Dear Students,

Congratulations on choosing to study at the University of Basel. With this Uni Guide, we want to welcome you to the city and show that you have made the right decision.

This brochure will make it easier to get started, allowing you to concentrate on your studies with peace of mind. The initial study period presents many questions: How do I get to grips with everyday student life? Where can I find an apartment? How much money do I need for my studies and where can I find a part-time job? As the best tips and tricks come from your fellow students, they will answer these questions themselves. Experienced students also know where the best places are to meet up after class to make the most of life outside the lecture hall – and Basel has plenty to offer!

I hope you enjoy our tips and I wish you every success during your time at our university.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Andrea Schenker-Wicki
President of the University of Basel
When you start your studies, there will be a whole pile of changes and you may find yourself feeling a little lost. To make sure this doesn’t last too long, we have put together some tips. However, the most important thing is initiative! Talking with your fellow students and asking your lecturers and student committees will make things much easier.
Tips for new students

“Errare humanum est’, to err is human – even the ancient philosophers knew that. And if things don’t always run smoothly to begin with, that’s completely normal. The main thing is to stick with it. Didn’t do as well in your very first exam as you expected? Don’t worry. With a good schedule, mutual support and patience, you’ll soon get used to student life.”

Jaimy Vallapurackal
Law

“Don’t just focus on earning credit points in your subject during your studies – make the most of the extensive academic program to attend extra-curricular courses that interest you as well. This will give you a good insight into other fields and help you learn new things that could come in useful in your own studies. And don’t be afraid to speak to the lecturers if you have questions – that way you can be sure you’ve understood everything.”

Christopher Kolloff
Biology
Study

Dates

Teaching period

Fall semester 2021
September 20, 2021 to December 24, 2021

Spring semester 2022
February 21, 2022 to June 3, 2022

Fall semester 2022
September 19, 2022 to December 23, 2022

“Start Smart” Week: Start of program 2021

The university management is pleased to invite all new bachelor students at the University of Basel to a celebration of the start of the semester on the morning of Monday, 20 September, and to welcome them officially to the start of their programs. To ensure a smooth start, the “Start Smart” week offers a wide range of introductory events for new students. From Monday to Thursday, activities such as a crash course, presentations and guided tours – for example, of the university library and even a bar tour through the city – are available to help you get an overview.

On Monday evening, a crash course provides an opportunity to learn about the many services offered by the university – from university sports to the Language Center, to career services and mobility programs – the various student organizations and Basel’s cultural institutions.

unibas.ch/start-smart

Teaching-free period

Dies academicus
November 26, 2021

Heiliger Abend
December 24, 2021

Basler Fasnacht
March 07–11, 2022

Easter
April 14–18, 2022

Feast of Ascension
May 26–27, 2022

Course registration

Fall semester 2021
August 1 to Oktober 18, 2021

Spring semester 2022
January 1 to March 21, 2022
From Basel to the world

Swiss European Mobility Program

The Swiss government’s SEMP program awards mobility and exchange scholarships. The scholarships allow students to participate in one or two exchange semesters or an internship at a partner university. To register, the student must have completed two completed semesters of study. The Student Exchange team at the University of Basel’s International Office can help interested students organize their stay abroad.

unibas.ch/mobility

Eucor

Eucor – The European Campus is a cross-border alliance of the Universities of Basel, Freiburg, Strasbourg and Haute-Alsace and the Karlsruhe Institute for Technology. The aim of the alliance is to promote collaboration between universities in the Upper Rhine region and to harness synergies. As members of the Eucor alliance, students have the opportunity to attend courses at the partner universities and to use their libraries and other facilities. Travel expenses are reimbursed each semester up to a fixed sum.

unibas.ch/eucor
eucor-uni.org

Global Study

The University of Basel is a member of several networks that enable bachelor’s students to spend a semester or year studying in Australia, the United States or Brasil. The University of Basel has also concluded bilateral agreements with various universities around the world that permit students to spend a semester or year abroad. The Student Exchange can help you organize this.
Student checklist

In the first week of the semester, you should:

- Visit an introductory event
- Read your study guidelines
- Draw up a schedule
- Activate your student accounts
- Attend a tour of the University Library
- Activate your UNIcard
- Read the Beast-Blog at beast.unibas.ch
- Follow the university of Basel on instagram: instagram.com/unibasel

New to Switzerland?

Moving abroad to study is a huge step. These tips will help you feel at home in Basel:

- Look for an apartment markt.unibas.ch and wove.ch
- Register with the migration department (Migrationsbehörde)
- Check out the German language classes at the Language Center sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch
- Meet new people through University Sports unisport.ch
- Get a “colourkey” and discover Basel’s leisure activities colourkey.ch
- Explore Switzerland with “seven25” sbb.ch
Group study rooms

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<th>group workspaces</th>
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My Online Account (MOnA)

The University of Basel offers its students online self-service under the name “MOnA.” You can log on via services.unibas.ch using your Unibas email address and the corresponding password. You can find this information on the personal data sheet posted to you by the IT Services after matriculation. Among other things, MOnA covers the following online services:

**Registration**
Towards the end of the preceding semester, students and doctoral students already matriculated at the University of Basel (not newly registered students) receive an email at their Unibas address reminding them to register for the next semester. Registration takes place solely via the MOnA Web application.

**Course registration**
Course registration takes place online. The registration period begins on January 1 or August 1 and ends after the fourth week of lectures. Registering for courses is extremely important because if you do not register for your courses at the start of the semester, you will not receive any credit points for them.

**Access to academic achievement account**
To obtain an overview, you can use MOnA to access your account containing your academic achievements (courses completed successfully/unsuccessfully including grades, credit points and further details). You can also download an up-to-date overview of your achievements in PDF format at any time and see the current status of your studies.

