The Graduate Center.
It is my pleasure and honour to welcome you to the Graduate Center! One of my most important jobs is ensuring that we deliver what you need as doctoral candidates and postdocs of the University of Basel. In this brochure you will find an overview of some of the services that we offer to help you to achieve success in your present studies and to better prepare you for your future career. I am particularly happy that we are extending a welcome to the postdocs in this great new development at the University.

This is just the first step and I am excited to see how your Graduate Center will develop to satisfy your needs even better in the future.

Ed Constable, Vice President for Research (and former doctoral candidate and postdoc)
Home for talent.

The University of Basel has been educating scholars since 1460. Today it ranks among the world’s top 150 universities and provides state-of-the-art research facilities and inspiring surroundings for more than 2,500 doctoral candidates and approximately 800 postdocs at seven faculties. The Graduate Center is the platform dedicated to your specific needs. It informs you about various services, connects researchers from all disciplines and allows you to further develop your career.

unibas.ch/grace
Research is like cycling: once you have learned how to ride a bike, you will probably reach your destination. However, if you want to arrive safely, you must learn the traffic regulations. If you want to get there first, you need to be fitter than the rest. If you don’t want to ride alone, you need to find fellow cyclists.

The Graduate Center of the University of Basel (GRACE) is your cycling club. GRACE does not give you the latest carbon-fibre miracle – it shows you the best way to ride a bicycle. With a physical location next to

The Graduate Center is the platform, where doctoral candidates and postdocs of the University of Basel can prepare for the next step in their careers. We deliver our own programmes and provide a portal to the broad university support structures.
the Kollegiengebäude at the heart of the historical campus, GRACE can help you onward in your career. We connect doctoral candidates and postdocs with the instruments that will allow them to successfully pursue their careers.

GRACE aims to promote and nurture a graduate culture of excellence, interaction and openness at the University of Basel. We want to offer the best surroundings for graduate and postgraduate candidates and encourage lateral thinking across disciplines and support the incubation of creative ideas.

Building the links
As a portal, GRACE informs of and links graduates to workshops, coachings or sponsoring and funding by other organizations within and outside the University. GRACE develops support initiatives of its own and is the delivery platform for complementary programmes such as antelope, designed specifically for female doctoral candidates and postdocs.

Working on a doctoral thesis or doing research all day long can be lonely. You are not alone. There are more than 2,500 doctoral candidates and 800 postdocs at the University of Basel. They share the same experiences, the same hopes and sorrows, the same successes and failures. GRACE is the place where you can meet and exchange experiences at our workshops or events.

Following a research career is like walking on a razor’s edge. From the first step of finding a doctoral supervisor until you apply for your first professorship, GRACE can help you. You never know if you will get funding for the next project, if your paper will be accepted or if your next application will succeed. At GRACE we offer you workshops and trainings to identify, foster and achieve your goals – be it in academia or not.
Events. Programmes.

The Graduate Center provides professional trainings and programmes for doctoral candidates and postdocs. An overview of the rich range on offer can be found on the following page.
**diss:kurs**
The diss:kurs is all about the doctorate. The event offers inspiring insights into on-going research projects based on 10-minute presentation by doctoral candidates. Speakers need to apply for an exclusive talk and will receive a professional presentation training. The next diss:kurs event will be supported by the TEDxBasel team. TEDxBasel features diverse speakers discussing a wide range of subjects with the aim of connecting people across disciplines and creating conversations that drive action. Since 2017 TEDxBasel is the official partner of GRACE. [unibas.ch/disskurs, tedxbasel.ch](http://unibas.ch/disskurs, tedxbasel.ch)

**antelope for PhD**
This programme includes two subprogrammes for female doctoral candidates. antelope@university gives active support for an academic career by offering exchange with experts as well as training and coaching sessions. antelope@novartis offers enriching opportunities to take an in-depth look at career questions and prospects in business and academia. [unibas.ch/antelope](http://unibas.ch/antelope)

**antelope for postdocs**
This programme includes two subprogrammes for female postdoctoral researchers. antelope professorship accompanies the way to a professorship by offering customized, flexible modules. antelope medical professorship is aimed at highly qualified young female scientists at the interface of clinical work and research who are aiming for a professorship. [unibas.ch/antelope](http://unibas.ch/antelope)

**BOOST**
BOOST programme community engagement? Campus greening? Social entrepreneurship? Doctoral candidates and students can design and submit their own ideas and projects related to sustainability topics at the University of Basel. After submission, the BOOST jury selects the best proposals. Awarded teams receive financial support and coaching in the fields of project management, communication and fundraising. [unibas.ch/boost](http://unibas.ch/boost)

