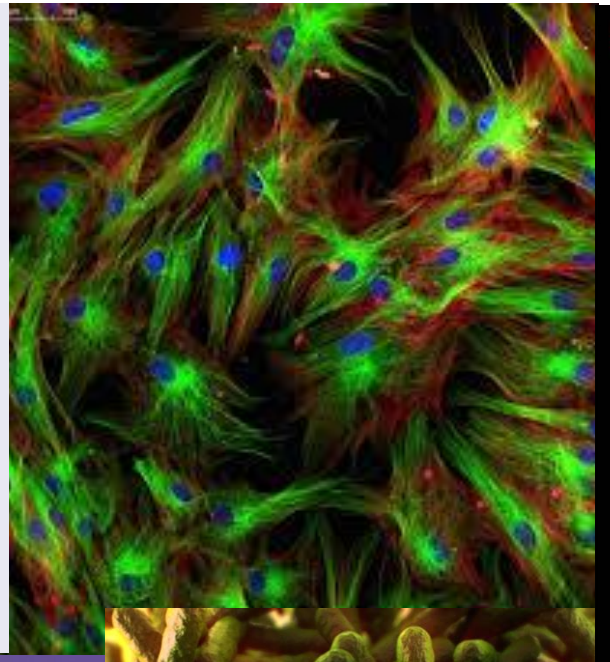
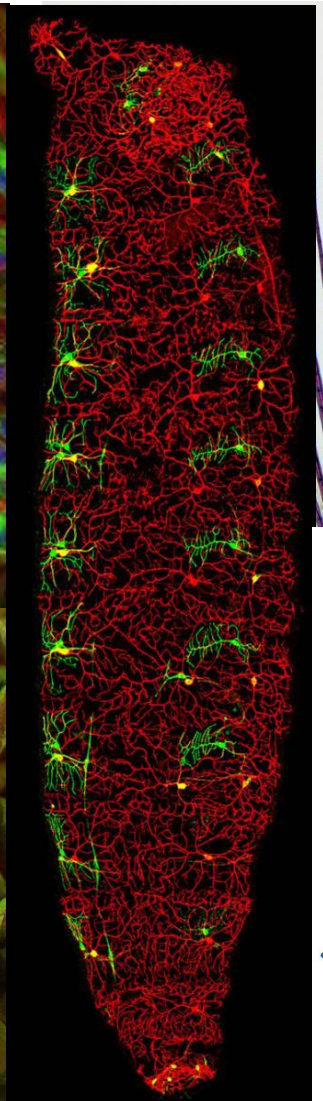
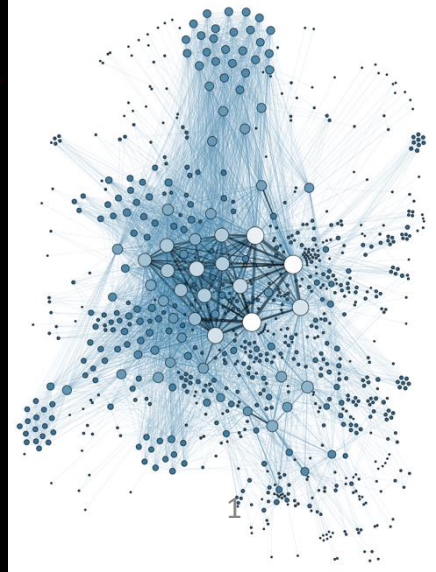
UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Welcome to the Master studies in Biology





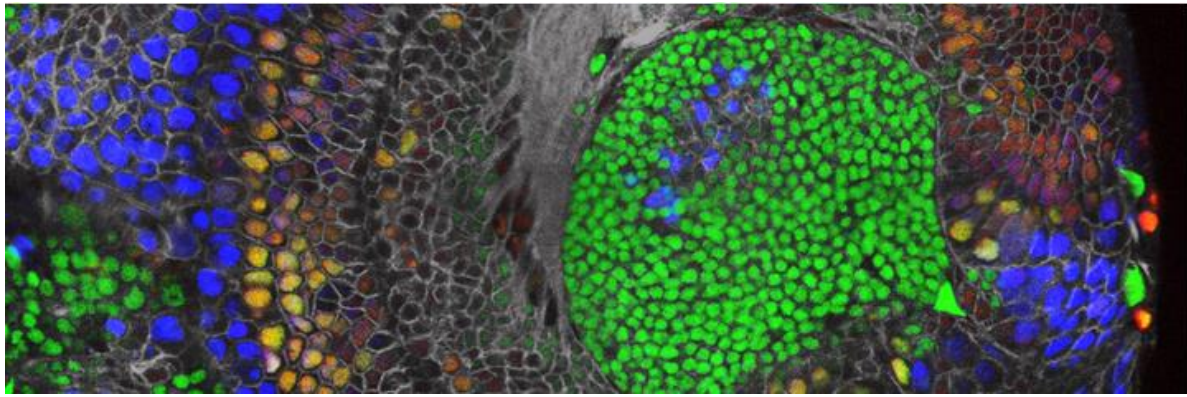
Biology Master programs at UniFr

Research MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences, 120 ECTS
Master thesis 60 ECTS

Teaching MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences, 90 ECTS
Master thesis 45 ECTS

Research MSc in Environmental Biology, 120 ECTS
Master thesis 60 ECTS

Teaching MSc in Environmental Biology, 90 ECTS
Master thesis 45 ECTS



Master in Molecular Life and Health Sciences

Molecular mechanisms govern the fate and the function of every cell, from archaea living in the remotest trench in the ocean, to the highly connected cells of our brain. Interestingly, cells of various origins share common genes, and therefore use similar proteins and molecular pathways. These can be explored in a variety of model organisms and cultured cells, which you will discover in this exciting Master programme that bridges fundamental molecular science and potential applications to understanding human health and disease.

The Department of Biology of the Faculty of Science and Medicine offers a multidisciplinary study programme leading to the degree of

Master of Science in Molecular Life and Health Sciences

with four research options.

The programme consists of **120 ECTS credits** and corresponds to **24 months of full-time study**.

Students aiming at becoming **high school teachers** and having to acquire 30 additional ECTS credits in a different study domain, can choose the **option "Teaching"** consisting of 90 ECTS (18 months).

Available options

1. **Developmental Biology and Regeneration** | 120 ECTS
2. **Neurobiology** | 120 ECTS
3. **Biochemistry and Cell Biology** | 120 ECTS
4. **Marine Biology** | 120 ECTS
5. **Teaching** | 90 ECTS

Degree Conferred
Master of Science in Molecular Life and Health Sciences

Language(s) of Study
English

Programme Structure
120 ECTS credits
4 semesters full-time

or

90 ECTS credits
3 semesters full-time

Programme Start
September or February

Student Advisor
Dr Alessandro Puoti

bio-scimed@unifr.ch

Additional Information
→ **Regulations**

Apply for Admission →

https://www.unifr.ch/bio/en/studies/master/master-in-molecular-life-and-health-sciences/

Master in Environmental Biology

Major environmental problems, in particular global change and its consequences for biodiversity and ecosystem functioning, are intimately interconnected and pose a threat to our future. Solving these problems requires an integrative and synergistic approach in terms of both fundamental and applied research.

The Department of Biology of the Faculty of Science and Medicine offers a multidisciplinary **Master of Environmental Biology**. The program ranges from fundamental concepts in **ecology and evolution, molecular aspects of plant and microbial sciences** to **applied solutions for environmental policies and sustainable development**. It provides students with state-of-the-art training and background in conceptual, technical, and applied aspects of environmental biology, from genes to ecosystems.

Master students are integrated into active research teams and can thus gain extensive experience in basic and applied academic research in environmental biology. Students will have the opportunity to choose between four options. English is the official language for all activities.