**Change of address**
You can change your address and that of your parents/guardians and emergency contact online at any time.

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ADAM

The ADAM distribution platform is a web-based tool to provide access to files and internet links, for example to make lecture notes available or submit seminar papers. Documents can either be publicly accessible or restricted to specific people.

adam.unibas.ch

Eduroam

Eduroam (education roaming) is a global network that enables people at higher education institutions to access the internet from their current campus. This means that next time you visit another university, you will be able to use their campus network without any problems. Simply connect to the eduroam WLAN and follow the instructions.

mobile.unibas.ch

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Study
Software for students

The IT Services provide the Asknet software portal for downloading software. To log in, you will require your email address and password. As part of campus contracts, the University is able to offer software at a reduced price or free of charge. All available offers are listed in the Web shop. You can also use the portal to order software not covered by the campus contracts.

asknet.unibas.ch

Hardware for students

The Neptune Project is a real favorite among students. During two sales windows each year, certain laptops can be ordered online at a reduced price. To find out when the next promotion is due to start, go to

projektneptun.ch

If your laptop decides to go on strike right in the middle of a paper or project, or you desperately need a projector for your next presentation, you can borrow a device from the URZ. These devices are solely intended to help out in the event of shortages or breakdowns and are only to be used for teaching and research. They can be borrowed for a maximum of 30 days.

its.unibas.ch
ABC of studying

B  Buddy Support
Questions about your study program, lectures or seminars? Want to know how to find a cheap apartment in Basel, where to go out or where to get good coffee? The University of Basel Student Union (skuba) and the specialist groups offer you the opportunity of support from a “buddy” while getting to know the university.
unibas.ch/buddy

C  Credit points
Credit points must be earned throughout your period of study. Generally, one point equates to around 30 hours of study. This system allows your university achievements to be calculated and compared with other universities around the world. But you won’t receive these valuable points until you’ve passed the course assessment (exam, essay, presentation, etc).

D  Datenabschrift
A transcript of records is an official document without a signature used by the President’s Office to certify credit points acquired at the University of Basel each semester. Transcripts of records should be retained, as together they form a complete record. They may be required for scholarship applications or for transferring credit points to another university.
www.unibas.ch/Datenabschrift

E  Events
Presentations, panel discussions, Q&A sessions – a great many events take place at the University of Basel, as various as the university itself. An overview of all events can be found in the Public Events Calendar.
unibas.ch/veranstaltungen

F  Faculty groups
Faculty groups (FGs) bring together all students from a particular discipline and thus form the basis for the student representative body, skuba, which represents your interests at department level, organizes events and looks after first-semester students. If you have any questions, they can give you first-hand tips.
skuba.ch/fg-liste
Hiwi (Student assistant)
Academic departments are always busy places. Student assistants – or “Hiwis” for short – retrieve books from the library, scan, copy mountains of documents, and also get to take a peek behind the academic scenes. Working as a “Hiwi” is a good part-time job and allows you to make contact with key people in your department.

IT Services
IT Services are responsible for your email address and VPN access to the university network (among other things). You can also download software here and borrow projectors. The Neptune Project, which allows you to purchase laptops at a discounted price, is also very popular with students.

its.unibas.ch

The University of Basel is committed to a respectful and appreciative culture in which the personal integrity of all employees and students is valued and protected. It takes preventive measures to ensure this. In cases of discrimination, bullying, abuse of power or sexual harassment, the coordination office for personal integrity offers personal, confidential support. Do not hesitate to get in touch – I’m here for you!

Melanie Nussbaumer
Personal Integrity Coordinator
University of Basel
The University of Basel Student Union (skuba) is available to all students at the University of Basel – that means you too. We represent your interests in dealing with university management and politics, and are committed to a right to a say and other student concerns. We also offer various opportunities to get to know people, and we run the Lernoullianum, where you will find comfortable spaces for study and relaxation. All students are free to get involved and help shape skuba.

Jannis Wieczorek
Board member of skuba

**Numerus clausus**
If there are more students than places on a course, then a numerus clausus (NC) is applied. At the University of Basel, a NC is used only for programs at the Faculty of Medicine. Unlike at other universities, applicants are not screened according to their grade in their school leaving examination. Instead, they must take a standardized aptitude test or an entrance examination.

**Ombudsman’s Office**
The Ombudsman’s Office is open to all students wishing to submit a complaint relating to university matters, provided that these do not fall within the remit of another unit. If conflicts arise during your studies that must be treated as confidential, you can contact the Ombudsman’s Office.

**Psychological support**
Anyone can find themselves facing psychological problems. If it happens to you, please do not hesitate to seek help. The Student Advice Center is the first point of contact for students.

unibas.ch/psychological-counseling

**Registration**
You’ve passed your first semester and that longed-for break has begun. Despite your holiday mood, it’s very important that you don’t forget to register for the coming semester using MOnA. You will receive a reminder email from the university stating the period in which to register.

unibas.ch/ombudsman-s-office
UNI NOVA is the University of Basel’s academic magazine. As well as a focus on a particular area, UNI NOVA reports on current research at the University of Basel and features profiles, opinion columns and tips for books and public events. The magazine is published twice a year and subscription is free. Copies of the magazine to take away can be found in various racks in the main building.

www.unibas.ch/uninova

Seminars and proseminars
Seminars and proseminars are generally aligned with lecture topics. These interactive classes offer an opportunity to work on specific topics based on participants’ contributions in shared discussion. A proseminar provides an introduction to a subject area, with methods presented and practiced and an overview communicated. In a seminar, an individual topic is treated in more depth in joint academic work. The students undertake reports, group work and presentations.

Tutorials
Tutorials are classes in which the content of a lecture or seminar is explained and repeated in greater depth. The tutors are normally older students who can give you practical tips and advice.