**Global Perspectives Program – HEAR Global**
The three-day programme informs about topics and career trajectories in global higher education and research. Led by advanced scholars, participants learn about teaching, higher learning and country-specific research careers in the US, Switzerland and France. [unibas.ch/gpp](http://unibas.ch/gpp)

**EC-GRACE Innovation Grant**
Organize your own tri-/bination-al event together with one of the European Campus partner universities. Funding is available for teaching-, cultural- and networking activities up to CHF 4,000 per project. [unibas.ch/gpp](http://unibas.ch/gpp)

**Grants for scientific events**
As a doctoral candidate or postdoc you can organize a workshop to present current projects for discussion with supervisors and invited international experts. Costs up to CHF 10,000 per event may be covered. [unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Promoting-Graduates](http://unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Promoting-Graduates)

**roundtable**
Each year, GRACE invites the doctoral programme coordinators at the University of Basel for an exchange on ‘best practices’ and the discussion of pressing issues in doctoral education. [unibas.ch/en/Research/Graduate-Center/About-GRACE/Events.ch](http://unibas.ch/en/Research/Graduate-Center/About-GRACE/Events.ch)

**Transferable Skills**
The course programme is specifically addressed to all doctoral candidates and postdocs of the University of Basel. It supports researchers during their dissertation period and prepares for a professional career inside or outside of academia. [unibas.ch/transferableskills](http://unibas.ch/transferableskills)
Four success stories.

The University of Basel is the ideal starting point for your career in academia. Researchers from across the globe come here because – although the University holds top positions in international rankings – Basel remains a place where students and researchers feel at home and enjoy the personal touch.
«Joining the antelope programme was a game changer for my scientific career and personal life. Before, one of my projects was stuck. But with the programme’s funding I could visit an expert active in my research field. This meeting helped me to resolve the issue and lead to a successful publication of the results. During the programme I also found my track for the future: At home in Slovakia I run a popular website with exercises and explanations in maths, physics and chemistry. I also write popular science articles for newspapers and SciFive and Instagram about my life as a scientist. So when I finish my PhD this year, I want to make science communication my profession and work as a science journalist.»

Martina Hestericova
PhD since 2013, Doctoral Candidate, University of Basel, Department of Chemistry, research group led by Professor Thomas Ward
«The antelope medical professorship programme supported me in many aspects strengthening my passion for research. I gained invaluable input for my professional development and career, and also information about fundraising. In addition, the programme supported me with a small funding that I used for getting German lessons, improving this way my work efficiently at the University Hospital. Most importantly, I developed friendships with other female researchers who now share with me their experiences and network.»

Dr. Melpomeni Fani
Postdoc 2006–2009, Head of Quality Control in Radiopharmacy 2012–2015, Interim Head of Research and Development for the Division of Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry at the University Hospital of Basel. Previously funded by the Forschungsfonds.

«During the Basel Graduate School of History I have visited colloquiums and conferences, where I exchanged with other PhDs. Here I have learned to make my point, to deal with complex problems and to work with a lot of information and sources. After my graduation, sponsored by the foundation Wissenschaftliche Politikstipendien, I was working at the Swiss parliament in Berne, and linked science with politics.»

Dr. An Lac Truong Dinh
PhD 2011–2015, Project Manager, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI; Co-Director, Fairmedia
«When I was writing my master thesis already I realized, that research today crosses the boarders between faculties and disciplines. However, exchange platforms were scarce. So when I heard about Science Slam, I joined the club and helped organizing this science communication event. It’s on these occasions, where people meet from all over the university, exchange experiences and develop new ideas.»

Dr. Adrian Najer
Seven good reasons to choose us.

Networks, professional partners and local services make the Graduate Center an excellent platform for young research talent.
Internationalization at home.

The European Campus includes five universities in Switzerland, France and Germany. Students and staff benefit from freedom of mobility, joint courses, language and intercultural skills and transnational degrees as well as PhD programmes. The benefits for researchers include profiting from the transfer of innovation and knowledge, joint applications for grants and joint PhD programmes. unibas.ch/eucor

One of the world’s best universities.

Thanks to outstanding teaching, an international focus, top research with a major presence in the most important academic publications and a broad financial basis, the University of Basel is one of the world’s best institutions. Each year, key university rankings place Basel among the top 150, and it is considered one of the top 10 institutions in the German-speaking region.

Focal areas in research.