Available options

1. **Ecology and Evolution** | 120 ECTS
2. **Plant and Microbial Sciences** | 120 ECTS
3. **Applied Environmental Biology** | 120 ECTS
4. **Teaching** | 90 ECTS

Degree Conferred
Master of Science
in Environmental Biology

Language(s) of Study
English

Programme Structure
120 ECTS credits
4 semesters

or

90 ECTS credits
3 semesters full-time

Programme Start
September or February

Student Advisor
Dr Alessandro Puoti

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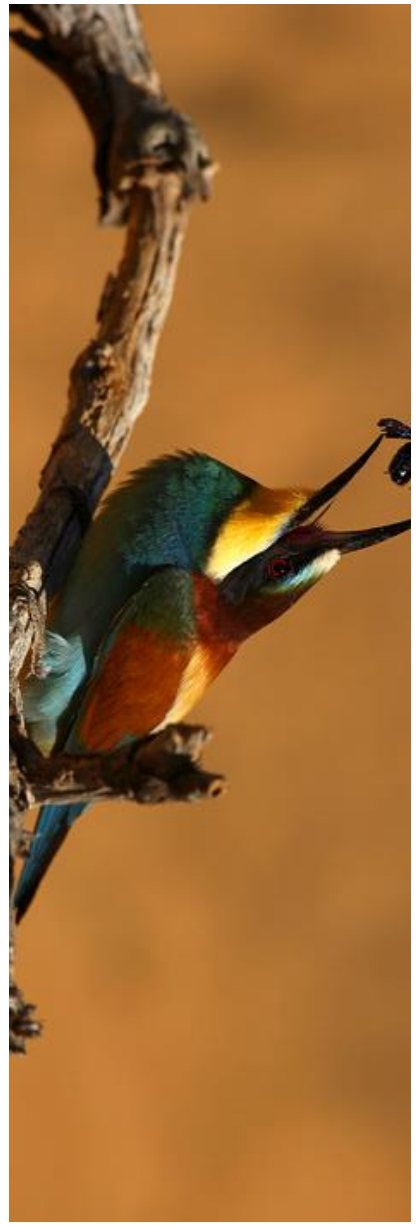

https://www.unifr.ch/bio/en/studies/master/master-in-environmental-biology/

Structure of Biology MSc Programs

MSc in **Molecular Life and Health Sciences**

4 options
120 ECTS

49 ECTS courses and general skills

DBR | NEU | BCB | MAR

11 ECTS seminars

60 ECTS
Master thesis

MSc in **Molecular Life and Health Sciences**

Teaching
90 ECTS

36.5 ECTS courses and general skills

8.5 ECTS seminars

45 ECTS
Master thesis

DBR : Developmental Biology and Regeneration
NEU: Neurobiology
BCB: Biochemistry and Cell Biology
MAR: Marine Biology

MSc in **Environmental Biology**

3 options
120 ECTS

50 ECTS courses and general skills

EE | PMS | AEB

10 ECTS seminars

60 ECTS
Master thesis

MSc in **Environmental Biology**

Teaching
90 ECTS

37.5 ECTS courses and general skills

7.5 ECTS seminars

45 ECTS
Master thesis

EE : Ecology and Evolution
PMS: Plant and Microbial Sciences
AEB: Applied Environmental Biology

Study plans/Curricula

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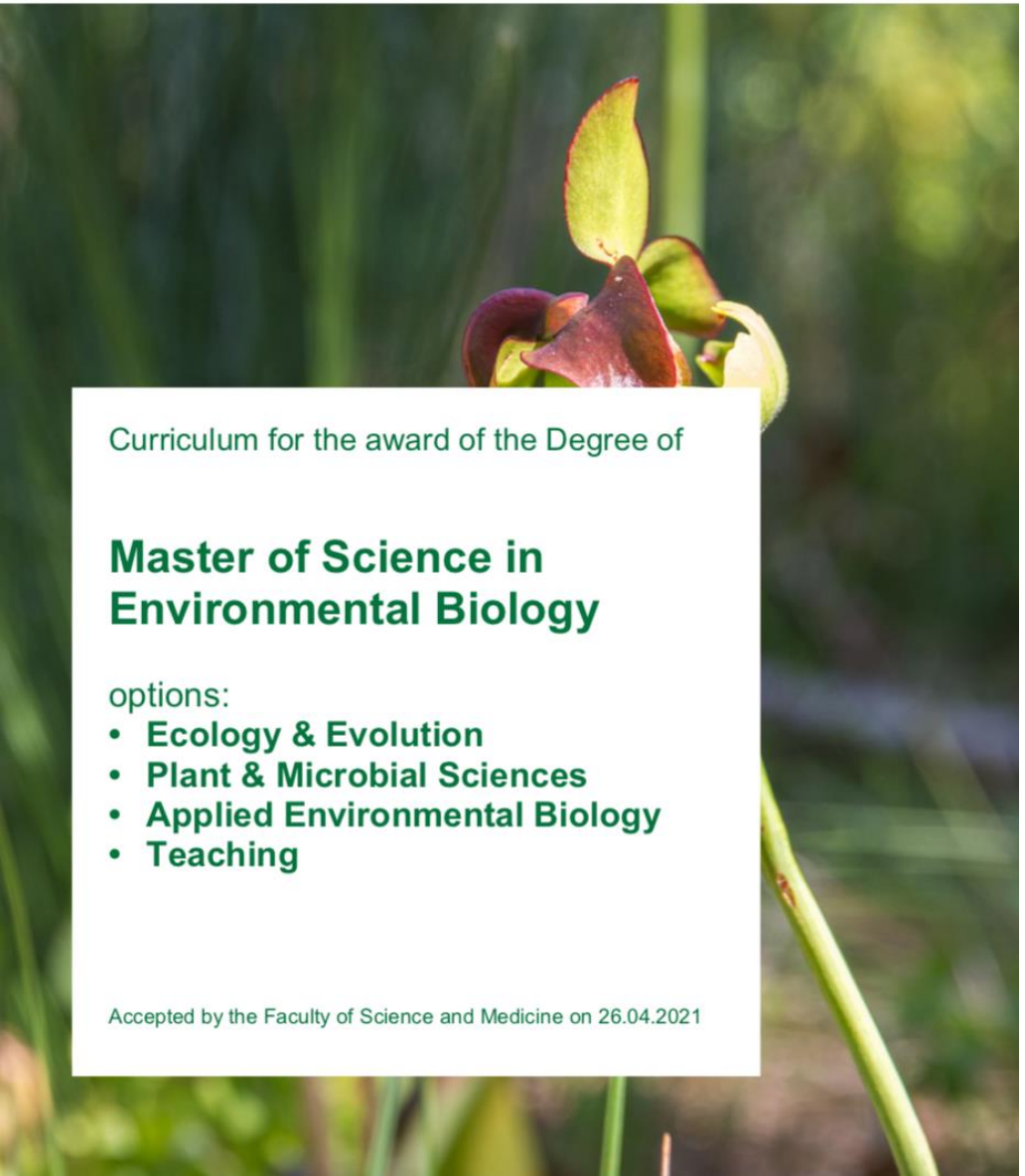

For every option:

- Compulsory courses*
- Recommended / Elective courses# 37.5 / 50 ECTS
- Thesis related activities 7.5 / 10 ECTS

- Master thesis 45 / 60 ECTS

* Check table the end of the study plan

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/plans

#Elective courses:
You can also take many teaching units from the MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences

Study plans/Curricula

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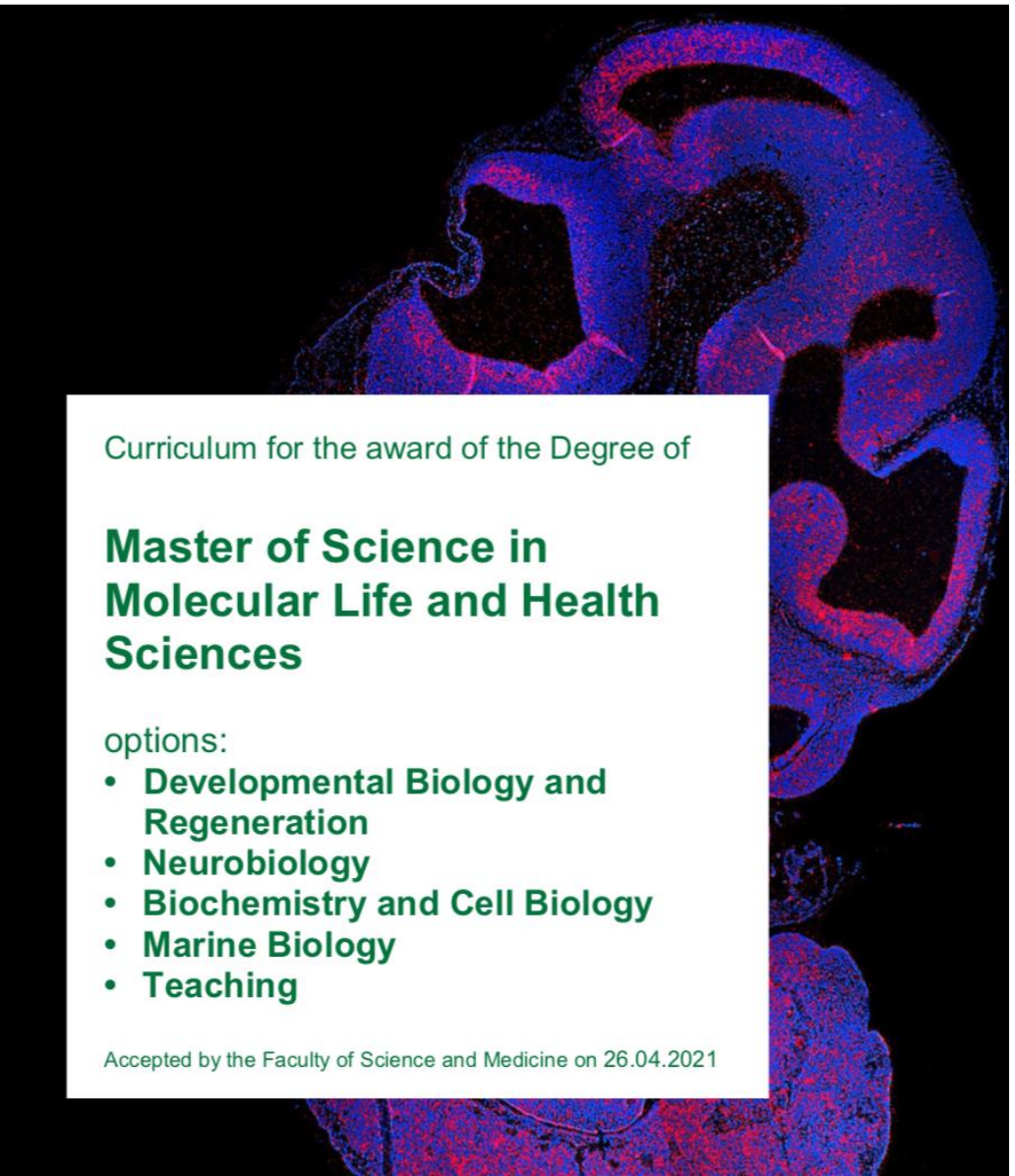
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG



For every option:

- Compulsory courses*
- Recommended / Elective courses# 36.5 / 49 ECTS
- Thesis related activities 8 / 11 ECTS

- Master thesis 45 / 60 ECTS

* Check table the end of the study plan

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/plans

#Elective courses:
You can also take many teaching units from the MSc in Environmental Biology

MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences **AUTUMN SEMESTER 2025**

Options Developmental Biology and Regeneration; Neurobiology; Biochemistry and Cell Biology; Marine Biology; Teaching

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.15 - 9.00	**SBL.30001** (w.5-6 WD) **SBC.07110** (w.1-2 WD) **SBC.07107** (w.8-10 WD) **SBL.00125** (w.11-12 WD)	**SBL.00115** (w. 5-8)	**SBL.30001** (w.5-6 WD) **SBC.07110** (w.1-2 WD) **SBC.07107** (w.8-10 WD) **SBL.00125** (w.11-12 WD) **HPC** (w. 3-4 WD)	**SBC.04202** (w.9-14)	**SBL.00125** (w.11-12 WD)
9.15 - 10.00		**SBL.00114** (w.1-4) **SBL.00115** (w.5-8) **SBL.00130** (w.9-13)			
10.15 - 11.00				**SBL.20001** or **SBL.20002** (w. 6-14)	**SBL.00453** (w.2-10)
11.15 - 12.00		**SBL.00431** **SBL.00432**			**SBL.00125** (w.11-12 WD)
12.00 - 13.15			**SME.05001**		
13.15 - 14.00	**SBL.10105** (except w. 1, 2, 11, 12)	**SBL.00117**		**SBL.30001** (w.5-6) **SBL.00451** (w.13) Reserved for *topical courses* * **SBL.00411** **SBL.00412** **SBL.00414** **SBL.10006** **SBL.10008**	**SBL.30001** (w.5-6) **SBL.00451** (w.13) Reserved for *topical courses* * **SBL.00411** **SBL.00412** **SBL.00414** **SBL.10006** **SBL.10008**
14.15 - 15.00					
15.15 - 16.00		**SBL.00119**			
16.15 - 17.00					
17.15 - 18.00					
18.15 - 19.00					

Topical courses* : refer to **moodle page SBL.04000 for details

w: week of the semester. If not specified, whole semester. WD : whole day

SBC.04203 block course: schedule will be arranged with the participants

Block courses SBL.00118; SBL.10009; SBL.30004 are not shown in this weekly schedule

HPC: Introduction to High-Perfomance Computing (UniBe) please see *https://www.philnat.unibe.ch/*

given on week 3 and week 4

This course is also named "HPC and cloud computing", code 46747

Version 2025.07.06

Master in Environmental Biology - Autumn semester - Overview

	Block courses **Monday**	Weekly courses **Tuesday**	Block courses **Wednesday**	Weekly courses **Thursday**	Weekly/Block courses **Friday**
8h15 – 9h	***Introduction to UNIX and BASH*** *SBL.07110* *Weeks 1 to 2 – whole day*		***Introduction to UNIX and BASH*** *SBL.07110* *Weeks 1 to 2 – whole day*		***Introduction to UNIX and BASH*** *SBL.07110* *Weeks 1 to 2 – afternoon*
9h15 – 10h	***Introduction to R*** *SBL.30001* *Weeks 5 to 6* – whole day	**Scientific writing** SBL.00410 (9h15 to 11h – weeks 1, 2, and 14) *in alternance with* **Critical reading** SBL.20005 (10h15 to 11h)	***Introduction to R*** *SBL.30001* *Weeks 5 to 6* – whole day		***Introduction to R*** *SBL.30001* *Weeks 5 to 6* – afternoon
10h15 – 11h				**Biostatistics I - generalized linear models and mixed effects models** SBL.20001 *in alternance with* **Biostatistics II - multivariate analysis** SBL.20002	**Principles of environmental ethics (advanced)** SSE.00433
11h15 – 12h		**Seminars in Biology** SBL.00431 & SBL.00432	***Organization and annotation of Eukaryote genomes*** *SBL.30004* *Weeks 5 to 10 – whole day*		
12h15 – 13h	***Bioinformatics (practical + in silico)*** *SBC.07107* *Weeks 8 to 10* – whole day		***Bioinformatics (practical + in silico)*** *SBC.07107* *Weeks 8 to 10* – whole day		***In vivo biochemistry: visualization of transport*** *SBL.20039* *Weeks 1 to 4 – 10h15 to 13h*
13h15 – 14h		**Methods in plant pathogen interactions** SBL.20003		**Global change biology** SBL.20041 *in alternance with* **Invasion biology** SBL.20037	**Basics in biostatistics** SBL.00504 *Weeks 1 to 10*
14h15 – 15h					
15h15 – 16h				**Research Seminars in Environmental Biology** SBL.20081 & SBL.20082	
16h15 – 17h	**Light and fluorescence microscopy for Life Sciences** SBL.00125 Weeks 11 to 12 – whole day		**Light and fluorescence microscopy for Life Sciences** SBL.00125 Weeks 11 to 12 – whole day		**Light and fluorescence microscopy for Life Sciences** SBL.00125 Week 11 – whole day
17h15 – 18h				**Introduction to mass spectrometry and proteomics** SBL.00451 Week 13 – afternoon	**Introduction to mass spectrometry and proteomics** SBL.00451 Week 13 – afternoon