UNIcard
You will receive your UNIcard by post after your matriculation. You will have to reactivate it every semester once you’ve paid your tuition fees. You can use your UNIcard to borrow books from the University Library and pay for food in the canteens. And beyond the campus, UNIcard serves as your student ID.

www.unibas.ch/unicard

University course directory
This lists all courses taking place in a department in the current semester, and not only states the time and location of a course, but also describes its content in detail. You can use the online timetable to create a list of your courses and transfer this to MOnA during the registration period.

www.unibas.ch/coursedirectory

Zschokke-Haus
The Zschokke-Haus is a group accommodation facility at Gerschnialp, an area at the foot of the Titlis, in the heart of the skiing and hiking resort of Engelberg. It is available primarily to the University of Basel, and on request the house can be rented to a maximum of 42 people for student projects.

www.zschokkehaus.ch
Accommodation

Move out or stay at home? Commute or move to the city? And if so, where? Students choose their living arrangements for a wide variety of reasons. As in many cities, Basel’s housing market is tight, so make sure to plan ahead of time for your search!
Sharing an apartment

“Originally the plan was that I would rent an apartment and find someone to share it with. While I was still looking for a roommate, my brother wanted to use the room for two months as a stop-gap. Now he’s decided to stay a bit longer in Basel, so I live with my brother in our shared apartment. As I’m really a family person, I am very happy about it.”

Viktoria Stauffenegger
Blogger at beast.unibas.ch
Economics and media studies

“I live in an old WoVe apartment in Basel with seven very different people. The wooden floor creaks and it gets cold in winter – but it was love at first sight. Once a week we eat together and catch up. There’s no place for boredom in our flat, so we always try to be as spontaneous and flexible as possible. Now I can’t imagine what life would be like without my seven dwarfs.”

Josefin Kaufmann
Blogger at beast.unibas.ch
Medicine
Accommodation

At home in Basel

The Rhine divides Basel into two parts, Kleinbasel in the north and Grossbasel in the south. The city has 19 residential districts, each with its own special character. The Canton of Basel-Stadt also includes the municipalities of Riehen and Bettingen. Basel is an extremely popular place to live. But despite the tight housing market, it is possible for students to find attractive accommodation.

Gundeli

The Gundeli district is located between the platforms of the SBB train station and Margarethenpark in the south of the city. Although slightly further from the center and the Rhine, advantages for students include lower rents and a direct connection to the SBB station. The district has developed greatly in the last few years and is now known as the “city within the city.” Its good location, many shops and cafés and cultural diversity make Gundeli a lively and attractive place for students.

Grossbasel

Grossbasel encompasses the whole of Basel on the left of the Rhine and, with the old town, also includes the city’s historic center. Grossbasel’s direct proximity to many university buildings and its location in the center of the city are beneficial for students.
**Breite**

The Breite district lies on the Grossbasel side in the east of the city. Part of the district sits directly on the banks of the Rhine and is particularly famous among students for the “Birsköpfli”, the park in which the Birs flows into the Rhine. In the summer, this is a great place to lie on a towel and relax in the sun, taking an occasional refreshing dip in the Rhine.

**Kleinbasel**

Kleinbasel is the area to the right of the Rhine. It is a very popular residential area among students, with lower rents than Grossbasel and a very active nightlife. The district’s greatest attraction, however, is the Rhine riverfront, where Basel’s residents spend much of their free time in the summer. Numerous “buvettes” (refreshment stands) between the different bridges and Dreiländereck (border triangle) invite you to while away the time.

**Wettstein**

The Wettstein district can be found in Kleinbasel on the banks of the Rhine. It houses the premises of the pharmaceutical group Hoffmann-La Roche and gained a new trademark with the Roche Tower, Switzerland’s tallest building, a few years ago. The Wettsteinplatz transport hub provides very good connections to numerous tram and bus routes and to the SBB and Badischer Bahnhof train stations.
WoVe

Looking for accommodation can be a real challenge for students. Luckily, you have the Association for Student Accommodation – or WoVe – on your side. Since 1970, this non-profit organization has been promoting the letting and placement of fair-priced accommodation for young people.

wove.ch

Why should you register with WoVe?
It’s easy to find a room through WoVe. Depending on size, comfort level and amenities, rents run between CHF 350 and 790.

How do I go about finding accommodation through WoVe?
You can register for furnished or unfurnished rooms on the WoVe website, by email or in person. If you decide on an unfurnished room, you can contact households with free rooms directly to arrange an inspection and get to know the other residents. If it all works out, WoVe will draw up the rental agreement. If you would prefer a furnished room, you can choose from a list and draw up a rental agreement with the WoVe team. Everyone is free to come and get advice during our office hours. You can find our opening hours and further information on our website.
What kind of accommodation can WoVe arrange?
WoVe can offer lodgings through the “Wohnstiftung für Studierende” (student accommodation foundation) at very reasonable rates. It can also arrange interim use of properties as student lodgings – an ideal solution that is always very reasonably priced. Then there are the special types of residence such as the student house in the Rennbahnklinik in Muttenz.

House for students
In summer 2019, WoVe opened the new student residence in the Erlenmatt quarter, providing highly popular rooms in shared apartments. Grouped around a courtyard, the 16 apartments are accessed via an open stairway and exterior corridors. Each apartment provides accommodation for four to seven individuals. If you’re interested in a room in this new student residence, write to: info@wove.ch.
Work

For many students, earning money alongside their studies is a financial necessity. Others simply want to gain practical experience and enhance their CVs. Be it an internship, student job or student assistant position, combining work and studies is always a challenge.
Gaining work experience

“Alongside my studies, I work at Veranda Pellicanò at Birsköpfli during the summer months. This summer, I took on the role of head bartender alongside a colleague for the first time. Not only does the work give me an important supplementary income, but the relaxed atmosphere offers a great change to the intellectual strains of student life.”

