

# University of Fribourg – Switzerland

## Factsheet 2024/25 for European Partners

### University

**Official Name** Université de Fribourg / Universität Freiburg  
**Erasmus Code** CH FRIBOUR01  
**Address** Avenue de l'Europe 20 ; 1700 Fribourg ; Switzerland ([Google Maps](#))  
**Website** [www.unifr.ch](http://www.unifr.ch)  
**Get to Know Us** [Short Video](#) and [Brochure](#)

### Contact International Office

**Head of Office,** Mrs Veronika Favre-Eugster  
**Institutional Coordinator** [veronika.favre@unifr.ch](mailto:veronika.favre@unifr.ch); +41 26 300 70 46  
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**Agreements** [international@unifr.ch](mailto:international@unifr.ch)  
**Website** [www.unifr.ch/mobility](http://www.unifr.ch/mobility)

### Contact International Office of the Faculty of Law

**Mobility Coordinator** Mrs Ingrid Kramer, [ius-mobility@unifr.ch](mailto:ius-mobility@unifr.ch); +41 26 300 81 12  
**Website** [www.unifr.ch/ius](http://www.unifr.ch/ius)

### Academic Calendar and Important Deadlines

**Website** [www.unifr.ch/apps/calacad](http://www.unifr.ch/apps/calacad)

#### Fall Semester

**Nomination Deadline** 30<sup>th</sup> April (if possible)  
**Application Deadline** 31<sup>st</sup> May  
**Intensive Language Course** 26.08.2024 – 13.09.2024  
**Welcome and Orientation Day** 13.09.2024  
**Lecture Period** 16.09.2024 – 20.12.2024  
**Examination Period** Mid-December until February, depending on the faculty

#### Spring Semester

**Nomination Deadline** 30<sup>th</sup> September (if possible)  
**Application Deadline** 31<sup>st</sup> October  
**Intensive Language Course** 03.02.2025 – 14.02.2025

<b>Welcome and Orientation Day</b>	14.02.2025
<b>Lecture Period</b>	17.02.2025 – 30.05.2025
<b>Examination Period</b>	End of May until July, depending on the faculty
<b>Easter Break</b>	29.03.2024 – 07.04.2024

## Language Requirements and Courses

<b>Main Teaching Languages</b>	French and German: almost all study programmes can be studied in French and German or bilingual English taught courses are mainly offered on Master level
<b>Language Requirements</b>	No official certificate is required. Student must have sufficient oral and written proficiency in the study language(s) corresponding to the courses they have listed on their learning agreement. Please check the teaching language of each course in the course catalogue.  The minimum expected level to succeed at taking notes and writing papers is B1 upon arrival in Fribourg ( <a href="#">Common European Framework of Reference for Languages</a> ). <b>Students who need a visa for Switzerland need a level B2.</b>
<b>Pre-semester – Intensive Language Courses</b>	A French intensive course for different levels including a programme of cultural and sports activities is organised before the semester starts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 weeks before the fall semester: 26.08. - 13.09.2024; 90 hours / 6 credits / CHF 400.-</li> <li>• 2 weeks before the spring semester: 03. - 14.02.2025; 60 hours / 4 credits / CHF 270.-</li> </ul> A German intensive fresh-up course is organized at the same time in collaboration with a local language school. More information: <a href="#">Pre-Semester Intensive Courses</a>
<b>Language Center at the University</b>	During the semester language courses are offered in French, German, Italian and English at level A1 to C2. They are free of charge for all students.  Online registration opens from <b>two weeks before</b> the beginning of the semester (fall semester: September 2, 2024; spring semester: February 3, 2025). First students have to pass an online placement test and can then register for a course at their level.  More information: <a href="#">Language Centre</a> .

