Uni Guide
University of Basel.
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.
“‘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

“Throw yourselves headlong into daily university life: grapple in-depth with the material, challenge what you have learned, be active in the lectures and don’t be afraid to ask critical questions. Don’t allow yourselves to be intimidated at first by the sheer volume of the subject matter – take it step by step and pay attention to good time management. And be sure to visit the University of Basel’s diverse events for your faculty as well, to expand your horizons.”

Lea Bachmann
Writing her dissertation in Law
Study

Dates

Teaching period

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

Spring semester 2023
February 20, 2023 to June 2, 2023

Fall semester 2023
September 18, 2023 to December 22, 2023

“Start Smart” Week:
Start of program 2022

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, 19 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 25, 2022

Basler Fasnacht
February 27 to March 03, 2023

Easter
April 06 – 10, 2023

Labor Day
May 1, 2023

Feast of Ascension
May 18 – 19, 2023

Whit Monday
May 29, 2023

Course registration

Fall semester 2022
August 1 to Oktober 17, 2022

Spring semester 2023
January 1 to March 20, 2023
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
Swimming bag, t-shirts and more

The stylish way to swim: Keep your belongings dry with the University of Basel’s watertight swimming bag. You can also get your hands on bags, t-shirts, hoodies and other uni products.

unibas.ch/merchandise

### Group study rooms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Work spaces without PC</th>
<th>PC workstations</th>
<th>group workspaces</th>
<th>Cafeteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Main University Library (UB)</td>
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<td>- Cafeteria</td>
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</table>

unibas.ch/lernraeume
Online Services for students

The University of Basel offers its students Online Services. You can log on via services.unibas.ch using your Unibas email address and the corresponding password. Among other things, Online Services cover the following:

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 Online Services.

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 Online Services 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.

Data transfer information
In Online Services, you can indicate to the University of Basel whether it is permitted to transfer your data to third parties.

services.unibas.ch
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.

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? Many Faculty groups offer you the opportunity of support from a “buddy” while getting to know the university. Contact your Faculty group directly to inquire.

**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.

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/de/organisation
**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

“As the University of Basel’s Career Service Center (CSC), we support students and graduates during and after their studies with questions relating to the successful launch of their careers. We help them process all the information since, on the one hand, we can point out what is expected of graduates starting their careers, and on the other hand, we know the particulars of the companies, the government and the Swiss employment market. With our free, personalized career advice, workshops and events, we help University of Basel students find the path to their dream job. You only get one chance to make a first impression! Come see us early on; we’re here to help.”

Birgit Müller

Head of Career Service Center
Study

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.

Valentin Messmer
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 board of appeals. If conflicts arise during your studies that must be treated as confidential, you can contact the Ombudsman’s Office.

unibas.ch/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 Online Services. You will receive a reminder email from the university stating the period in which to register.
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

S

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.

T

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.

U

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.

unicard.unibas.ch

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 Online Services during the registration period.

unibas.ch/coursedirectory

Z

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.

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

“You’re thinking of moving into or organizing your own shared apartment? My tips: if possible, take a few months and find people who are a good fit. Be open and curious about how your new roommates do things – you will soon notice that ‘All roads lead to Rome,’ and that’s a good thing. One other piece of advice: mention things that are concerning you. There’s a solution for everything. So: time to leave Hotel Mom and Dad and start living. Enjoy!”

Julian Hartmann
Sports Science

“At the start of my studies, I was commuting three hours a day, which eventually got old. So I looked for shared accommodation and have been living since then with three other people who I didn’t know before at all. Our daily routines are all different, but we still often end up spontaneously eating dinner together, going swimming in the Rhine or having a games night. The relaxed flexibility is just how I imagined shared housing!”

Andrina Schmitz
Blogger at beast.unibas.ch
Political Science and Law
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.
Apartment hunting

Links

• The University of Basel marketplace enables you to find apartments, someone to take your place in an apartment, people to live with and rooms in shared apartments.
  markt.unibas.ch

• The “Evangelisches Studienhaus Meierhof” is aimed at prospective theologians and other students interested in theology.
  studienhaus.ch

• You can place free ads for apartments or rooms on Flatfox. The app lets you easily manage contact requests, applications and ads.
  flatfox.ch/en

• Online database for flatshares (WG-Zimmer) where you can post your request for free.
  wgzimmer.ch

• Genossenschaft Studentenheim Basel: This student residence is on Mittlere Strasse 33 and provides 100 furnished rooms. Contact:
  unibas.ch/genossenschaft-studentenheim

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 1050.

