

UNIVERSITY OF FRIBOURG FACTSHEET 2024-2025

For Exchange Partners Outside Europe

Contact	
IRO's Office address	University of Fribourg - Campus "Miséricorde" Avenue de l'Europe 20 - CH-1700 Fribourg - Switzerland, Office # 4059 A – B
Contacts	Phone: (+)41 26 300 70 47 international-incoming@unifr.ch international-outgoing@unifr.ch
Websites	For incoming students: www.unifr.ch/mobility Course catalog : www.unifr.ch/timetable
Social Media	Facebook: www.facebook.com/unifrinternational Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/unifr_international Twitter: www.twitter.com/unifr
Academic Calendar	
Recommended arrival date	24 to 48 hours prior to the orientation day. Student are responsible to check how to get the key of their chosen housing.
Orientation day is compulsory for all Incoming students	Fall Semester Monday, August 26, 2024 for the participants registered at the pre-semester intensive language courses (TBC). Friday, September 13, 2024 for the others. Spring Semester Monday, February 3, 2025 for the participants registered at the pre-semester intensive language courses. Friday, February 14, 2025 for the others.
Fall (Autumn) Semester	September 16 - December 20, 2024 equivalent to 14 weeks
Spring Semester	February 17 – May 30, 2025 equivalent to 14 weeks
Term breaks (time to prepare exams/papers)	Christmas Break: December 21, 2024 - January 6, 2025 Easter Break: April 18, 2025 - April 25, 2025
Exams Period	Fall Semester: between December and February Spring Semester: between May and July The Calendar of the exams is different from one Faculty (School) to the other and it is the responsibility of the student to enquire and check.
Academic Information	
Language of Instruction	French, German, English

Language requirements	<p>Student must have sufficient oral and written proficiency in French, German or English. The minimum expected level to succeed at taking notes and writing papers is B1 upon arrival in Fribourg (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). According to the agreement on the exchange of students a proof of level is required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language knowledge confirmation - Evaluation form of the European Language passport. <p>However, students must proof that they have a B2 level in the language of instruction for their visa application.</p>
<p>Pre-Semester - Intensive Language Courses tailored for exchange students The application link is sent to the student when nominated.</p>	<p>Different levels of French, German and English intensive language courses are available before the semester starts. The information is available and to be checked while filling up the online application on INSCRUNI tool.</p> <p>Fall Semester: 26.08 -13.09.2024 (3 weeks = 90 hours / 6 credits). Spring Semester: 03.02 - 14.02.2025 - (2 weeks = 60 hours / 4 credits). For more information follow this link.</p>
<p>During the semester: Language Center at the University First come first served</p>	<p>Language classes of French, German, Italian or English are open to all students. No extra fee for the classes at the Language Center. Test is compulsory and registration is to be done online from two weeks before the beginning of the courses. For more information follow this link.</p>
Credit and Grading System	<p>Students are assessed either by oral or written exams, and/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. For detailed information please follow the link to the credit and grading system on our website.</p>
Credit load per semester	<p>Degree-seeking student would have 30 ECTS per semester for a full-time load. Exchange Students usually take less as the teaching and learning is in another language. This has to be discussed prior to departure with the home coordinator.</p>
Transcript of Records	<p>Transcripts of records are issued to each student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Around end-February for the Fall Semester - Around mid-July for the Spring Semester or the Academic Year <p>If a student writes a paper after the examination period, the issue of the Transcript of records will be therefore delayed.</p>
Course Catalogue	<p>The filters can be used to facilitate searches (semester, language, level etc.) The course catalogue is updated every June. The student sends us:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The <i>Course List</i> with the application and is based on the catalogue of the previous academic year. 2. The <i>Learning Agreement</i> based on the updated course catalogue until July 31st.
Nomination and Application	
Nomination and deadline from IRO of the partner institution (International Office)	<p>By sending an email to international-incoming@unifr.ch with the name and surname of the student, gender, nationality, date of birth, email address, field of study, level of study and study period (Fall Semester - Spring Semester or Academic Year).</p> <p>Deadline for the Fall Semester or Academic Year: March 15. Deadline for the Spring Semester: September 15.</p>
Application procedure and deadline (Student)	<p>An online application link is sent to the student by email. This is a personal link, which can be used only once. The student must register online within a timeframe. The student must upload the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application form, signed by the student and his home coordinator 2. Course List or Learning Agreement (to be found in the online application) 3. Official Transcript of former records 4. List of courses attended at the time of the application

