

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

CFA INSTITUTE RESEARCH CHALLENGE 2021 / 2022

Course directed by Prof. Martin Wallmeier

Slides contain materials of the CFA Society.

About the CFA Institute Research Challenge

The challenge:

- Write and present a world-class **analyst report** about a Swiss stock-listed firm.

How it works:

- Build a team with your colleagues.
- Expand your competences in numerous workshops organized by the CFA Institute and other universities.
- Write and present your report.
- UNIFR winners compete against other Swiss universities.

2

Your benefits



- Apply your classroom knowledge to the real-world.
- Get in-depth training in company analysis.
- Get insight to the profession of an equity analyst.
- Get hands-on mentoring.
- Network with key employers, professionals and peers to make inroads within the financial services industry.
- The widely known CFA Institute Challenge provides an additional strong point to your CV.
- Develop soft skills such as teamwork and presentation skills.
- Travel to regional and global competitions for advancing teams.

The requirements



- Eligibility for the course
(<https://www3.unifr.ch/timetable/en/course.html?show=98379>)
- Commitment of writing a report and presentation of high quality.
- Willingness to represent the University of Fribourg at national and international gatherings.

Your call to action!

Please submit your application until September 14th to patrick.chardonners@unifr.ch containing the following elements:

1. Why you want to participate (one sentence only).

→ Knowing your motivation helps us to improve your experience by adjusting the course.

2. How many hours you are willing to invest.

→ For the optimal experience, we want to make sure to form teams with similar work commitment. Otherwise the challenge can become a frustrating experience for the team.

3. Sort the following skill from your strongest to weakest: Report writing, presentation skills, financial analysis, strategic analysis.

→ It is best to have a diverse skillset where group members can complement each other.

Once your application has been approved, we will contact you with further information at the beginning of the autumn semester.

Additional information on following slides

Anticipated Schedule

- **Early August: Official announcement of the challenge**
- **Beginning of fall semester: Announcement of the subject company**
- **Early October: Kick-Off**
- **November: Interaction with the subject company**
- **December: Presentations within the university**
- **Early January: Report hand in for Swiss finalists**
- **Early February: Presentation Bootcamp**
- **Mid February: Presentation hand in for finalists**
- **End of February: Swiss Local Final**
- **March: Western Europe sub-regional round and preparation for the EMEA Regional Semi-Final**
- **April: EMEA Regional Semi-Final, EMEA Regional Final and Global Final**

2019/2020 Research Challenge Recap



Participating Universities in Switzerland and Liechtenstein



University of Zurich ^{UZH}



University of Basel



Università della Svizzera italiana



UNIL | Université de Lausanne
HEC Lausanne



UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG



UNIVERSITÄT LIECHTENSTEIN



Universität St.Gallen

more to come

How it Works in Switzerland

1. CFA Society Switzerland works in conjunction with participating local universities to assemble teams of 3–5 business and finance students.
2. Universities embed challenge in their course catalog as a (mandatory) seminar and give ECTS credits, CFA Switzerland provides practitioners for guest lectures to develop key skills
3. Each team works supported by a mentor to research and prepare an equity research report on a publicly traded company
4. Universities select their best team for the Swiss local final
5. Finalist team findings are locally evaluated by high-profile panels of heads of research, portfolio managers, and chief investment officers from some of the world's top firms
6. Winner of the Swiss Local Final advances to the Western Europe Sub-Regional, the EMEA Regional Semi-Final, the EMEA Regional Final and potentially even to the Global Final



2018/2019 Research Challenge Results



Student Testimonials

- *It is a great chance to dive into real-life analysis and sharpen your soft skills with the help of experts in this field.*
- *It's the most attractive class I have done in Finance probably. Very practical, you learn how to apply what you have learn and the experience is cool. I liked to move in different places (Zurich, Bern) and meet people.*
- *Bottom line, the challenge is fun allowing to increase your level of expertise, explore new topics, develop new skills and learn how to work in a team.*
- *This is a great experience, but it cost a huge amount of time for very few credits.*

Student feedback on number of hours invested

150-600+

More Resources

2018 and 2019 Global and Regional Final Presentations

<http://cfainstitute.gallery.video/rc19>

2018 and 2019 Global Winners' reports and slides

- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2019-winning-report-ateneo-de-manila-university.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2019-winning-presentation-ateneo-de-manila-university.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2018-winning-written-report--university-of-laussane.ashx>
- <https://www.cfainstitute.org/-/media/documents/support/research-challenge/challenge/rc-2018-winning-presentation-university-of-lausanne.ashx>