/M						B/M			
Hebrew / Jewish Studies		B/M			B/M						B		
Islamic / Arabic Studies (and Oriental Literatures)	M	B/M					B				B/M		
Old Catholic Theology	B/M												
Protestant Theology	B/M	B/M					B/M				B/M	B/M	M
Protestant Theology (Distance Learning)											B		
Religion Science	B/M	B/M		B/M	B/M		B/M			B/M	B/M	B/M	

2. Law and Criminology

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Civil and Criminal Law											M		
Economic Law											M		
Forensic Sciences / Criminology												B/M	
International and European Law											M		
Law	B/M	B/M		B/M	B/M	B/M	B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Law and Economics						B/M							
Law of State Action											M		
Life Science Law											M		

3. Economics, Business Administration / Management, Political Science

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Accounting and Finance, Controlling						M					M	M	
Actuarial Sciences												M	
Banking and Finance						M	B	M					
Business Administration, Management	B/M			B/M		B	B	B/M		B/M	B/M	B/M	
Business Informatics				B/M			B/M			B/M			
Comparative and International Studies			M										
Economic (and Social) History											B/M		
Economic Chemistry							B/M						
Economics		B/M					B/M				B/M		B
Economics, Institutions and Public Policies								M					
European Business				M					M				
Finance							B/M			M	M	M	
Financial Communication								M					
International Affairs (and Governance)						B/M				M			
International Business Development													M
International Relations/ Studies											B/M		
International Tourism								M					
Law and Economics						B/M							
Management and Economics							B						
Management of Technology and Entrepreneurship									B/M				
Marketing (, Services and Communication Management)						M		M					
Organisation and Knowledge					M								
Political Economics	B/M			B/M		B/M	B	B		B/M		B/M	
Political Science	B/M				B		B				B/M	B/M	
Professional Officer (of the Swiss Armed Forces)			B										
Public Economics and Public Finance				M						M			
Public Management (and Policy)											M	M	M

3. Economics, Business Administration / Management, Political Science

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Quantitative Economics and Finance						M							
Social Work and Politics				B/M						B/M			
Socio-Economics											B/M		
Strategy and International Management							M						
Sustainable Development		M											
World Society and Politics					M								

4. Medicine, Pharmacy, Health

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Biomedical Engineering	M		M										
Biomedical Sciences				B/M						B/M			
Dentistry	D	D		2			D			2	B/M/D		1
Medicine	D	B/D		2			D			2	B/M/D	D	1
Medical Biology							M					M	
Medicinal and Industrial Pharmaceutical Sciences			M										
Nursing Science		B/M											
Pharmacy / Pharmaceutical Sciences	2	B/M	B/M	2						2	B/M/D	B	1
Speech Therapy				D							D/M		D/M
Veterinary Medicine	D						D						

5. Social Sciences, Social Work

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
African Studies		M											
Anthropology of the Transnationalism and the State	M												
Asian Studies											M		
Christian and Religious Studies				B/M						B/M			
Comparative and International Studies			M										
Cultural Anthropology		B/M											
Demography											M		
Educational Science	B/M			B/M			B			B/M	B/M		B
Ethnology	B/M	B/M					B						B

5. Social Sciences, Social Work

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
European Studies											M		
Gender Studies		B/M									M		
Geography / Human Geography	B/M	B/M		B/M			B/M			B/M	B/M	B/M	B
Humanities and Social Sciences													M
International Affairs (and Governance)							B/M				M		
International Relations / Studies											B/M		
Psychology	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Religion Science	B/M	B/M		B/M	B/M		B/M			B/M	B/M	B/M	
Science in Learning and Teaching Technologies											M		
Social Anthropology	B/M			B/M						B/M			
Social Sciences												B/M	
Social Sciences (and Communication)		B			B								
Social Work and Politics				B/M						B/M			
Socio-Economics											B/M		
Sociology	B/M	B/M			B/M		B			B/M	B/M		B
Special Education Studies				B/M						B/M	M		
Sustainable Development		M											

6. Linguistics + Literary Studies, Communication, Information

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
African Studies		M											
Ancient and Medieval Civilizations and Languages													B
Ancient Civilisation / Classical Studies		B									B/M	M	
Armenian Studies											B/M		
Asian Studies											M		
Central Asiatic Cultural Sciences	M												
Classical Philology	B/M			B/M						B/M			
Communication and Education								B					
Communication Technologies								B/M					