Legend:

Obligatory courses for at least one options are in **roman**

Recommended courses are in ***italic***

Colour:
Research skills
Scientific core courses
Thesis related activities

In case of discrepancy with the official TimeTable, the latter is authoritative

Topical courses are not included (usually on Thursday and Friday afternoon). See the corresponding Moodle page

Recommended topical courses:
Signalling and Transport
SBL.00411

HPC and cloud computing (recommended course)
Weeks 3 to 4
UniBe

Registration to teaching units

Use your MyUniFr account

Registration for the teaching units is strongly recommended, in particular to guarantee you a spot in the courses, and especially in the practicals.

To course registration

Calendar in ics format

Academic Year 2025-2026

Autumn semester | Spring semester

Registration: 25.08.25 - 21.09.25

Late registration/changes: 22.09.25 - 17.10.25

Start and end of courses: 15.09.25 - 19.12.25

Notes:

- New students are asked to wait until the "Starting Days" welcome event before registering.
- In order to register to classes, you must have paid your tuition fee for the semester. Make sure that you register correctly for the course and check your enrolment data under " cursus ".
- If you follow a personalized study plan, some courses may not appear in the offer list. In this case, select "Register outside of study plan" and explain why you are registering to this class. Please note that if you do not provide an explanation, your registration might be denied.
- If you decide to not follow a class, please unregister. For courses with continuous assessment, please contact the reference person of the corresponding field.

Exam sessions and registration

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/studies/register

Registration to exams

Use your MyUniFr account

Registration to exams is mandatory and does not automatically happen if you are registered to a class.
Please observe the deadlines. Each teaching unit is assessed 2-3 times a year.

At each session, you choose which of the available exams you wish to register for.

To exam registration

Calendar in ics format

Regulations

2025-2026 Exam sessions

Winter session | Summer session | Autumn session

Registration: 24.11.25 - 12.12.25

Publication of dates on MyUniFR*: 12.01.26

Exam dates:** 26.01.26 - 14.02.26

Results: by 27.02.26

Unregister:

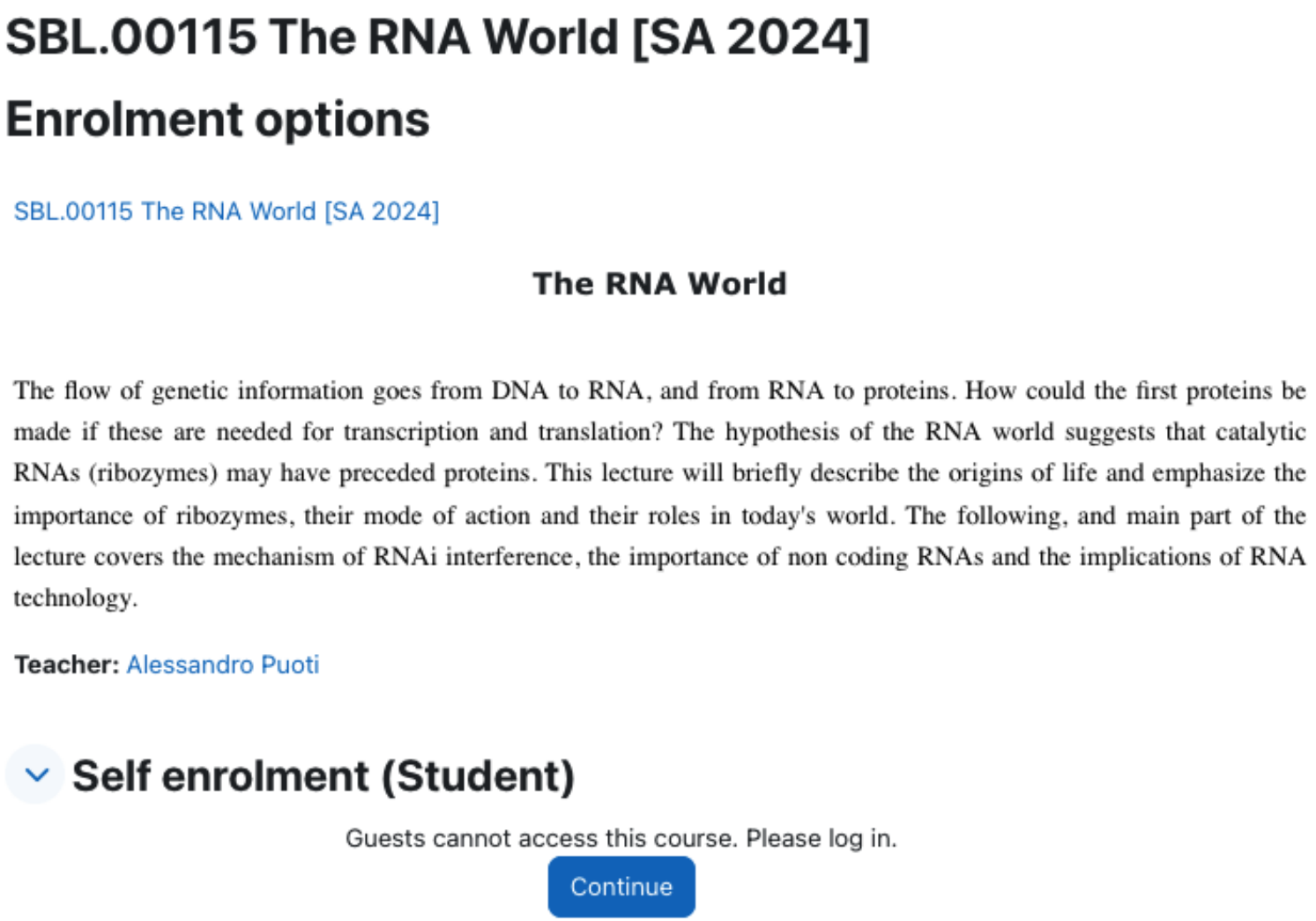
1) on Myunifr: until 12.12.25
2) by letter or form: until 16.01.26
3) to the Dean: until 15 days after the exam

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/studies/register

Lecture support

Moodle: https://moodle.unifr.ch/

Registration to moodle is not equivalent to registration via MyUniFr



SBL.00115 The RNA World [SA 2024]

Enrolment options

SBL.00115 The RNA World [SA 2024]

The RNA World

The flow of genetic information goes from DNA to RNA, and from RNA to proteins. How could the first proteins be made if these are needed for transcription and translation? The hypothesis of the RNA world suggests that catalytic RNAs (ribozymes) may have preceded proteins. This lecture will briefly describe the origins of life and emphasize the importance of ribozymes, their mode of action and their roles in today's world. The following, and main part of the lecture covers the mechanism of RNAi interference, the importance of non coding RNAs and the implications of RNA technology.

Teacher: Alessandro Puoti

Self enrolment (Student)

Guests cannot access this course. Please log in.

Continue

Block courses and topical courses

Moodle page SBL.04000 (SA25-SP26)

You can also find the information for a specific course on

Timetable: https://www.unifr.ch/timetable/en/

This Moodle page has the purpose to coordinate block courses given during the semesters of the

MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences Master programme

MSc in Environmental Biology

Topical courses are given by external speakers on Thursday and Friday afternoon.