Marco Güntert
Geography and Political Science

“As well as my studies, I work as a student trainee with 50%-workload at an insurance company. I see the possibility of applying what I learn in practice as an excellent opportunity to deepen my interests and expand my options for starting my career when I finish studying. Admittedly, the double burden is a lot, but with good organization and perseverance it’s doable. It enables me to gain valuable professional experience during my studies.”

Kevin Pfluger
Studies economics and works as a student trainee assistant in IT-management at Baloise Switzerland.
Internships

Participating in internships during semester vacations can help launch your career. They allow you to apply what you have learned in real life situations. You won’t make a fortune, but you will be investing in your future.
markt.unibas.ch
kulturmanagement.unibas.ch

Let’s work abroad!

The international student network AIESEC organizes internships in companies and schools. With its global volunteering program, AIESEC also offers young people the chance to spend several weeks abroad working for a social project or organization, helping them broaden their horizons on a personal and professional level, put the knowledge from their studies into practice, and build up an international network.
aiesec.ch

Student jobs

Delivering food and packages as a bicycle courier, taking on night shifts in private care facilities or working as a student assistant in teaching and research: Students in Basel have plenty of options to work alongside their studies. Many need to work to remain financially independent, while others want to gain practical experience during semester vacations. Whether and how much you can work differs from person to person and greatly depends on the phase of your studies, which may allow you to take on larger or smaller responsibilities. However, employers are generally quite understanding about fluctuating workloads and student budgets tend to be fairly flexible too. Nevertheless, combining work and studies remains a challenge. You can find good jobs at:
markt.unibas.ch, ronorp.net/basel/jobs
Work

Student trainees

Some of Basel's largest companies (such as the Baloise Group) employ student trainees. In contrast to many other student jobs, these positions relate to what you are studying and the workload can usually be adapted to fit in with exams and semester vacations. Employers often support bachelor's and master's theses too. The best thing to do is consult the company's website directly.

Sirop

Researchers from all over the world use this online portal to publicize their internships, projects and vacant doctoral and postdoctoral positions. Students and graduates can perform targeted searches for interesting academic projects and submit applications online. The platform bridges the gap between academics looking for qualified workers and students wishing to take part in interesting research projects.

sirop.org

Career Service Center

So you've finished university – what next? The Career Service Center (CSC) will help you get your career off the ground. The CSC offers personalized careers advice, workshops, events and information to make it easier for our students to launch, plan and steer their professional lives. Good application documents and a professional interview are crucial to starting your career successfully. A detailed and intensive check-up will put your application portfolio under the microscope. If necessary, they can also help you to reflect on your situation and outline your prospects. To arrange an appointment, simply email csc@unibas.ch.

The CSC organizes a series of interesting career events under the label "meet&connect." At workshops and panel discussions students can meet directly with future employers. And every two years, the long night of the career takes place in November. The event features everything from interview training to style coaching.

unibas.ch/csc
While it is crucial to get a handle on your studies, what happens outside the lecture hall is just as important. And this is what makes Basel the perfect choice: Not only is it a great place to study, it’s also a great place to live.
Away from the lecture hall

“Alongside my studies, I also lead the choir at the Faculty of Theology. It’s important for me to get away from university life sometimes. Singing helps you forget about stress, a looming exam or your next deadline – you can just live in the moment and have fun with other people. Making music stimulates the brain and unleashes your creativity. So, if I could give one piece of advice to all students, it would be: sing! Not only in a choir but also in the shower, on your bike or while cooking dinner. People often say: ‘But I can’t sing!’ That’s not true. Everyone can sing – you just have to build up confidence in your voice and get to know it.”

Marius Imholz
Musicology and Political Science

“In Switzerland, we have the privilege of having access to educational institutions, which is not a given. Together with the Open Auditorium, I am committed to ensuring that refugees have equal educational opportunities. We provide them with a first insight into everyday university life and try to support them with all means possible to continue their education in Switzerland.”

Aylin Laubscher
Law
Life

Traffic

Most University of Basel sites are located close together in the city center. Short distances are best covered using the well-established public transport network. The U-Abo season ticket allows you to travel cheaply as far as Fricktal or into Germany. Or even better – cycle. Low-cost bikes can be found on the University of Basel marketplace or at the Velomärt.

tnw.ch
velomaert-basel.ch

University Sports

Effortless pirouettes at the barre, long drives on the golf course, sweaty push-ups in Crossfit or a quick Eskimo roll in a kayak: University Sports offers you a program of over 100 sports and body awareness activities. In addition to weekly training sessions from Monday to Saturday, University Sports organizes camps, weekend events, workshops, tournaments, and offers consultations. In addition to our program of activities to attend in person, we have online courses for training at home. Whether you’re a beginner, an all-rounder or a top athlete, we have the right course for you.

If you prefer to train alone, you can take advantage of the modern 1,400-square-meter fitness center, which offers very reasonable prices for members. The center is run by a committed and professional team who will help you with your training.