6. Linguistics + Literary Studies, Communication, Information

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Comparative German Linguistics							B						
Comparative Indo- European Linguistics							B						
Comparative Media Sciences					M								
Comparative Romance Linguistics							B						
Computational Linguistics and Language Technology							B						
Corporate Communication								B/M					
Education and Training								M					
English Studies	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B
Far Eastern Studies											M		
Financial Communication								M					
French as a Foreign Language											B	B/M	
French Historical Linguistics and Philology													M
French Studies	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B
General (and Comparative) Literature	M			M						M	B/M		M
General Linguistics							B						
German Studies / German Literature and/or Linguistics	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B
Greek Studies		M					B				B/M	B	
Hebrew / Jewish Studies		B/M			B/M						B		
Indian Studies							B						
Information and / or Communication Systems									B/M		B/M	M	
Information and Communication Sciences													B
Information, Media and Technology Management							M						
Institutional Communication								B/M					
Interpretation											M		
Islamic / Arabic Studies (and Oriental Literatures)	M	B/M					B				B/M		
Italian Studies	B/M	B/M					B				B/M	B/M	

6. Linguistics + Literary Studies, Communication, Information

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Japanology							B				B/M		
Journalism / Media and Communication Science		B/M		B/M			B	B			M		
Language and Communication		M											
Latin Studies		M					B				B/M	B	
Linguistics	B/M										B/M	B	B
Linguistics and Communication Sciences													M
Marketing (, Services and Communication Management)						M		M					
Media Management								M					
Medieval (Latin and) French Studies											B/M	B/M	
Medieval Studies											B/M		
Mesopotamian Studies											B/M		
Middle Eastern Studies	M												
Modern Greek Studies											B/M		
Multilingual Communication											B		
New German Literature		M											
Nordic / Scandinavian Studies		B/M					B						
Oriental Cultural Studies	B											B/M	
Plurilingualism and Didactic of Foreign Languages				B/M						B/M			
Popular Cultures							B						
Romance Studies				B/M						B/M	B/M		B
Russian Studies											B/M		
Sinology							B				B/M		
Slavic Studies	B/M	M		B/M			B			B/M		B/M	
Social Sciences (and Communication)		B			B								
Spanish Studies	B/M	B/M					B				B/M	B/M	B
Technology-Enhanced Communication for Cultural Heritage								M					
Translation											M		

7. History, Archaeology

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Ancient Civilisation / Classical Studies		B									B/M	M	
Ancient History		M									B/M	B	
Archaeology	B/M			B/M						B/M	D	B	B/M
Art History	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Classical Archaeology		M					B				B/M		
Contemporary History				B/M						B/M			
Eastern Asian Art History							B						
Eastern European Studies / History		B/M					B						
Economic (and Social) History											B/M		
Egyptian (and Coptic) Studies		M									B/M		
European Archaeology	M												
History	B/M	B/M		B/M	B/M		B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Logics, History and Philosophy of Sciences											M		
Medieval Studies											B/M		
Museum Studies													M
Near Oriental Ancient Civilisation		M											
Pre- and Early History		M											
Prehistorical (and Human Ecological) Archaeology		B/M					B						
Scientific Archaeology		M											
Theory and History of Science	M												

8. Humanities, Arts Studies

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Ancient Civilisation / Classical Studies		B									B/M	M	
Ancient Cultural Sciences		M					B						
Art History	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Classical Tradition											B/M	B	
Cultural Sciences					B/M								
Development Studies											M		
Eastern Asian Art History							B						
Film Studies												B/M	

8. Humanities, Arts Studies

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Humanities and Social Sciences													M
Islamic / Arabic Studies (and Oriental Literatures)	M	B/M					B				B/M		
Linguistics and Communication Sciences													M
Music Studies	B/M	B/M		B/M			B			B/M	B/M		
Philosophy	B/M	B/M		B/M	B/M		B			B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M
Political and Economic Philosophy	M												
Sustainable Development		M											
Theater Studies / Dance Studies	B/M												
Theory and History of Science	M												