The Nobel Prize has twice been awarded to members of the University of Basel. The University provides an excellent research environment and infrastructure which both ensures prestigious publications and nurtures future Nobel Prize winners! The university has a number of priority research areas. In addition to consistently expanding the life sciences and the related focal area of nanosciences, the area of visual studies is well established within the humanities. Elaborating on these successful priorities, the University has also identified the area of sustainability and energy research while strengthening its international research vision with the focal area of European and global studies. unibas.ch/en/Research/Research-in-Basel/Focal-Areas
Supervision.

In doctoral education, supervision plays a crucial role. Promoting and supporting the development of a common supervision culture shared by supervisors and doctoral candidates is a major goal of the Graduate Center. A doctoral agreement template is available online to summarize, monitor and define the project, training needs and annual meetings.

unibas.ch/en/Research/Graduate-Center/Doctoral-Supervisor

Equal opportunities.

The University of Basel is an organization that promotes the diverse potential of its employees regardless of age, religion, gender, cultural heritage, sexual orientation or disability. The aim is to increase the percentage of women at higher skill levels and to build a university that is completely free from discrimination and family friendly. To achieve this goal, various programmes are offered for PhDs and postdocs like antelope, get on track, stay on track and family service.

unibas.ch/chancengleichheit

Excellent doctoral education.

The University of Basel offers a variety of doctoral programmes, half of which are structured and mostly rooted in a department or single discipline while also being largely interdisciplinary in orientation. The other half of the programmes consists of interuniversity activities (like a joint summer school, for ex.), often focused on a topical theme from a more disciplinary perspective. Joining a doctoral programme fosters intensive exchange and collaboration with peers, senior researchers and experts from inside and outside academia. Your research will be embedded in cutting-edge debates in your field and you will receive top training for top positions world-wide.

unibas.ch/en/Research/Graduate-Center/Doctoral-Programs

University Services at the Library.

The University Library Basel houses about 8 million documents, including journals as well as manuscripts of rare cultural value. It offers research and teaching support for BA, MA and doctoral candidates, postdocs and research units regarding information literacy, publishing, open science, research data management, copyright, scientometrics and working infrastructures for digital humanities. ub.unibas.ch
Living and working in Basel.

Located at the border of Switzerland, Germany and France, Basel offers an excellent research environment for young research talents. With great living, working and leisure opportunities, Basel is the perfect city in which to perform research and teaching.
Welcome Day.

Every year in September, the University invites the new staff members to the Welcome Day. Different service providers of the University present their support, you can get more information about the different services such as the University Library, the IT Services, Language Center or the University Sports. The Welcome Day is also a great opportunity to meet other staff member and to discover the city of Basel by one of the guided tours.
unibas.ch/welcomeday

Living history.

Situated at the border of three countries, catalyzed by its medieval bridge crossing the river Rhine, Basel has a long history of trade that continues to influence the community today. The wealth that was created in the past is visible in numerous beautiful historical buildings which, together with their modern counterparts, characterize the unique urban atmosphere of the historic city. Being the home of two multinational pharmaceutical companies, Basel is a hotspot for life sciences research and innovation. The international flair is cherished by the resident community that also values and fosters special traditions, like the world-famous carnival.
bs.ch/en/Portrait
The University of Basel currently charges tuition fees of CHF 350 for doctoral candidates per semester. The following table provides a guide to the monthly cost of living in Switzerland.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Minimum CHF</th>
<th>Average CHF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent (room, shared apartment, student accommodation)</td>
<td>400.–</td>
<td>600.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, household, clothing</td>
<td>450.–</td>
<td>600.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance, medical care</td>
<td>200.–</td>
<td>300.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>60.–</td>
<td>90.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study materials</td>
<td>100.–</td>
<td>150.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure, culture</td>
<td>150.–</td>
<td>220.–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,360.–</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,960.–</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Culture.**

Basel is a city of museums. Its 40 exhibition spaces include world-famous sites such as the Kunstmuseum Basel, Fondation Beyeler and the Vitra Design Museum. Theater Basel and numerous cabarets help make the city a cultural mecca.

[museenbasel.ch](http://museenbasel.ch), [theater-basel.ch](http://theater-basel.ch), [museumspass.com](http://museumspass.com)

**Sport.**

CrossFit, streetdance, freeride tours or a relaxing tuina massage: The Unisport programme includes more than one hundred varieties of sport, movement, and body awareness. In addition to weekly training sessions, Unisport also offers camps, weekends, workshops, advice and tournaments. Most offerings are free of charge, but some require registration. Find out what’s what: [unisport.ch](http://unisport.ch)

**Unimarkt.**

You are looking for an apartment? You need furnitures? You are looking for a part-time job or you have something to sell? Visit the online Unimarkt!