Most training courses are free and those with costs are advertised at fair prices. Qualified course instructors and modern facilities in a central location make university sports particularly popular. All students at the University of Basel with a valid student ID are entitled to participate. Please note: always bring your ID with you, as there are regular checks at the entrance. Courses quickly become fully booked. Current info on registration and the whole range on offer can be found on our website.

unisport.ch
instagram.com/unisportbasel

Mobility

Carsharing

When bulk buying for you and your flatmates or moving house, a set of wheels can prove really useful. Students at the University of Basel can join Mobility at a special rate.

mobility.ch/campus
Social Media

#unibasel

The University of Basel has a varied presence on social media. Six different channels and one blog provide insights into university life, the latest research findings and events. Take a look and tag us in your posts using the hashtag #unibasel.

instagram.com/unibasel
facebook.com/unibasel
twitter.com/unibasel
twitter.com/unibasel_en
youtube.com/unibasel
linkedin.com/school/unibasel

Beast-Blog

On Beast, the University of Basel’s German-language blog, students report on their life in Basel. They write about their experiences of studying, offer insider tips about Basel, and conduct interviews on careers after finishing university.

beast.unibas.ch

#👋unibasel

On the University of Basel’s Instagram account, you’ll find the portrait series #👋unibasel. Students talk about their experiences in and around their studies, and offer insights into their various areas of interest and activity.
Student organizations

AIESEC
AIESEC is the world’s largest international student organization. Its members take an interest in global problems, leadership, and management.

aiesec.ch

Akademische Turnerschaft Alemannia zu Basel
Akademische Turnerschaft Alemannia is a dueling (fencing) society that accepts students from the University of Basel and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland FHNW.

alemannia-basel.ch

Akademische Verbindung Froburger Basel
Orange, white and green – Froburgers show their colors when studying, working, and at leisure. Students at the University of Basel can share their once-in-a-lifetime university experience with us, making friends across faculties and generations in the process.

avfroburger.ch

Akademischer Alpenclub Basel
The Akademischer Alpenclub Basel is a group of adventurous mountaineers who enjoy planning and leading their own routes. The club has more than 100 members, of whom most – but not all – are students and doctoral researchers at the University of Basel.

aacbasel.ch

AKV Rauracia
AKV Raurica is Switzerland’s largest academic association. Its members come from all disciplines. This student society promotes lifelong friendship, scholarship, and social polish. It has a history stretching back 150 years.

rauracia.ch

Alevitische Studierendenverbindung Universität Basel
The Alevitische Studierendenverbindung Universität Basel, ASUB for short, is committed to a secular, contemporary, humanistic, solidary, environmentally friendly and democratic society against the background of Alevi values. An academic examination of Alevism is at the centre of ASUB’s activities.

as-ub.ch

Amnesty Students Basel
Do you want to campaign for human rights? Are you interested in working for an international NGO? Amnesty Students Basel helps to keep human rights issues in the public eye.

instagram.com/amnestyunibas

Association des Francophones des Étudiants de Bâle
The Association des Francophones des Étudiants de Bâle (AFEB) aims to bring together all the French-speaking students at the university in order to establish a link between students from different faculties and to facilitate their integration.

instagram.com/afebunibas
Do you want to make an active contribution to the integration of foreign children and young people? Do you enjoy explaining things and helping people to learn? Are you motivated, committed and reliable? Can you imagine yourself providing remedial education to children and young people? Then you’re in the right place.

beraber.ch

CAMPUS live
CAMPUS live is a student society at the University of Basel. They use various events such as lectures and seminars to provide inspiration for study and life in general and tackle current topics. They also provide a forum for considering the Christian faith and what it stands for.

campuslive.ch/standort/bs

AG Nachhaltigkeit
AG Nachhaltigkeit is the contact point for all those connected to the university, in particular students, who want to implement projects relating to sustainability at the University of Basel.

instagram.com/ag_nachhaltigkeit_unibas

Choir and orchestra at the University of Basel
They give you the opportunity to make music with other students, members of the University, and anyone else who wants to come along. It's also an opportunity to strike a balance between mind, body, and soul and to meet students from other faculties.

coub.unibas.ch

Christian University Association (VBG Basel)
VBG Basel is the meeting point for students from all subject areas at the University of Basel and the region's universities of applied sciences. They believe that the Christian faith encompasses and shapes all areas of life. They therefore encourage each other to express their Christianity in their everyday student lives.

basel.vbg.net

ELSA
The European Law Students’ Association – ELSA for short – is a politically neutral, independent, and non-profit association for law students and young legal professionals.

instagram.com/elsa_basel
**English Seminar Choir**
The English Seminar Choir was founded in 1989 to give students the opportunity to practice their English through the medium of song. The choir has become a major part of the University of Basel and of cultural life in Basel. The English Seminar Choir is open to all enthusiastic singers, both students and non-students.

esc-basel.ch

**ESN Basel**
The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Basel offers exchange students leisure activities that allow them to socialize and learn more about Switzerland and its culture.

instagram.com/esn.basel

**Frauenstadtrundgang**
The “Frauenstadtrundgang” association brings the city’s history to life. For 30 years, students and trained scientists have been developing walking tours that take a gender-specific look at the various neighborhoods and wider region of Basel, leading visitors to sites of witch hunts, uncovering traces of the protests of 1968, or recounting tales of ferry women and “Father Rhine.” There are now 16 tours in which members of the association regularly slip into the roles of historical figures, bringing the stories to life from a very personal perspective. Whether you’re new to the city or a long-term resident, a women’s city tour will help you see a different side of Basel.

frauenstadtrundgang-basel.ch

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**foraus**
foraus’ regional groups allow people with an interest in foreign affairs to meet in their area, network and help shape constructive foreign policies for Switzerland. If you wish to learn more about foraus, the regional groups are the first point of contact.

foraus.ch/#!/regiogruppen/basel

**Graduate Consulting Club**
The goal is to promote the consulting industry and to provide a platform for the members to develop their consulting career. To reach that goal, the Graduate Consulting Club is bringing together students from the University of Basel and ETH Zürich and providing them with a framework to prepare for case interviews.

graduateconsultingclub.org

**Helvetia Basel**
The Helvetia Basel student society is part of Helvetia, the Swiss student association. It brings together current and former students of the University of Basel and aims to encourage political and historical understanding among its members.

helvetia-basel.ch

**IAESTE Switzerland**
IAESTE is an international exchange organization that arranges placements abroad for students in engineering and science faculties. IAESTE Switzerland offers internships in more than 80 countries.