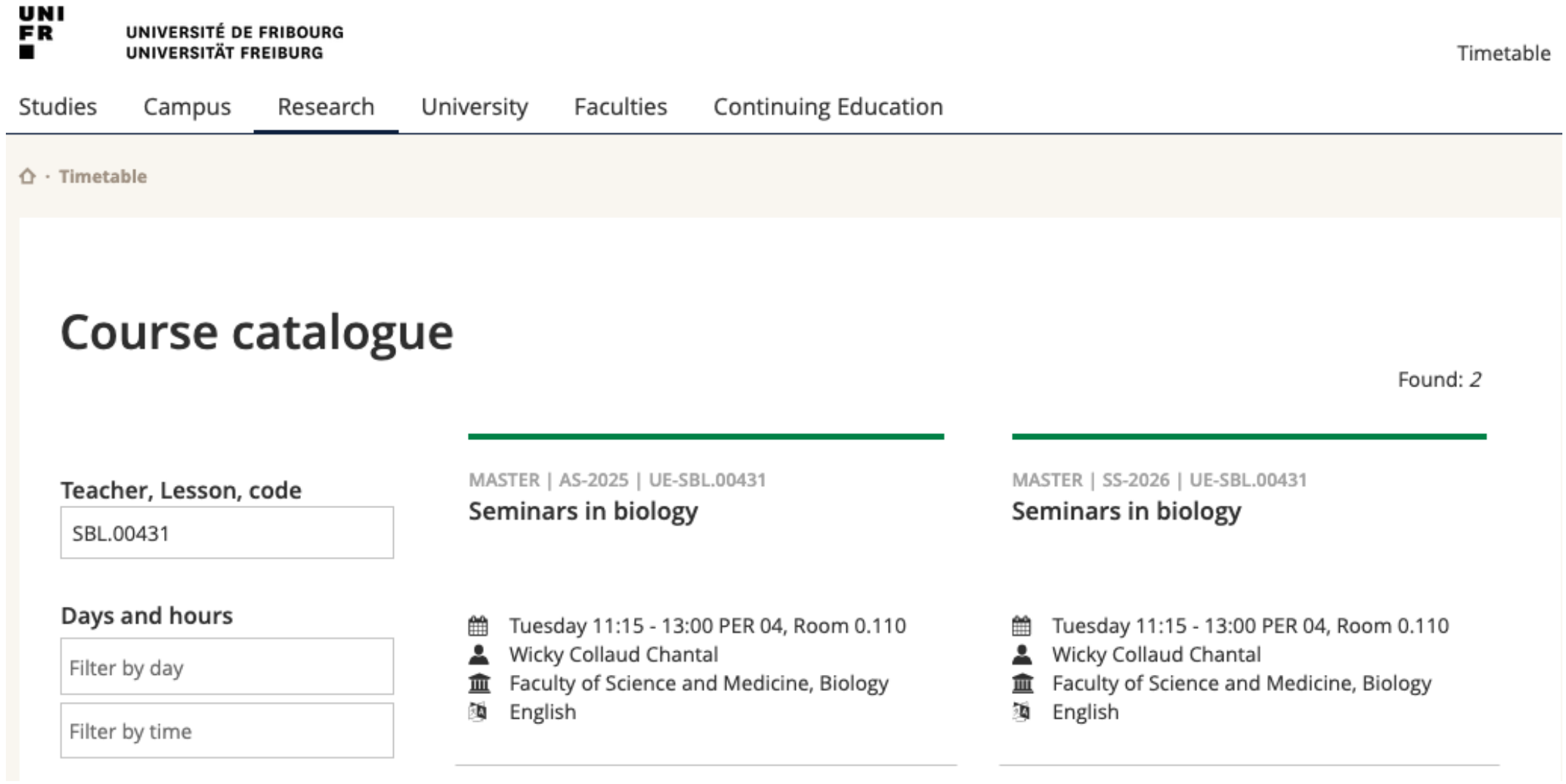
Block courses are given over several days, once every year or every second year.

For the organisers: Before planning your course, please check if the dates are not already taken. In general, we do not show the rooms on this moodle page. Please refer to the courses on GeFri/Timetable.

Title	Code	Responsible	Semester	Timing	Topical course
Signalling and transport	**SBL.00411**	Geisler	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Introduction to protein function and structure	**SBL.00412**	Falquet	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Cell fate and tissue regeneration	**SBL.00414**	Jazwinska	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Developmental biology of marine animal models (biennal)	**SBL.10006**	Sprecher	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Omics approaches in marine sciences (biennal)	**SBL.10008**	Sprecher	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Introduction to mass spectrometry and proteomics	**SBL.00451**	Dengjel	Autumn	2 afternoons	yes
Cell proliferation	**SBL.00415**	De Virgilio	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Biological rhythms	**SBL.00416**	Albrecht	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Microbial metabolism and genetics	**SBL.00418**	Reinhardt	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Advanced imaging	**SBL.00419**	Egger	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Oceanography and marine ecosystems (biennal)	**SBL.00421**	Sprecher	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Polar biology (biennal)	**SBL.10007**	Sprecher	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Altered carbohydrate metabolism in disease	**SBL.10010**	Dengjel	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
Advanced quantitative proteomics	**SBL.00452**	Dengjel	Spring	2 afternoons	yes
BeFri research colloquium in cell and developmental biology I	**SBL.00127**	Egger	Spring	1 afternoon	no
BeFri research colloquium in cell and developmental biology II	**SBL.00128**	Egger	Spring	1 afternoon	no
Light and fluorescence microscopy	**SBL.00125**	Egger	Autumn	5 days, split	no
Established and emerging organisms for marine science	**SBL.00126**	Sprecher	Spring	10 days, block	no
BeFri research retreat in cell and developmental biology	**SBL.00129**	Egger	Spring	2 days, block	no
Advanced marine biology practical course	**SBL.10009**	Sprecher	Autumn	7 days, block	no