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.
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 the “buvette” at Birsköpfli during the summer months. This summer, I took on the role of head bartender for the second 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 with 50%-workload at a bank. 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 at Credit Suisse.
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
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. 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
Life

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

“As the student parliament, the Student Council (Studierendenrat) addresses a wide variety of matters of university politics. That appealed to me, so I signed up for the Council. The Student Council work offers a welcome change from studying and gives you an opportunity to look behind the scenes at the university and to help shape various internal university processes. For me, having started my studies during the pandemic, the Student Council has also been the ideal place to get to know new people across the different faculties.”

Romano Pelosi
Sociology and Political Science
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. Details about the whole range of offerings, further helpful information, and impressions of the events and courses are available online.

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: instagram.com/unibasel
- Facebook: facebook.com/unibasel
- Twitter: twitter.com/unibasel
- Twitter (English): twitter.com/unibasel_en
- YouTube: youtube.com/unibasel
- LinkedIn: 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: 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

**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

**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 Raurica**
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.

**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
Calcutta Project Basel
Interested in active involvement with an NGO, whether in PR and fundraising or as part of a group of experts that is involved in direct exchange with our partner association in Kolkata, India? Via the Calcutta Project Basel, students develop collaborations in the areas of primary medical care and prevention.
calcutta-project.ch

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

Beraber
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

C
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/basel

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](http://esc-basel.ch)

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**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](http://instagram.com/esn.basel)

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**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](http://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](http://foraus.ch/#!/regiogruppen/basel)

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**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](http://graduateconsultingclub.org)

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**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](http://helvetia-basel.ch)

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**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](http://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/msaubasel

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-Gärten 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

**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

**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. Johans-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-restaurant.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
Life

**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 13.50 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

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**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.
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.

Financial support

The Social Services office of the University of Basel can advise you in all financial matters during your studies. For students with very limited resources, the university offers financial aid through its scholarship funds.
[Link](unibas.ch/sozialberatung)

Swiss scholarship system

This page provides an overview of the most important information related to the system of scholarships in Switzerland.
[Link](stipendien.educa.ch)
**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](http://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.
Support

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. There is a ticket system. So please pull a number outside and wait until you are called. However, many questions can be resolved without actually going to the office in person. You can use Online Services to change your address and register for courses, semesters, etc., online.

[unibas.ch/studium](http://unibas.ch/studium)

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**Students Without Barriers**

The Students without Barriers (StoB) service point offers information and advice and arranges compensation for disadvantages so that students with a disability or chronic illness can successfully complete their studies in an accessible environment.

[stob.unibas.ch](http://stob.unibas.ch)

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**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](http://ub.unibas.ch)
Support

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

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/mobilitaet

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

Treatment in the undergraduate clinic

Patients receive excellent dental treatment and can save money at the same time. Treatment is carried out exclusively by advanced students (master curriculum) and under the constant supervision of experienced dentists.

uzb.ch
Support

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

Language Center

¡Aprendamos un nuevo idioma! Learning a language expands your horizons and is what makes studying and working together possible to begin with. Whether Arabic, French or Japanese: the Language Center offers affordable language courses with different goals and supports students with writing (writing advice, assistance and encouragement). For completed courses, credit points can be acquired for complementary coursework.

sprachenzentrum.unibas.ch

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

**Facts**
- Founded: 1460
- Faculties: 7
- Professors: 380
- Employees, of whom 4950 are academic staff
- Million annual budget (CHF): 761
- Students: 6450

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- 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
### Students

**5989**  
Bachelor’s students

**4101**  
Master’s students

**1498**  
First-year students in Fall semester 2021

**57**  
Percentage of proportion of female students

#### Level of study

The high proportion of doctoral students underlines the strength as a research university.

![Level of study chart](chart.png)

#### International

**116**  
Nations are represented at the university

**25**  
Percentage of international students and doctoral students

#### Origin

37 percent of students and doctoral candidates come from the cantons of Basel-Stadt and Basel-Landschaft.

![Origin chart](chart.png)
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

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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Switzerland

www.unibas.ch