WE OFFER

- a dynamic, international and multilingual environment.
- proximity between students and staff due to the relatively small size of our unit.
- direct engagement with ongoing research, both within the Geography unit and beyond, through the Geocolloquium - a weekly conference session organized throughout the academic year - and through student participation in research projects.
- excursions and fieldtrips organized according to research priorities and projects, both within Switzerland and abroad. Recent international destinations include Namibia, Spain and Kyrgyzstan.
- the opportunity for motivated students to participate actively in supporting Bachelor level teaching as tutors.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Degree conferred:
Master of Science in Geography

Duration:
Four semesters (120 ECTS)

Language of study:
English

Two options available:
Nature, Society and Politics
(Human Geography)
Dynamics in Glaciology and Geomorphology
(Physical Geography)

Possible start:
Autumn (September) or Spring (February)

Registration deadlines:
30th April (for Autumn semester)*
30th November (for Spring semester)

* Candidates requiring a visa are advised to submit their application by the 28th of February (for Autumn semester)

Career perspectives:
Environmental consulting, research, teaching, public administrations, international organisations and NGOs.

Contact:
info-geography@unifr.ch

More information:
https://www.unifr.ch/geoscience/geographie

Admission:
http://studies.unifr.ch/en/master/sci/geography
STUDYING IN Fribourg

This Master’s programme in Geography provides students with robust theoretical knowledge and methodological skills to understand and act upon crucial contemporary environmental and social issues.

Students participate in a common module providing them with conceptual and theoretical grounding in the discipline and specialize either in human or physical geography by choosing one of the following options:

- Nature, Society and Politics
- Dynamics in Glaciology and Geomorphology

Courses often take the form of seminars, workshops and fieldtrips. Through the Master’s thesis, students are encouraged to develop their own research interests into independent research projects; they can also participate in larger ongoing projects.

Common Module

The common module provides students with a solid theoretical and methodological background in geography, and takes an integrative approach to the discipline.

Courses include:
- Climate Change: state of the art and debates
- Models and representation
- Hazards, risks and vulnerability
- Data and methods for environmental analysis

Free choice of supporting courses

Students have flexibility in their choice of supporting courses, so that their individual research interests can be accommodated. These courses can be chosen within or outside the University of Fribourg.

Nature, Society and Politics

This option builds on the theories, debates and methods of human geography to critically examine the ways in which nature and society interact through the lens of power, knowledge and politics. It draws from our expertise in political ecology, environmental history, urban socionatures, forced migration and environmental change.

Current research topics range from urban agriculture to water management, through land tenure systems and neighborhood images.

We provide courses on:
- New approaches in human geography
- Social theories
- Political ecology
- Environmental history
- Global change, development and ethics
- Environmental social methods

Our regional expertise includes Central Asia, Western and Southern Africa, Oceania, Europe and Switzerland.

Dynamics in Glaciology and Geomorphology

This option focuses on the study of the physical processes in the Alpine Cryosphere, mountain geomorphology, natural hazards and land-atmosphere interactions in the context of a changing climate.

Current research topics include the monitoring of glaciers and permafrost, rock glacier and glacier dynamics, modelling of frozen ground and sediment transfer.

We provide courses on:
- Alpine cryosphere
- Modelling of glaciers and permafrost
- Applied geophysical methods
- Climatology
- Mountain geomorphology
- Field courses (excursions)

Our regional expertise includes the Alps, Scandinavia, polar regions, India, the Andes and Central Asia.