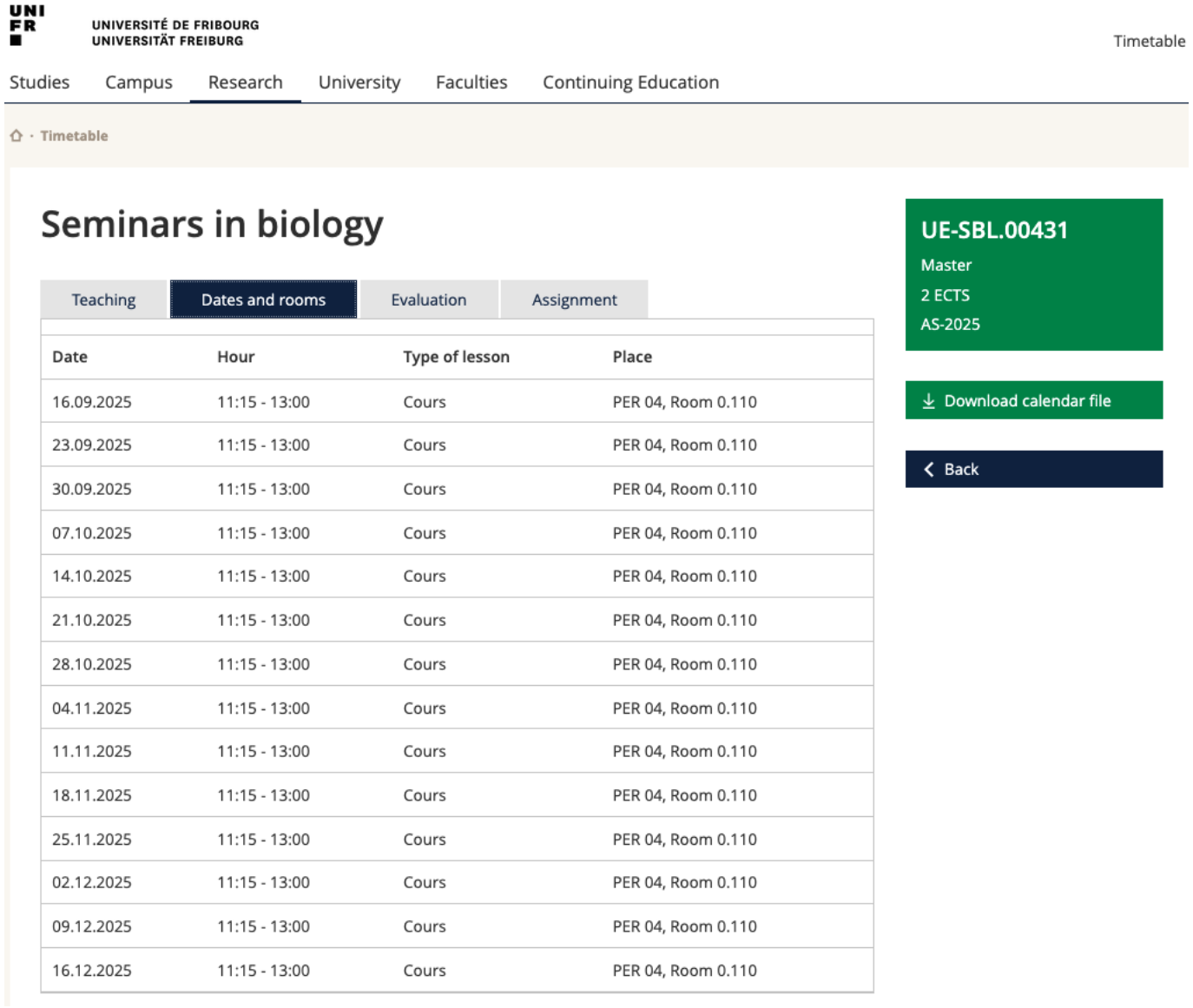
Location, dates and time of teaching units

Timetable: https://www.unifr.ch/timetable/en/



Location, dates and time of teaching units

Timetable: https://www.unifr.ch/timetable/en/



UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
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Timetable

Studies | Campus | Research | University | Faculties | Continuing Education

Timetable

Seminars in biology

Teaching | Dates and rooms | Evaluation | Assignment

Date	Hour	Type of lesson	Place
16.09.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
23.09.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
30.09.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
07.10.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
14.10.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
21.10.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
28.10.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
04.11.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
11.11.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
18.11.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
25.11.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
02.12.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
09.12.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110
16.12.2025	11:15 - 13:00	Cours	PER 04, Room 0.110

UE-SBL.00431
Master
2 ECTS
AS-2025

Download calendar file

Back

Weekly Newsletter: announces special and irregular events

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Week 23

Monday

02.06.2025

17:30
PhD Thesis Public Presentation
PER04 Room 0.110

Jennifer Sapia
Vanni Lab

Investigating the molecular mechanism of protein-mediated lipid processing and fat storage using multiscale molecular dynamics simulations

Tuesday

03.06.2025

13:15 - 14:15
Research seminars in molecular life and health sciences
PER04 Auditorium 0.110
SBL.10105

Speaker: **Dominic Steiner**

Insights into Kap104 mediated nuclear import of ribosome assembly factors Dim1 & Fcf1

Kressler group

Speaker: **Sara Ambrosioni**

The role of two homologous zinc-finger transcription factors, LSL-1 and LSY-2 in germline/soma distinction in *C. elegans*

Wicky group

Wednesday

04.06.2025

17:00
FGLM Spring Assembly
PER04 Auditorium 0.110

Introduction FGLM

News about FGLM RETREAT 2025

Apero with drinks, pizza and more

Friday

06.06.2025

16:00
PhD Thesis Public Presentation
PER04 Room 0.110

Babatounde Edgard Djahoui
Rohr Lab

On the Consequences of Eco-Evolutionary Dynamics on Emerging Properties, Diversification, and Coexistence in a Host-

Plans

Site Miséricorde

Site Pérolles

Site Beauregard

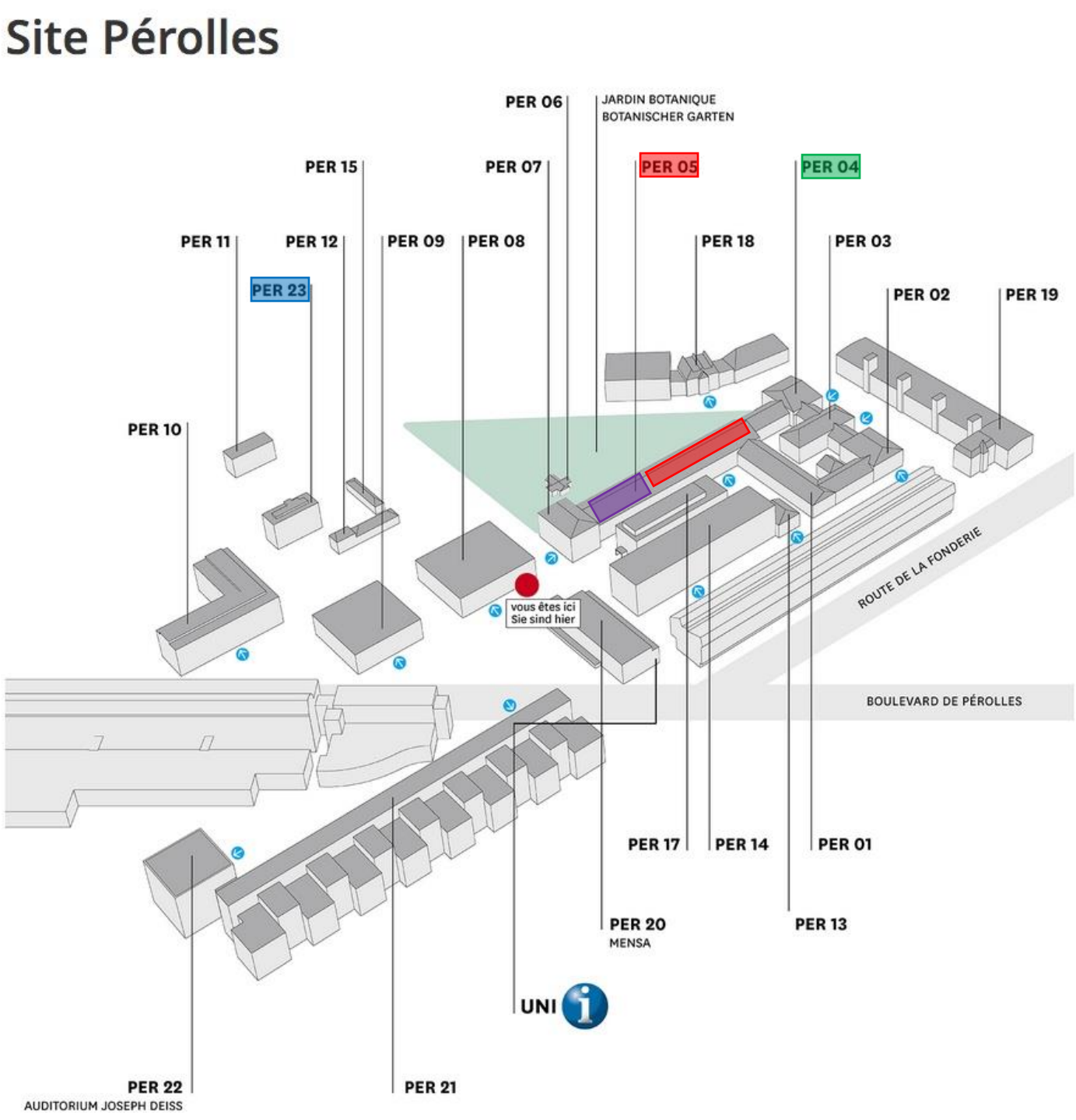
Site Regina Mundi

PER 23 : Ecology and Evolution

PER 05 : Biochemistry

PER 05 : Zoology

PER 04 : Plant and Microbial Sciences



Additional important information

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/studies/practical/

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Faculty of Science and Medicine

Home | News & Events | Faculty | Sections | Studies | Research | Services

Studies · Practical information

Studies

- Bachelor
- Master
- Doctorate
- Practical information
  - Study advisors
  - Registration to courses and exams
  - Transcripts and validations
  - Reference persons
  - Register a minor or change study field
  - Student requests
  - Complaints and Appeals
- Continuing education
- Teacher education
- Regulations and Curricula
- Mobility
- Frequently asked questions

Practical information

Here, you will find information about registrations, validations, switching you study field, student requests, and complaint procedures.