iaeste.ch/lokale-komitees/join-us/lc-basel
**Jurassia Basiliensis**
Jurassia Basiliensis is a color-wearing (farbtragend) student society at the University of Basel that offers lifelong membership. They have made it their mission to cultivate and cement friendships between their members. jurassia.ch

**Katholische Universitätsgemeinde Basel**
As a Catholic university community, they are open to students and teaching staff of all ecumenical and religious leanings. Searching for answers themselves, they allow themselves to be challenged, inspired, and supported by the Christian faith. kug.unibas.ch

**Marxist Society Uni Basel**
The Marxist Society Uni Basel aims to tackle questions relating to the theory and practice of politics that will bring change to society. The reading groups focus on classic Marxist texts. marx-unibas.ch

**Mind-Map**
The aim of the association is to promote public awareness of mental health and mental illness in everyday university life. mindmapstudents.jimdofree.com

**Multilingual Toastmasters**
Toastmasters has more than 270,000 members in 13,000 clubs worldwide, who meet regularly for training sessions to improve their rhetorical skills and leadership qualities. Members meet on a regular basis in the Collegiate Building of the University of Basel. Guests are always welcome. baselmultilingual.toastmastersclubs.org

**MUN Team Basel**
Model United Nations is a simulation of the main bodies of the UN. Students from all over the world meet for conferences around the globe and debate current issues affecting world politics. munbasel.ch

**Muslim Students Association University of Basel**
The association aims to foster communication and exchange among Muslim students and between Muslim and Non-Muslim students as well as to help its members balance their academic life through the organization of several activities. instagram.com/msaubbasel

**NEO Network Basel**
The NEO Network is a student think tank and network dedicated to explore and to address tomorrow’s challenges with the leading industry experts, scientists and entrepreneurs at the largest Swiss universities. neonetwork.ch

**Offene Bühne**
Offene Bühne is a platform for theater, poetry, music, and other fringe events. The stage is located in the lovingly restored cellar of the historic Engelhof building, which also houses the University’s Department of German. offene-bühne.ch
Offener Hörsaal
The project Open Auditorium (German: Offener Hörsaal) aims at promoting refugee participation in the existing student auditing program at the University of Basel. The student auditing program is open to everyone and includes around 500 courses in German, French and English.
offener-hoersaal.ch

Officers of the University of Basel
Are you looking for the camaraderie of the military at the university? The officer’s association regularly organizes events aimed at the preservation of basic military skills and further topics regarding the army, politics, history and economics.
facebook.com/of2unibas.ch

Reatch Basel
The independent think-tank reatch strengthens relationships between academia and other parts of society. It promotes the potential of science and technology in line with societal values and enriches public debate with critical points of view or productive solutions. reatch works in a transdisciplinary manner and relies on the innovative strength of many volunteers.
reatch.ch

Reformiertes Pfarramt beider Basel an der Universität
The Reformiertes Pfarramt sees itself as bridging a gap between the university and the Evangelical Church. The university chaplaincy is a service provided by the Reformed Church of the canton of Baselland and the city of Basel for students, assistants, and teaching staff.
unipfarramt.unibas.ch

Schweizerischer Akademischer Skiclub Sektion Basel
Do you enjoy winter sports? Are you a student? Then the Schweizerischer Akademischer Skiclub (SAS) is the right place for you. The SAS offers a professional environment and supports ambitious athletes through to their participation in winter “Universiaden”.
sas-ski.ch

Schweizerischer Studentenverein
The Schweizerischer Studentenverein is a society of Christian, color-wearing students and former students who come together to cultivate amicitia (friendship), scientia (science) and virtus (virtue).
schw-stv.ch

Schwizerhüsli Basiliensis
The Schwizerhüsli Basiliensis society offers students from all faculties and universities a refreshing change from everyday university life. The society meets once a week at its local bar – the legendary “Crocodil” – close to the Spalentor gateway.
schwizerhuesli.ch

Science Slam Club Basel
The aim of the Basel Science Slam Club is to bring the research undertaken at the University of Basel to the public in an entertaining yet scientifically accurate way, in the form of the annual “Science Slam”.
scienceslam.unibas.ch

Skuba
The Studentische Körperschaft der Universität Basel (skuba) speaks on your behalf, that is, about student needs and interests.
skuba.ch
**Socordia**
Socordia is the first feminist student association at the University of Basel. The association’s aim is to promote feminist concerns and debates at the University of Basel.
facebook.com/SocordiaBasel

**STAB Studenti Ticinesi a Basilea**
Studenti Ticinesi a Basilea brings together students from the canton of Ticino and supports them in their transition to the University of Basel.
instagram.com/stabgram

**Stiftung Calcutta Project Basel**
Would you like to demonstrate your commitment to society in a forward-looking, intercultural, fascinating and diverse field? Then the Foundation Calcutta Project Basel is the right place for you.
calcutta-project.ch

**Students for Sustainability at the University of Basel (SDUBS)**
Students for Sustainability at the University of Basel (SDUBS) is a group of students dedicated to making the University of Basel more sustainable.
facebook.com/sdubs.sustainability

**Uni-T**
Uni-T means “Uni(versität) t(anzt)” and is pronounced as the word “unity.” The two parts of the name are representative of the philosophy of the 25-person dance group. A passion for dance and close camaraderie is what connects the members of the Uni-T family – something that is apparent not only during practice, but on stage as well.
uni-t.ch

**Unitheater**
The Unitheater Basel aims to put on one annual production with professional direction or support from 2014 onwards. Uni Theater is open to all members of the University of Basel.
unitheater.ch

**Uniwyy Basel**
Uniwyy Basel organizes tastings and events to promote wine culture and social exchange among students of all faculties.
uniwyybasel.ch