9. Sciences, Mathematics

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Agricultural Sciences			B/M										
Anthropology							M						
Applied Geophysics			M										
Atmospheric and / or Climate Science	M		M										
Behavioural Biology							M						
Bi-, Pluridisciplinary or Interdisciplinary Sciences			B/M							M			B/M
Biochemistry (and Molecular Biology)	B			B/M			B/M			B/M	B/M		
Biogeosciences													M
Biology	B	B/M	B/M	B/M			B/M			B/M	B/M	B	B
Biology of Parasites and Behavioural Ecology													M
Biology, Evolution and Conservation												M	
Biomedical Engineering	M		M										
Biomedical Sciences				B/M						B/M			
Biotechnology			B/M										
Botany / Plant Biology		M					M						
Chemistry (and Molecular Sciences)	B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M			B/M			B/M	B/M		1
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering									B/M				

9. Sciences, Mathematics

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH		USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics			M										
Developmental Biology							M						
Earth Sciences	B/M	M	B/M	B/M			B/M			B/M	B		B/M
Ecology (and Evolution)	M	M					M						
Economic Chemistry							B/M						
Environmental Engineering / Environmental Sciences			B/M				M		B/M		M	B	
Environmental Geoscience		M										M	
Food Sciences			B/M										
Genetics							M						
Genomics and Experimental Biology												M	
Geography / Human Geography	B/M	B/M		B/M			B/M			B/M	B/M	B/M	B
Geological Engineering											M	M	
Geology											M	B/M	
Geosciences		B					M						
Human Biology							M						
Hydrogeology													M
Infection Biology / Epidemiology		M											
Life Sciences and Technologies											B/M		
Materials Science			B/M								B/M		
Mathematics	B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M			B/M			B	B/M	B/M	B/M
Mathematics and Computer Science											B/M	B/M	
Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences											M		
Medical Biology							M					M	
Medicinal and Industrial Pharmaceutical Sciences			M										
Micro- and / or Nanosciences / -technology		B/M	M							B/M			B/M
Microbiology							M						
Molecular Biology / Cell Biology		M					M						
Molecular Life Sciences	M												
Neurosciences							M						
Paleontology							M						

9. Sciences, Mathematics

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Physics (/Astronomy)	B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M			B/M		B/M	B/M	B/M		B/M
Plant Ecology and Physiology													M
Proteomics and Bioinformatics											M		
Scientific Archaeology		M											
Statistics	M		M								M		M
Sustainable Development		M											
Systematics and Evolution							M						
Zoology		M											

10. Computer Science, Telecommunications

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Applied Informatics								M					
Business Informatics				B/M			B/M			B/M			
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics			M										
Computational Linguistics and Language Technology							B						
Computational Science (and Engineering)		B	B/M				M						
Computer Science	B/M	B/M	B/M	B/M				B	B/M	B/M	B/M		M
Dependable Distributed Systems								M					
Electrical Engineering and Information Technology			B/M						B/M				
Embedded Systems Design								M					
Information and / or Communication Systems									B/M	B/M	M		
Intelligent Systems								M					
Mathematics and Computer Science										B/M	B/M		
Software Design								M					

11. Engineering, Architecture

Study Offers	German							Ital.	French				
	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Agricultural Sciences			B/M										
Architecture			B/M					D/M	B/M		D		
Biomedical Engineering	M		M										
Chemical Engineering (and Bioengineering)			B/M										
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering									B/M				
Civil Engineering			B/M						B/M				
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics			M										
Computational Science (and Engineering)		B	B/M					M					
Electrical Engineering and Information Technology			B/M						B/M				
Energy Science and Technology			M										
Environmental Engineering / Environmental Sciences			B/M					M	B/M		M	B	
Food Sciences			B/M										
Geological Engineering											M	M	
Geomatics Engineering and Planning			B/M										
Industrial Management and Manufacturing			M										
Materials Science			B/M						B/M				
Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences									M				
Mechanical and / or Process Engineering			B/M						B/M				
Micro- and / or Nanosciences / -technology		B/M	M						B/M				B/M
Spatial Development and Infrastructure Systems			M										

12. Sports and Human Movement Sciences

	German							Ital.	French				
Study Offers	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Human Movement Sciences			B/M								B		
Sports and Sports Science	B/M	B/M		B/M						B/M		B	

13. Teaching Qualifications

	German							Ital.	French				
Study Offers	BE	BS	ETHZ	FR	LU	SG	ZH	USI	EPFL	FR	GE	LA	NE
Academic Upper Secondary School Teacher		D	M	M			M		M	D			
Educational Science	B/M			B/M			B			B/M	B/M		B
Science in Learning and Teaching Technologies											M		
Secondary School Teacher		D		B/M						B/M			
Special Education Studies				B/M						B/M	M		
Speech Therapy				D							D/M		D/M