## Courses and Grades

<b>Course Programme</b>	<a href="http://www.unifr.ch/timetable">www.unifr.ch/timetable</a> Different filters can be used to facilitate the search (semester, language, level etc.).
<b>Grading System</b>	Students are assessed either by oral or written exams or by papers. The credit system is based on the European Credit Transfer System ECTS. One ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of 25 to 30 hours. More information: <a href="#">Credit and Grading System</a>
<b>Credit Load</b>	More than 30 ECTS per semester are not recommended. There is no minimum of ECTS required by the University of Fribourg, but a reasonable workload is expected. Students should indicate on their Learning Agreement if they do any thesis research.  Exchange students usually take fewer courses if they study in a foreign language. This has to be discussed prior to departure with the home coordinator.
<b>Transcript of Records</b>	Transcripts of records are issued to each student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Around mid-March for the Fall Semester</li> <li>- Around mid-July for the Spring Semester or the Academic Year</li> </ul> If a student writes a paper after the examination period, the issue of the Transcript of records will be therefore delayed.

## Nomination and Application Procedure

**Nomination Procedure** **New:** To nominate their students, IROs are asked to fill out the provided Excel sheet and send it by email to [international-incoming@unifr.ch](mailto:international-incoming@unifr.ch).

The Excel template can be downloaded under the following link: [University of Fribourg – Nomination Sheet](#)

Deadlines for the nominations: end of April for the fall semester and end of September for the spring semester. Exceptions are possible.

**Application Procedure** After reception of the nomination, an online application link is sent to the student by email. This is a personal link, which can be used only once.

For stays starting in fall, application links are sent starting from March; for stays during the spring semester, they are sent starting from September.

The student has to upload the following documents:

1. Summary of the application, signed by the student and her or his home coordinator
2. Course list or learning agreement (to be found in the online application)
3. Official transcript of former records
4. Europass language passport (to be found in the online application)
5. Curriculum vitae
6. Check list (to be found in the online application)
7. Copy of the passport

At the end of the application procedure, students find the information regarding the application for housing (Apartis residencies) and the pre-semester language intensive course.

## SEMP Scholarship

**Beneficiary** Students who attend the University of Fribourg as part of the *Swiss European Mobility Programme* are entitled to a scholarship funded by the Swiss Confederation and paid by Unifr.

**Amount** Students receive either CHF 440.- or CHF 380.- depending on the country of their home university, for each month they spend in Fribourg for their studies (max. 5 months per semester).

Students (for example doctoral students) staying less than 3 months but at least 60 days receive a grant for three and a half months.

More information: [SEMP Scholarship](#)

## Green Travel Top Up

Exchange students who take the train or bus for their onward and return journey to Fribourg can request a unique *Green Travel Top Up* of CHF 100.-. The tickets must be presented to the IRO at Unifr.

## Practical Information

**Visa Application** Most non-EU or -EFTA citizens need a visa for their exchange stay at Unifr. Please read carefully the information on our website and start as early as possible the visa procedure which can take 3-4 months. More information: [Visa](#)

**Housing** A limited number of furnished rooms with shared bathroom and kitchen are available at the student residencies Apartis. The application for these rooms is integrated in the application process. Find other options and more information: [Accommodation](#)

**Living Costs** The living costs in Switzerland are higher than in many others European countries, but in Fribourg they are lower than in other Swiss cities. More information: [Budget](#)

**Health Insurance** All students must have a health insurance. A civil liability insurance is highly recommended. More information: [Insurance](#)

## Choose the University of Fribourg

- University Sports** <https://www3.unifr.ch/campus/en/activities/sports.html>
- Cultural and Social Life** <https://www3.unifr.ch/campus/en/activities/culture-and-social-life.html>
- City and Surroundings** <https://www3.unifr.ch/studies/en/choose-fribourg/life-in-fribourg.html>
- Fribourg Tourism** [www.fribourgtourisme.ch](http://www.fribourgtourisme.ch)
- Instagram IRO** [www.instagram.com/unifr\\_international](https://www.instagram.com/unifr_international)
- Facebook IRO** [www.facebook.com/UnifrInternational](https://www.facebook.com/UnifrInternational)
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Subject to change