Study advisors

Advice about study choices and organization as well as mobility.

Registration

Information about registration to classes, exams and minors.

Attestations and Validations

Information on how to obtain transcripts and attestations, and how to validate credits.

Reference persons

Persons to contact with administrative questions about courses and exams

Register a minor or Change study field

Switching major or minor. Registering a minor

Student requests

Requesting recognition of previous studies or exemptions to curricula

Complaints and appeals

Appealing exam results or other decisions

Language courses

https://www.unifr.ch/centredelangues/en/courses/semester/

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Language Centre

Home | Centre | Language Courses | Self-Learning | Bilingue Plus | Tests & Certificates

Language Courses · Semester courses

Language Courses

- Semester courses
- Intensive Courses
- Specific Course Law
- Testimonials

Semester courses

Registration for students and employees Unifr

Language courses are open to students from all faculties **except**:

- auditors
- visiting students from other universities (also including BeNeFri), unless they are part of a Mobility Programme
- persons from outside the university (except **partner institutions**)

Admission requirements

Semester Courses

German, French, English, Italian

Students and employees Unifr and partner institutions

Weekly courses, during the semester

A1 - C2

Autumn Semester 2023

Registration period: 04.09. - 01.10.2023

Course Registration Information →

Students of the University of Fribourg can register directly via **MyUnifr**. For all other groups (employees of Unifr, employees and students of our partner institutions), course registration takes place via our website.

MSc Biology students often take:

B2-C1 Academic English for Master's Students: Presentation, discussion and team-working skills

19.09.2023 - 19.12.2023
Séminaire
English

NB. Only ECTS for English courses can be credited

Courses in Bern and Neuchâtel

BeNeFri

Presentation

The BeNeFri network, as the result of the collaboration between the Universities of Bern, Neuchâtel and Fribourg, allows you to attend courses at both partner universities. This way, you have the opportunity to follow a wide-range of courses and to discover student life at another university.

Legal basis

Framework agreement of October 27, 2014 on the BENEFRI network
Directive of April 29, 2008 for the reimbursement of travel expenses within the BENEFRI network

Registration

Registration to the BeNeFri network is possible for study fields mentioned in the annex to the framework convention.

For further information (study fields, courses, recognitions, etc.), please contact the faculty involved.

Registration requests to BeNeFri courses must be submitted on the MyUnifr portal within the following deadlines:

- Autumn semester: **30 September**
- Spring semester: **28 February**

Registrations are valid for **one semester only**. You will therefore have to reregister for each semester if you wish to remain registered with the BeNeFri network.

https://www.unifr.ch/studies/en/organisation/administrative-services-unifr-students/benefri.html

Courses in Bern and Neuchâtel

E-account

Students coming to Unifr:

- **If you are registering for the first time at the University of Fribourg in the BeNeFri network** (including re-registration after an interruption of a few semesters): you will receive an e-mail (@unibe.ch / @unine.ch) from the IT Services concerning the activation of your account.
- **If you have already been registered at the University of Fribourg in the BeNeFri network for the previous semester**: your e-account is on principle still active.

For any enquiries or requests relating to your e-account or its reactivation, please contact the student support Micromus.

Students attending Unibe or Unine:

The partner university is responsible for your electronic access.

Reimbursement of travel expenses

Directive of April 29, 2008 for the reimbursement of travel expenses within the BENEFRI network

You can receive a reimbursement of **your travel expenses by train** between the three partner universities. To do so, please fill in the form and return it to the Office for Admissions and Registration by post or e-mail to admission-benefri@unifr.ch. Only **full** applications submitted within the following **deadlines** will be considered:

- Autumn semester: **31 January**
- Spring semester: **30 June**

❗ You can benefit from the allowance only if you are **registered with the BeNeFri network** for the relevant semester.

❗ The Unifr participates only in the reimbursement of **train tickets** according to the following criteria:

- Value of a **2nd class half-fare** ticket
- Trips between Fribourg, Berne and Neuchâtel stations only

❗ In case of at **least 6 trips per semester** the Unifr participates in the expenses of a half-fare travel card or a GA travel card upon presentation of the receipt; the **SwissPass alone is not sufficient**.

❗ **Each line of the form must be signed by hand** by the professor teaching the course, thus attesting to your participation in the course. The **use of digitised signatures will not be accepted** without further proof of attendance or confirmation from the professor teaching the course.

Courses in Bern and Neuchâtel

Reimbursement of travel costs – BeNeFri Convention

Reimbursement application for students attending courses at a host university. The reimbursement of travel costs will be made per semester on a bank or postal account. Proof of correct registration at the admissions office of the home university and the legally compliant BeNeFri registration must be guaranteed.

Family name: Given Name(s): Registration-Number:

Address:

Home university: Host university:

BeNeFri subject:

PC- or IBAN Code:

Bank name and location:

The lecturer confirms that the student has attended BeNeFri courses or examinations on the listed dates. Rides for the preparation of written work are not reimbursed.

Contribution to Half-fare travel card or GA travel card for **at least 6 trips** per semester.

Courses			½ price 2nd class ticket	Lecturer	
Date	Title	Location		Family name	Signature

Total travel expenses CHF

- Half-fare travelcard CHF 50.00
- GA travelcard CHF 120.00

All original train tickets must be provided (or as PDF copy)

Contribution from universities to the Half-fare travelcard or the GA travelcard: only with copy of the webpage (PDF, no photo format) **www.swisspass.ch** -> *Travelcards* or purchase receipt. A copy of the SwissPass or the invoice is not sufficient.

CHF

Submit the fully completed original form with the required documents at the end of each semester by January 31 for the autumn semester and June 30 for the spring semester to the responsible home university.

Bern: info.zlb@unibe.ch
Neuchâtel: Bureau de la mobilité, Av. du 1er-Mars 26, 2000 Neuchâtel
Fribourg: Service d'admission et d'inscription, Rue de Rome 1, 1700 Fribourg | admission-benefri@unifr.ch

Date: Signature of the student:

swissuniversities

UniFR | 30.06.2025

Please note:

- each and every travel has to be accounted for.
- only lectures, exams, workshops and seminars will be reimbursed.
- travels for preparation or teamwork are not reimbursed

In other words, you cannot have 18 months of free travelling to Bern because you have chosen a group at UniBe to carry out your Master thesis.