STUDY PROGRAMMES TAUGHT ENTIRELY OR PARTIALLY IN ENGLISH AT THE SWISS UNIVERSITIES

A list of master programmes taught in English, in German and English (at least 50% in English), or in French and English (at least 50% in English) can be downloaded at: <http://www.crus.ch/engl/postgrad.html>

There are 2 types of master programmes offered at Swiss universities:

- Master programmes (90 or 120 ECTS credits)
These study programmes are currently being introduced as part of a new two-tiered study system (Bachelor and Master degrees)
- Master of Advanced Studies MAS, Executive Master and MBA programmes (60 ECTS credits)
These study programmes are part of the universities' continuing education offer.

RECOGNITION QUESTIONS IN SWITZERLAND

By Christine Gehrig, lic. phil., Recognition Information Centre / Swiss ENIC, Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, March 2007

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

In Switzerland, like in many other western European countries, the competence over academic recognition lies within the universities or academic institutions themselves. In Switzerland this competence is based on the individual cantonal university legislation and the legislation on the Federal Institutes of Technology. This competence includes:

- admission requirements
- recognition of study periods and exams
- admission to postgraduate studies and doctoral studies
- the conferment of academic degrees and titles.

Since each university is entitled to decide autonomously, decisions may vary considerably among the different institutions.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

The question of professional recognition is much more complicated. One has to distinguish between regulated and non-regulated professions.

Whereas the question of pursuing a career in a regulated profession (such as physician, dentist, lawyer, pharmacist, nurse, midwife or (in certain cases) architect) is regulated on a national level in some countries, in Switzerland federal and cantonal regulations exist side by side; sometimes the competence to lay down rules has been delegated to professional associations such as the Swiss Medical Association, the Swiss Red Cross or the Swiss Registers of Architects, Engineers and Technicians REG.

Basically one can state that whoever or whatever body is authorised to organise and supervise a certain education may also be entitled to recognise foreign diplomas in the same field.

The situation in the field of non-regulated professions is much easier (e.g. biologist, economist, historian ect.). It is up to the employer to recognise a foreign education or qualification. The question of professional recognition is superfluous for self-employed persons practising a non-regulated profession. He/she has to compete within the limits of the free market.

The Swiss ENIC has set up a list of addresses of the various Swiss authorities which are responsible for the recognition of qualifications earned abroad. It can be found in the internet (<http://www.crus.ch/eng/enic>).

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, AGREEMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH REGULATE QUESTIONS OF RECOGNITION

Today educational authorities and universities have various instruments when dealing with questions of recognition: multilateral and bilateral agreements.

Between 1953 and 1990 the Council of Europe set up 5 multilateral conventions, 2 declarations on the application of the conventions and a general declaration (on the European equivalence conventions) concerning the recognition of secondary school leaving certificates, study periods and academic qualifications. The Council of Europe also drew up the so called principles of good practice in academic recognition procedures, however, these are only recommendations. These agreements were followed by a similar convention, set up by UNESCO in 1979. It is meant for the «European Region» which also includes the countries of eastern Europe, the United States, Canada, Israel, and Australia. Due to various reservations within the different cantons Switzerland joined these conventions mentioned above only in 1991. Finally, in 1997, the so called Lisbon Convention (# 165) – a joint effort of both the Council of Europe and UNESCO – was adopted. It will eventually replace all previous conventions by both organisations.

Many countries have also concluded bilateral agreements, which are more specific and which regulate the question of study periods and diplomas in a rather precise manner. The Swiss government concluded bilateral agreements with Austria (1993), Germany (1994) and Italy (2000). These agreements include the mutual recognition of study periods, intermediate exams and academic diplomas for students wishing to continue their studies in the other country.

With France simply an outline agreement between the respective rectors' conferences was concluded in spring 1994. This «outline agreement» includes those Swiss or French universities which are members of the CRUS (Switzerland) or of the CPU (France).

It is important to point out that the question of professional recognition is excluded in all four bilateral agreements.

REGLEMENTATIONS WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION

It is often assumed that the European Union has standardised admission requirements and academic recognition for all its member countries. We would like to stress that this is not the case: Universities in all the member states still enjoy autonomy in such questions. The European Union has, however, assumed responsibility in the field of

professional recognition in order to establish a large European internal market and to allow the free movement of persons. Thus, the European Union has created a number of directives (sectoral directives and two general directives) which standardise the recognition of academic and other professional diplomas. They are binding for all member countries of the EU and of the European Economic Area.