**We are Computer Science**
We are Computer Science is a non-profit Basel do-tank where the central aims are to increase gender inclusivity and promote an unbiased, fair future for all those interested in the field of computer science.
instagram.com/we.are.cs

**UniGärten Basel**
The university gardens allow students and staff at the University of Basel to get to know and try out alternatives to supermarket shopping. The gardens are a platform for learning and exchanging ideas, a space to experiment and a green meeting place all rolled into one.
unigaerten.unibas.ch

**Zofingia Basel**
Zofingia is Switzerland’s oldest student society and currently has 400 active members and 3,000 former members. Each Swiss university has its own chapter, which then forms part of the overall society.
zofingia-basel.ch
Food and Drink

Mensa & Cafeteria

The University of Basel student cafeteria at Bernoullistrasse 16 is open year-round and serves various lunch menus daily at affordable prices (don’t forget your student ID). Outside lunch hours, you can use the cafeteria as a study space. The university also has several cafés serving food and drinks. The café in the Main Building is the perfect spot for a break between lectures. The top floor of the University Library offers a small snack bar and is a good place to enjoy your coffee – and the view from the rooftop terrace. The Department of Physics has a student cafeteria located at St. Johanns-Ring 25. Just around the corner at Klingelbergstrasse 70, the Biozentrum/Pharmazentrum student cafeteria serves lunch to its many hungry guests. Law and business students can stop off at La Strada, at Peter Merian-Weg 8.

universitaet-basel.sv-group.ch

Lunch

The “Reformiertes Pfarramt beider Basel an der Universität” offers a lunch menu at the university. During the semester, students cook for students every Tuesday and Thursday at Leonhardskirchplatz 11. The meal costs 7 Swiss francs and includes a salad, main course (always with a vegetarian option), dessert and coffee. Sign up online:

unipfarramt.unibas.ch
Cantina E9
This restaurant at Eulerstrasse 9 is open every lunchtime from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm and offers three new menus each day (including soup, salad, a main course and dessert). As a student, you can eat here from as little as 11 Swiss francs and support a social project at the same time.
cantina-e9.ch

Ristorante Borromeo
Run by a cooperative, this restaurant at Byfangweg 6 serves two menus including soup, salad and dessert each day (with a vegetarian option) from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. Make sure to try the homemade pasta!
borromaeum.ch

Verso
The University of Basel’s student bar offers a weekly haven after another week of brave studying. Thursday evening is all about fun – both gastronomically and culturally. All students have the option to rent the Verso space. The Verso team can help you with this – bureaucracy-free and budget-friendly!
versobar.ch
facebook.com/verso.basel
instagram.com/verso_basel
Finances

Alongside the tuition fees charged by the University of Basel, your studies will involve a few other expenses: books, insurance, rent and (of course) living costs. The following pages provide a guide to the types of costs incurred when you live away from home.
My Budget

Compared to other Swiss cities, Basel is a relatively cheap place to live. The most important thing is to draw up a personal budget at the very start – this can save you a few headaches later on.

- **Minimum**: CHF 1600.–
- **Average**: CHF 2100.–

### Budget Breakdown

- **Rent**: CHF 500.–
- **Food, household, clothing**: CHF 600.–
- **Insurance, health care**: CHF 300.–
- **Transportation**: CHF 90.–
- **Study material**: CHF 200.–
- **Tuition**: CHF 60.–
- **Culture and leisure**: CHF 150.–
Scholarships: Where to ask

Switzerland has a decentralized system of scholarships, which means that each canton has its own rules and regulations. University education is essentially financed either by a student’s parents and/or the canton in which the parents are eligible to pay tax.

**Basel-Stadt**
The Office for Educational Grants is responsible for the allocation of scholarships and loans to those eligible in the canton Basel-Stadt.

[Link](hochschulen.bs.ch/stipendien.html)

**Basel-Landschaft**
The Office for Vocational Training and Careers Advice, Educational Grants Department, provides information on scholarships and loans for the canton Baselland.

[Link](baselland.ch)

**Aargau**
The Department of Education, Culture and Sport supports those students who cannot finance their university education themselves.

[Link](ag.ch/stipendien)

**Solothurn**
The Department of Education and Culture, Scholarships Department, advises students on all issues related to financing University education.

[Link](so.ch)

**Scholarships for international students**
There are no specific scholarships available for international students at the University of Basel.
Insurance

When starting their studies, most people probably don’t give any serious thought to insurance and leave their parents to sort out such tedious matters. However, it’s high time you took responsibility to avoid any nasty surprises later on. The Social Services at the University of Basel can provide personal advice about insurance and has produced a useful leaflet on insurance tips for students, which is available at unibas.ch/sozialberatung

Students are essentially responsible for their own insurance. Everyone resident in Switzerland is required to take out health insurance unless they are eligible for exemption (for further information, visit kvg.org or unibas.ch/sozialberatung). The hardest part is to choose from the numerous providers. The various premiums can be compared on comparis.ch. It’s vital that your health insurance also includes accident cover – unless you work more than eight hours a week and are therefore covered by your employer. All students enrolled at the University of Basel are provided with automatic and free insurance cover against the consequences of an accident causing permanent damage – however, this does not include medical costs, but is a one-off capital payment in the event of disability due to an accident.