	6. Europass Language Passport (to be found in the online application) 7. Motivation Letter 8. Curriculum Vitae (CV) 9. Checklist (to be found in the online application) 10. Passport (page with personal data) Deadline for the Fall Semester of Academic Year: March 31. Deadline for the Spring Semester: September 30.
Confirmation of placement in Fribourg by the IRO and deadline	The student receives an email with a letter of acceptance as a non-degree seeking student within the bilateral agreement. This document is important for applying for the visa (it can be sent by post only if required). For the Fall Semester of Academic Year: is expected early May. For the Spring Semester: is expected early November.
Visa Application	
Visa application Please apply early as procedure can take up to 3 months	According to the procedure, the student applies for the visa at the Swiss Embassy or Consulate in the home country. This request is forwarded to the Cantonal authority in Fribourg for approval and then sent back to the Embassy or Consulate with the Cantonal authority's decision. For the visa application, the student must submit the following documents : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The letter of confirmation sent by the IRO. 2. A letter in which the student commits himself to leave Switzerland after his/her study period. 3. A course list for his/her study period at our University. 4. A brief résumé with the schools attended and certificates if any, description of the current studies, the languages learned, and if applies internships and/or professional engagements, etc. It also must include the objectives of the study period which is a mobility study period, and that the aim is not to obtain a University degree or University certificate at the end of the mobility study period. The stay is within a degree delivered in the home country. 5. A proof of financial resources: CHF 21'900.- for the whole academic year / CHF 10'950.- for a semester. This must be stated via a bank statement in either a Swiss bank or a bank in the home country that has a representation in Switzerland. Please consult the list of the officially accredited banks by the FINMA (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority). 6. The Chinese citizen must have a TOEFL or an IELTS certificate. ➔ Be aware that the Swiss diplomatic/consular mission may request further documentation or other guarantees. Documents produced with the visa application must be translated in French or German (document in English are not accepted). For more information please visit and+ website
Accommodation	
There are different types of accommodation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APARTIS (partner of the IRO): a limited number of fully furnished rooms with shared bathrooms and communal kitchen are pre-booked for exchange students. 4 to 6 bedrooms per flat. Application form is to be found in the online application. - Student residences: single rooms with a private or shared bathroom and a communal kitchen Individual room with shared bathroom and common kitchen facilities. In some Student Housing (Foyer St Justin) meals are available - a limited number of rooms have their own bathrooms. - Private accommodation: rooms in private house or apartments (Information in French or German) For more information please visit our website .	

Health Insurance

For non-EU and EFTA countries: the coverage has to be for illness, accidents in Switzerland and repatriation to the home country. Enrolment in a health insurance plan in Switzerland is compulsory.

We strongly advise the student to choose the following insurance: www.swisscare.com and www.scorestudies.ch. For more information please visit our [website](#).

Budget per semester

Switzerland's currency is Swiss Francs (CHF). [Here](#) is a link to an estimated budget to be provided per month.

Welcome Guide

A welcome guide is sent to the student in July for the Fall Semester and Academic Year and in January for the Spring Semester. It can also be found on our [website](#).

Additional information can be found on www.studyinswitzerland.plus/why-switzerland/

UNIFR Promotional Movie and Virtual Tour

Promotional Movie: <https://tube.switch.ch/videos/a0e49c0c>

Virtual Tour: www.unifr.ch/uni/en/portrait/virtual-tour.html