After having approved the bilateral agreements with the EU in May 2000, these directives are also binding for Switzerland.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS FOR QUESTIONS OF RECOGNITION: ENIC, NARIC

By introducing the various conventions of the European Council and the UNESCO, both organisations started to create information centres in each member state in the 70ties, which have the task to provide information on questions of recognition and equivalency of qualifications. In 1994 both networks were merged into one called ENIC (European Network of National Information Centres on Academic Recognition and Mobility). In the 80ties a similar information network was founded by the EU (NARIC: National Academic Recognition Information Centres). Although both types of networks have similar responsibilities, their institutional structures, financial resources and competencies vary greatly.

AGREEMENTS WITHIN SWITZERLAND

Recognition of qualifications is not only a problem internationally but unfortunately also nationally within the borders of Switzerland. As student mobility among the different Swiss universities has been very low until the mid-80ties, the question of recognition of study periods and diplomas in case the student wished to change university was neglected considerably. Only in 1989 it was decided on the federal level that student mobility within Switzerland should be fostered, upon which all Swiss universities signed a mobility convention, which provides the basis for a standardised mutual recognition of study periods, exams and academic degrees.

In 1992 the Swiss mobility convention was completed by setting up a recommendation signed by all university rectors which should promote a homogeneous evaluation of Swiss and foreign secondary school leaving certificates. Since then each university has made efforts to harmonise the admission requirements.

Another considerable initiative must be mentioned which has been taken on a cantonal level by the Conference of the Cantonal Ministers of the Departments of Education. In 1993 they passed an inter-cantonal agreement on the recognition of diplomas. This agreement must be regarded as a very significant milestone in the complicated federalistic educational system of Switzerland. It regulates the recognition of all cantonal

certificates and diplomas as well as the comparable foreign certificates. Diplomas in the area of e.g. teacher education, education in social work or health professions are included. It stipulates also that co-operation between the federal government and the cantons in the area of professional or academic maturity certificates.

INTER-UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

By Urs Nufer, attorney-at-law, lic. rer. pol., Information and Coordination ERASMUS Switzerland, Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities, March 2007

THE RECOGNITION INFORMATION CENTRE/SWISS ENIC

The Swiss ENIC is located at the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities CRUS. It can also be found in the internet: <http://www.crus.ch>

Functions:

- Information on recognition problems in Switzerland, e.g. on the recognition of higher education institutions or private universities
- Information on the general admission requirements of the Swiss universities for students with non-Swiss qualifications
- Information on the higher education system in Switzerland
- Information about the use and protection of academic titles
- Information about the multilateral conventions and the bilateral agreements
- Implementation of the Lisbon Convention Nr. 165
- Credential evaluation of qualifications obtained abroad (only non-regulated university qualifications; for all other qualifications the name and address of the responsible Swiss authority can be given)

Address:

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities
Recognition Information Centre/Swiss ENIC
Sennweg 2, CH-3012 Berne, Switzerland

Phonenumbers:

Christine Gehrig, head +41 (0)31 306 60 32
Eva Grob, credential evaluator +41 (0)31 306 60 38
Pascal Haltiner, secretariat +41 (0)31 306 60 41
Carole Bourret, secretariat +41 (0)31 306 60 42

Fax: +41 (0)31 306 60 20

E-mail: family name@crus.ch

Office hours: 8.30 – 11.30; 14.00 – 16.30

THE INTERNATIONAL ASPECT OF THE SWISS HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Switzerland is not a member of the European Union, but its higher education system is highly internationalised. Until now the Swiss universities have signed numerous agreements for exchange and co-operation with other universities in the entire world, and they participate in a number of bilateral and multilateral mobility and co-operation programmes.

If you as an institution are interested to sign a mobility agreement with a Swiss institution or if you as an individual would like to study in Switzerland, we advise you to directly contact the institution of your interest (please see addresses, page 41). Before you decide on a specific institution you have to make up your mind on the possible language: German, French or Italian (see page 18).

INTER-UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Introduction

Close relationships regarding academic exchange have always existed between Switzerland and its European neighbours. Since the beginning of the 1990s they have been intensified even further because of the education programmes of the European Union. At the moment Switzerland is neither a member of the EU nor of the EEA. This means that if it is to participate in EU education and training programmes a bilateral agreement must be concluded between the EU and Switzerland.