AHV

As a student residing in Switzerland, you are obligated to contribute to AHV (old-age and survivors’ insurance) as of January 1 of the year in which you celebrate your 21st birthday. The minimum annual contribution is 503 Swiss francs (as in 2021) and must be paid in full. So don’t be surprised if an invoice from the compensation office drops through your letterbox. This can only be avoided if you have already paid the minimum amount, for example through deductions from the wages for your part-time job.
To complete your studies successfully, you will also need to deal with many administrative matters and obtain information from various places. The University of Basel has a range of offices that can advise and support you on a wide variety of matters, from admission to your Unibas email address.
Student Administration Office

The Student Administration Office is a source of general information. If you have a question about admission, registration, matriculation, or semester registration, you’ve come to the right place. Some time ago, the Student Administration Office introduced a ticket system, so rather than walking straight in, you need to wait outside and take a number. However, many questions can be resolved without actually going to the office in person. You can use MOnA to change your address and register for courses, semesters, etc., online.

unibas.ch/studium

Students Without Barriers

The Students Without Barriers (StoB) service point provides information and advice to help students with disabilities complete their studies unimpeded.

stob.unibas.ch

University Library

The University Library (UB) is probably the true heart of the University of Basel. It can prove somewhat confusing for first-semester students, which is why we recommend taking part in a tour of the library at the start of the semester. You are automatically registered with the UB through your UNIcard, which allows you to make use of the library’s services. By the time the exams arrive, things are in full swing here and work spaces become increasingly rare. Coats, bags, and food items are not permitted in the reading rooms of the UB. Your things must be left in the lockers at the entrance. Work spaces in the reading room are limited and must be reserved using a booking system.

ub.unibas.ch
Student Exchange

Your university studies present you with a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend one or two semesters either at a foreign university or at another Swiss university. The University of Basel offers various programs that you should definitely check out. The Student Exchange coordinates the programs on offer and is your first point of contact when you feel the urge to travel. Start considering early on whether and when you want to schedule a semester abroad and find out the deadlines for applications.

unibas.ch/mobitaet

Student Advice Center

Many important questions may arise during your studies. What is the best way to plan my studies? What should I do after my bachelor’s degree? Would it be better to swap degree programs? For all questions concerning your studies, you can arrange a free consultation at the Student Advice Center. The study and career advisors guide you through the decision making process, support you in difficult situations and have an open ear for personal issues.

studienberatung.unibas.ch

Pastoral Counseling

Would you like to speak confidentially with a trained pastoral counselor? The University of Basel offers two possibilities: catholic and reformed.

kug.unibas.ch
unipfarramt.unibas.ch
Language Center

Nothing would ever get done without language(s). Learning another language not only expands your horizons, it also makes life and working and studying with other students easier. The Language Center offers affordable language courses with different objectives to meet a student’s individual needs. For completed courses, credit points can be acquired for complementary coursework.

sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch

Social Services

Whether you have financial worries, health-related problems or difficult family circumstances, the University’s Social Services will be there to listen. The team will also answer questions relating to the Day Care Center, assist students with disabilities and chronic illnesses, and support students in making applications for scholarships. Consultations are free of charge and unbureaucratic. Simply phone up to arrange a personal meeting.

unibas.ch/sozialberatung

Studying with children

The Diversity Office helps with matters regarding the compatibility of studies and family life. Once your child is born, the University of Basel day care service will be happy to help you continue your studies.

unibas.ch/kinderkrippe
As the oldest university in Switzerland, Basel has a rich and fascinating history in teaching and research dating back more than 560 years. Since it was founded in 1460, our university has been constantly evolving and developing.
The university at a glance

Students and doctoral candidates
The Faculties of Medicine, Humanities and Natural Sciences are the largest faculties at the University of Basel, each with around 3000 students.

- Faculty of Theology
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Psychology
- Institute for Educational Sciences
- Cross-faculty

1460
Founded

7
Faculties

381
Professors

6500
Employees, of whom

4800
are scientists

768
Million annual budget (CHF)
**Students**

**6157**
Bachelor’s students

**4001**
Master’s students

**1783**
First-year students in Fall semester 2020

**57**
Percentage of proportion of female students

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**International**

**123**
Nations are represented at the university

**24**
Percentage of international students and doctoral students

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**Level of study**
The high proportion of doctoral students underlines the strength as a research university.
Did you know?

1543 The Anatomical Museum of the University of Basel houses the world’s oldest prepared skeleton, which was produced by Andreas Vesal in 1543.

1688 The term “nostalgia” appears for the first time in the dissertation submitted by Johannes Hofer in 1688 to the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Basel.

The university: A chronicle

Foundation ceremony in Basel Minster: on April 4, 1460, Bishop Johann von Venningen appoints Georg von Andlau (left, kneeling) as the first Rector and presents Mayor Hans von Flachslanden with the deed of foundation.

1460 The University of Basel opens with a ceremony in Basel Minster.

1527 Physician, alchemist and philosopher Paracelsus teaches at the University as Professor of Medicine.

1588 An anatomical theater and a “hortus medicus” (later the botanical garden) are built.

1590 The collection of the university library is expanded by 2700 books from the former monastic libraries.
Facts

1661
Together with the university, Basel city acquires private art and book collections. The so-called “Amerbach Kabinett” is opened to the public in 1671.

1822
The university course directory is no longer published in Latin but in German.

1869
Friedrich Nietzsche assumes the chair as Professor of Classical Philology.

1890
Emilie Louise Frey becomes the first woman admitted to study (medicine).

1938
Elsa Mahler, associate professor for Russian linguistics and literature, is the first woman to be appointed as professor at her Alma Mater Basiliensis.

1939
The University gains a new main building in the form of the Kollegienhaus on Petersplatz.

1950
Tadeus Reichstein, Professor of Organic Chemistry, receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

1965
The new University Library is completed.

1971
The Biozentrum provides an interdisciplinary center for the life sciences.

1978
Microbiologist and geneticist Werner Arber receives the Nobel Prize for Medicine.

2003
The Faculty of Psychology is founded, the seventh faculty at the University of Basel.

2010
The University celebrates its 550th anniversary.

2021
Opening of the new Biozentrum.

King Carl Gustaf presents Werner Arber with the Nobel Prize in Stockholm in 1978.
Educating Talents since 1460.

University of Basel
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Postfach 2148
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Switzerland

www.unibas.ch