Why you are here

After the Bachelor, the Master is the second step in becoming a biologist

- Use the knowledge acquired during the Bachelor
- explore a more specialized topic
- switch from a passive to an active attitude
- independent and creative thinking
- learn how to communicate and present your results
- learn how to write a scientific paper in English
- learn how to have a critical approach of your and other's results
- organize yourself in planning experiments

The duration of a 90-ECTS Master in Biology is **3 semesters**, of which **1 year full-time** dedicated to the laboratory work

The duration of a 120-ECTS Master in Biology is **4 semesters**, of which **1.5 year full-time** dedicated to the laboratory work

Why you are here

The Master widens your job opportunities. Your next step might be in…

- getting a teaching diploma (maturity level)
- starting a PhD
- working or being trained in a pharmaceutical company
- working as a lab manager in an academic research laboratory
- working as a salesperson
- working in patent offices
- working in regulatory affairs
- becoming a medical analyst (FAMH)

Lecture SBL.00420 (spring semester) gives more info about looking for, obtaining and preparing a job interview

Timeline (120 ECTS programmes)

Semester 1

- Take as many classes as possible (Master courses, complements)
- Start looking for a laboratory ("Master evening" towards the end of November)
- Follow the seminars (mandatory)

Semester 2

- Start the laboratory work
- Start organizing the written Master's thesis, literature searches
- Take the mandatory classes offered in the Spring semester
- Take complementary courses, if this applies
- Follow the seminars, give your first progress report

Semester 3

- Carry on your laboratory work. New questions? New perspectives?
- Read and organize the literature related to your thesis project
- Seminars: mandatory presentations (progress report, Journal club)
- Take additional classes

Semester 4

- Carry on and bring your laboratory work to an end
- Finish writing the thesis (50-100 pages)
- Take remaining classes
- Prepare and present the Master thesis (30 minutes).

Timeline (90 ECTS programmes)

Semester 1

- Take as many classes as possible (Master courses, 30-ECTS minor)
- Start looking for a laboratory ("Master evening" towards the end of November)
- Follow some of the mandatory seminars

Semester 2

- Start the laboratory work
- Start organizing the written Master's thesis. Literature study.
- Take the mandatory classes offered in the Spring semester
- Take complementary courses
- Take courses from the 30-ECTS minor
- Follow the seminars, give your first progress report

Semester 3

- Carry on and bring your laboratory work to an end
- Read and organize the literature related to your thesis project
- Seminars: mandatory presentations (progress report, Journal club)
- Finish writing the thesis (50-100 pages)
- Take remaining classes, if this applies
- Prepare and present the Master thesis (30 minutes).

Final steps of your Master studies:

1) The Master thesis (SBL.05001/2) is carried out with the agreement of the group leader. There is NO circulation of the Master's thesis. The group leader gives the grade to Eirini Maikanti (50% lab work, 25% written thesis; 25% final presentation) on a signed document.

2) Thesis-related activities must be entered into GeFri. To do this, prepare a sheet with the different teaching units and have it signed by your group leader (or the relevant teacher). Then transmit to Eirini Maikanti

3) Semester fees: If you finish your Master thesis towards the end of a semester, make sure that you have acquired all remaining credits and that you have defended your Master thesis. Even if the correction of the Master thesis manuscript will take some time, you do NOT have to pay one more semester just to get the grade of the Master thesis entered.

4) If you later realize that you want to repeat an exam, please pay your bill quickly. The principle is simple: as long as you want to take additional exams or acquire additional teaching, you must be registered.

5) To submit the written Master's thesis: We are strict with the form of writing the summary. The writing of the Master thesis is under the responsibility of the group leader. No need to deliver a manuscript to the administration/department. Only to your group leader.

6) Validation of the package: You validate your packages (courses, master thesis) when the total 120 / 90 ECTS credits, and all mandatory teaching units have been obtained. The average grade of the package counts (≥ 4.00)

7) Diploma ceremony: The deadline for obtaining the printed diploma is indeed strict: for the ceremony taking place in February, the deadline to pay for the credits is mid-December of the preceding year. Information about the graduation ceremony is on https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/info/ceremonies

For those who have missed the deadline, an official certification of the credits and the completion of the Master can be obtained at any time with the dean's office.

8) You can exmatriculate once you have all the validated packages. This is especially useful when continuing at another university.

Delivery of the MSc thesis:

- Please follow the procedure as on:
https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/studies/master-(msc)/master-thesis.html

Only one copy of the Master's thesis for your group leader.
Usually at this point, Master's thesis-related activities have been validated.

- Time considerations:

https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/validate

For the master thesis manuscript, the last version must be handed to the group leader **before** the beginning of the new semester, so no more corrections are possible. The final correction and grading by the group leader as well as the MSc thesis defence should be done within the 3-4 following weeks, not later.

Thesis-related activities

you can obtain these documents as a pdf file. Ask Eirini Maikanti

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

MSc in Environmental Biology

Validation of Thesis-related activities

Option:

Applied Environmental Biology

Ecology and Evolution

Plant and Microbial Sciences

Teaching (*relevant codes are italicized in the table below*)

Student name: ……

Student N°:……-……-……

Code	Title	ECTS	Validation date	Responsible or Group leader	Signature
SBL.20083 or *SBL.20084*	Research group meetings				
SBL.20081 or *SBL.20082*	Research seminars in environmental biology				
SBL.00431 or *SBL.00432*	Seminars in biology				

Student's signature:

Date:

In order to have the results entered into GeFri, please hand the printed and signed document to Eirini Maikanti.

UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
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MSc in Molecular Life and Health Sciences

Validation of Thesis-related activities

Option:

Developmental Biology and Regeneration

Neurobiology

Biochemistry and Cell Biology

Marine Biology

Teaching (*relevant codes are italicized in the table below*)

Student name: ……

Student N°:……-……-……

Code	Title	ECTS	Validation date	Responsible or Group leader	Signature
SBL.10103 or *SBL.10104*	Research group meetings				
SBL.10105 *SBL.10105*	Research seminars in molecular life and health sciences				
SBL.00431 or *SBL.00432*	Seminars in biology				
SBL.10100 or *SBL.10102*	Journal club in molecular life sciences				

Student's signature:

Date:

In order to have the results entered into GeFri, please hand the printed and signed document to Eirini Maikanti.

Welcome events organized by the Faculty of Science and Medicine:

Dear new students,

You are about to begin a Master's degree at the Faculty of Science and Medicine at the University of Fribourg this September. We look forward to welcoming you.

As part of the Starting Days, welcome events will take place on Friday 12 September 2025, or during the first week of classes, starting 15 September 2025. During these events, you will learn all the practical and administrative information you need to succeed in your studies. To find out more about the welcome events for your field of study, please visit: https://events.unifr.ch/startingdays/en/welcome/master/scimed.html

On the same page, you will find information about a **campus tour on 15 September** and a city tour on 20 September.

In addition to these events, various workshops in French and German are available during week of 8 September. Discover and register for the workshops here https://events.unifr.ch/startingdays/en/tools-for-your-studies/workshops/.

The Dean's Office team looks forward to meeting you and wishes you a pleasant start to your studies.

Campus tour in English : September 15th, 5.15 pm. Meeting in front of PER22

Most questions can be answered through the following documents/websites:

Study plans: https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/en/plans/master

Regulations: https://www.unifr.ch/scimed/fr/rules/regulations

If you have still not found your answer:

Masters in Biology:

Dr Alessandro Puoti (study advisor)

Department of Biology

Chemin du Musée 10

Laboratory 0.325 (PER05)

1700 Fribourg

alessandro.puoti@unifr.ch

From October 2025:

Dr Steve Robatel (study advisor)

Room 0.349A (PER05)

steve.robatel@unifr.ch

MSc in Bioinformatics and computational biology, and related courses:

Prof. Daniel Wegmann (study advisor)

Department of Biology

Chemin du Musée 15

Office 1.03 (PER23)

1700 Fribourg

daniel.wegmann@unifr.ch

Department secretary

Mrs Evelyn Boll
Chemin du Musée 10
Office 0.334 (Per 05)
1700 Fribourg
evelyn.boll@unifr.ch

GeFri secretary

Mrs Eirini Maikanti
Route Albert-Gockel 3
Office 0.01 (Per 23)
1700 Fribourg
eirini.maikanti@unifr.ch

Communication /Events

Mrs Rachel Sauge
Route Albert-Gockel 3
Office 0.108 (Per 04)
1700 Fribourg
rachel.sauge@unifr.ch

VERY IMPORTANT: if haven't done this during the welcome event, announce yourself to Mrs Sauge in order to be on the mailing list. Please specify the Master and the option.