In order to be able to continue the inter-university co-operation which was built up during the period of official participation, the State Secretariat for Education and Research SER-allocated resources to permit Swiss education and training bodies to take part at least as a «indirect partner» after 1995/96. Thanks to these transitional or alternative measures, the exchange programme was able to continue and even expand during those years. The Swiss measures follow as closely as possible the rules of the programmes of the European Union.

Student Grants

A national agency, the Information and Coordination ERASMUS Switzerland (ICES), is responsible for awarding mobility grants to exchange students from both partners. These include grants for students both going from and coming to Switzerland. The Swiss universities inform the ICES of their exchange figures in April for the following academic year, and the latter then proceeds with its calculation of grants. So far it has been possible to provide visiting students from EU countries with grants of about CHF 250.– (~ € 160.–) per month. Grants for students going from Switzerland were the same. As from 2002 these grants are payed for exchanges with all participating countries.

Potential Swiss Partner Institutions for International Mobility

Today, in addition to the 12 traditional universities 8 universities of applied sciences («Fachhochschulen», «Hautes écoles spécialisées») and 15 Universities of teacher education («Pädagogische Hochschulen», «Hautes écoles pédagogiques») are interested in international co-operation and exchange. Furthermore, some other higher education institutions in fields not covered yet by the «Fachhochschulen» participate or want to participate.

Higher education institutions which are interested in co-operating with Swiss institutions are asked to contact these directly. Addresses can be obtained at the:

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities

Information and Coordination ERASMUS Switzerland (ICES)

Sennweg 2

CH-3012 Berne

Switzerland

E-mail: urs.nufer@crus.ch

<http://www.crus.ch>

ADDRESSES

SWISS UNIVERSITIES

BASLE

Universität Basel

Studiensekretariat

Petersplatz 1

CH-4003 Basel

Tel. +41 (0)61 267 30 23

Fax +41 (0)61 267 30 35

E-mail: admission@unibas.ch

<http://www.unibas.ch>

BERNE

Universität Bern

Immatrikulationsdienste

Hochschulstrasse 4

CH-3012 Bern

Tel. +41 (0)31 631 39 11

Fax +41 (0)31 631 80 08

E-mail: info@imd.unibe.ch

<http://www.unibe.ch>

FRIBOURG

Université de Fribourg/Universität Freiburg

Admission et inscription / Zulassung und Einschreibung

Av. de l'Europe 20, Bureau 1222

CH-1700 Fribourg

Tel. +41 (0)26 300 70 20

Fax +41 (0)26 300 97 90

E-mail: admission@unifr.ch

<http://www.unifr.ch>

GENEVA**Université de Genève**

Espace administratif des étudiants
Rue du Général-Dufour 24
CH-1211 Genève 4
Tel. +41 (0)22 379 71 11
Fax +41 (0)22 379 79 34
E-mail: immat@unige.ch
<http://www.unige.ch>

LAUSANNE**Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne**

Service académique
AA-DAF SAC BP 1233 Station 16
CH-1015 Lausanne
Tel. +41 (0)21 693 43 45
Fax +41 (0)21 693 30 88
E-mail: sac@epfl.ch
<http://www.epfl.ch>

Université de Lausanne

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Tel. +41 (0)21 692 21 00
Fax +41 (0)21 692 21 05
E-mail: immat@unil.ch
<http://www.unil.ch>

LUGANO**Università della Svizzera italiana**

Segreteria generale
Via Lambertenghi 10A
CH-6904 Lugano
Tel. +41 (0)58 666 46 11
Fax +41 (0)58 666 46 19
E-mail: info@unisi.ch
<http://www.unisi.ch>

LUCERNE**Universität Luzern**

Studierendendienst/Kanzlei
Pfistergasse 20
Postfach 7979
CH-6000 Luzern 7
Tel. +41 (0)41 228 55 10
Fax +41 (0)41 228 55 05
E-mail: rektorat@unilu.ch
<http://www.unilu.ch>

NEUCHÂTEL**Université de Neuchâtel**

Service académique
av. du 1er Mars 26
CH-2000 Neuchâtel
Tel. +41 (0)32 718 10 00
Fax +41 (0)32 718 10 01
E-mail: service.academique@unine.ch
<http://www.unine.ch>