[markt.unibas.ch](http://markt.unibas.ch)
Selected University Services.

**Academic Talent Promotion**

Promoting academic talent is top priority at the University of Basel. We provide a professional environment for doctoral candidates, postdocs und assistants. The university has the possibility for outstanding early career candidates to apply for competitive positions at the assistant professor level. To further support our early career researchers, the University of Basel complements national and international programmes with own funding instruments.

**Advisory Service**

We invite you to meet us for a personal conversation on planning, realizing and funding the next steps of your career. You will find us, together with many useful hints, at [unibas.ch/nachwuchs](http://unibas.ch/nachwuchs).

**Research Fund for Junior Researchers**

Doctoral candidates in the humanities and social sciences are eligible for financial support to finish their dissertation (final 12 months). Postdocs from all areas of research requiring either starting or bridging funding for an independent high-quality research project are encouraged to apply. [unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Research-Fund](http://unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Research-Fund)

**Travel fund**

As a doctoral candidate or postdoc at the University of Basel you can be reimbursed between 50 and 90% of the conference cost incurred. You are supported when presenting a conference paper or poster at a national or international congress. [unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Travel-Fund](http://unibas.ch/en/Research/Financing/Travel-Fund)

**doc.CH**

is aimed at young researchers who plan a doctorate on a topic of their own choice in the humanities and social sciences in Switzerland. The requirement is a degree (master or equivalent) from a Swiss institution of higher education with excellent marks. Holders of a foreign degree may submit an application if they have Swiss nationality. [snf.ch](http://snf.ch)

**SNSF Mobility Fellowships**

Doctoral candidates and young postdocs at the University of Basel wishing to enhance their scientific profile by working at a research institution abroad are eligible. Fellowships are awarded for 6 to 18 months. [snf.ch](http://snf.ch)

**Advanced Studies**

We cooperate with all seven faculties to provide academic continuing education programmes for professional individuals seeking to deepen their professional skills or expand their knowledge beyond their own subject area. [advancedstudies.ch](http://advancedstudies.ch)

**AlumniBasel**

We promote alumni culture within and beyond the university and provide networking opportunities for former university members. [alumnibasel.ch](http://alumnibasel.ch)

**avuba**

avuba is the assistants’ association of the University of Basel and represents the academic, professional and education policy interests for teaching and research assistants. [avuba.unibas.ch](http://avuba.unibas.ch)

**Career Service Center (CSC)**

We provide graduates with career advice, we organize workshops and other events designed to facilitate the transition into employment. [unibas.ch/csc](http://unibas.ch/csc)
Coaching and Counselling
Various departments offer individual meetings for questions regarding workplace, qualification, financing and other issues.
unibas.ch/en/Staff/Advice-Conflicts

Educational Technologies
Bringing educational innovation into the university, designing modern learning environments and helping to keep eyes and minds open to new developments – that’s our mission.
unibas.ch/en/University/Administration-Services/Vice-President-for-Teaching-and-Development/Educational-Technologies

EURESEARCH Regional Office Basel
We provide all relevant information on the European Union’s Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.
unibas.ch/euresearch

Hochschuldidaktik
Professionalisierung Hochschullehre: Die Hochschuldidaktik unterstützt die Lehrenden der Universität Basel in der Ausbildung und Weiterentwicklung von Lehrkompetenz.
unibas.ch/de/Universitaet/Administration-Services/Vize-Rektorat-Lehre-Entwicklung/Hochschuldidaktik

IT Services
We provide IT support and counselling for teaching and research of all members of the University. its.unibas.ch

Language Center
We enhance communicative competences for academic, professional and everyday use in a range of languages.
sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch

Student Administration Office
We provide information about the application and admission process. Doctoral students must enrol at the earliest possible date and remain enrolled throughout their doctoral studies.
unibas.ch/studium

Training and Development
Find a broad offer of trainings, workshops and coaching programmes for University staff members.
unibas.ch/en/Staff/Training-and-Development-for-Staff

Unitectra
supports scientists in the commercialization of their research results and in contractual matters for research collaborations.
unitectra.ch

Impressum
Publisher: University of Basel, Graduate Center, Petersgraben 35, P.O. 2148, 4001 Basel, Switzerland; Editor: Sina Henrichs; Design: New Identity Ltd., Basel; Images: Thomas Angus, Basel Tourismus, Basile Bornand, Christian Fließ, Florian Moritz, University Library Basel; Printing: Kreis Druck AG, Basel; Print run: 200; Published in March 2017.
Educating Talents
since 1460.

Graduate Center
University of Basel
Petersgraben 35
4002 Basel
Switzerland

www.unibas.ch/grace