ST GALL**Universität St. Gallen**

Studierenden-Sekretariat
Dufourstrasse 50
CH-9000 St. Gallen
Tel. +41 (0)71 224 21 11
Fax +41 (0)71 224 21 16
E-mail: zulassung@unisg.ch
<http://www.unisg.ch>

ZÜRICH**Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich**

Zulassungsstelle

HG F 21.3

Rämistrasse 101

CH-8092 Zürich

Tel. +41 (0)44 632 56 53

Fax +41 (0)44 632 10 77

E-mail: rita.lindegger@rektorat.ethz.ch

<http://www.ethz.ch>**Universität Zürich**

Zulassungsstelle für Studierende mit ausländischer Vorbildung

Rämistrasse 71

CH-8006 Zürich

Tel. +41 (0)44 634 22 36

Fax +41 (0)44 634 49 01

E-mail: admission@uzh.ch

<http://www.uzh.ch>**EDUCATIONAL BODIES****State Secretariat for Education and Research SER**

Staatssekretariat für Bildung und Forschung SBF/

Secrétariat d'Etat à l'éducation et à la recherche SER

Hallwylstrasse 4

CH-3003 Berne

Tel. +41 (0)31 322 96 91

Fax +41 (0)31 322 78 54

E-mail: info@sbf.admin.ch

<http://www.sbf.admin.ch>**Swiss Science and Technology Council (SSTC)**

Schweizerischer Wissenschafts- und Technologierat SWTR/

Conseil suisse de la science et de la technologie CSST

Inselgasse 1

CH-3003 Berne

Tel. +41 (0)31 323 00 48

Fax +41 (0)31 323 95 47

E-mail: swtr@swtr.admin.ch

<http://www.swtr.ch>**Swiss University Conference (SUC)**

Schweizerische Universitätskonferenz SUK/Conférence universitaire suisse CUS

Sennweg 2

CH-3012 Berne

Tel. +41 (0)31 306 60 60

Fax +41 (0)31 302 17 92

E-mail: cus@cus.ch

<http://www.cus.ch>

Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK/CDIP)

Schweiz. Konferenz der kantonalen Erziehungsdirektoren EDK/
Conférence suisse des directeurs cantonaux de l'instruction publique CDIP
Zähringerstrasse 25
Postfach 5975
CH-3001 Berne
Tel. +41 (0)31 309 51 11
Fax +41 (0)31 309 51 50
E-mail: edk@edk.ch
<http://www.edk.ch>

Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF/FNS)

Schweizerischer Nationalfonds (SNF)/
Fonds national suisse (FNS)
Wildhainweg 3
Postfach 8232
CH-3001 Berne
Tel. +41 (0)31 308 22 22
Fax +41 (0)31 301 30 09
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<http://www.snf.ch>

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS)

Rektorenkonferenz der Schweizer Universitäten/
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Fax +41 (0)31 306 60 50
E-mail: crus@crus.ch
<http://www.crus.ch>

Conference of the Universities of Applied Sciences Switzerland (CUAS)

Konferenz der Fachhochschulen der Schweiz KFH/
Conférence suisse des hautes écoles spécialisées CSHEs
Falkenplatz 9
Postfach 710
CH-3012 Berne
Tel. +41 (0)31 300 70 00
Fax +41 (0)31 300 70 19
E-mail: office@kfh.ch
<http://www.kfh.ch>

Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (SCTE)

Schweizerische Konferenz der Rektorinnen und Rektoren der Pädagogischen Hochschulen
SKPH / Conférence Suisse des recteurs des hautes écoles pédagogiques CSHEP
Thunstrasse 43a
3005 Bern
Tel. +41 (0)31 350 50 20
Fax +41 (0)31 350 50 21
E-mail: info@skph.ch
<http://www.skph.ch>

Center of Accreditation and Quality Assurance of the Swiss Universities (OAQ)

Organ für Akkreditierung und Qualitätssicherung der Schweizerischen Hochschulen (OAQ) /
Organe d'accréditation et d'assurance qualité des hautes écoles suisses (OAQ)
Falkenplatz 9
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RECTORS' CONFERENCE OF THE SWISS UNIVERSITIES (CRUS)

The CRUS aims to provide a platform for the common interests and matters of concern of the Swiss Universities, to support the co-ordination and the co-operation of teaching, research and service, the exchange of information and the co-operation between all universities as well as between universities and public authorities, national bodies in science and research, international organisations, etc.

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