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
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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.
“It’s important to be on the ball from the outset: go through your lecture notes without delay and always do the exercises. If you put things off for weeks, it will be more difficult to study for your exams. It can be helpful to read up on individual topics in course books. However, that doesn’t mean you have to buy all the books straight away. Wait and see which ones will actually be useful.”

Valerie Hennes
Blogs for beast.unibas.ch
Business and Economics

“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 2017:
September 18, 2017 to December 22, 2017

Spring semester 2018:
February 26, 2018 to June 1, 2018

Fall semester 2018:
September 17, 2018 to December 21, 2018

Celebration for new students

The University of Basel is delighted to welcome the new students to celebrate the start of program on Monday, September 18, 2017. The President and the Vice Presidents of the University of Basel will welcome the first semester students in the Kollegienhaus, the University of Basel’s main building on Petersplatz. The new students will be provided with important information on student life and course structure. A range of student associations and faculty groups will be present at the information market. The University Management will also tell about its service offering.

Teaching-free period

Dies academicus:
November 24, 2017

Easter:
March 29 to April 2, 2018

Labor Day:
May 1, 2018

Ascension:
May 10–11, 2018

Whit Monday:
May 21, 2018

Course registration

Fall semester 2017:
August 1 to October 16, 2017

Spring semester 2018:
January 1 to March 26, 2018
From Basel to the world

Erasmus – The European Campus

is a free way for students at the universities of Basel, Freiburg, Strasbourg, Haute-Alsace and the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology to benefit from “internationalization at home”. Students can attend classes at partner universities, and use their libraries and other facilities. Travel expenses are covered by a semesterly commuting allowance.

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 or the Midwestern United States. 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.

Erasmus

“Erasmus” is a byword for “student exchange”. Since 2014, Switzerland has been indirectly involved with this EU program, which awards mobility grants to enable students to spend one or two semesters at a foreign university. This must be approved by the partner university and the student in question must have completed at least two semesters. The Student Exchange team at the University of Basel helps interested students to organize their period abroad.
**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 accounts
- Attend a tour of the University Library
- Buy a photocopy card
- Read the Beast Blog at beast.unibas.ch
- Like facebook.com/unibasel and 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 via the University of Basel marketplace markt.unibas.ch
- Register with the migration department (Migrationsbehörde)
- If necessary, attend a German course at the Language Center
- Meet new people through University Sports unisport.ch
- Get a “colour key” and discover Basel’s leisure activities colourkey.ch
- Explore Switzerland with “gleis7” gleis7.ch
# Student workstations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Work spaces without PC</th>
<th>PC workstations</th>
<th>Cafeteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main University Library (UB)</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Law Library</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Basel Mensa (refectory)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Medical Library</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>25</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Economics Library/Swiss Economics Archive</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lernoullianum</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maiengasse Library</td>
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<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kollegienhaus, Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancient Studies Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kollegienhaus, rooms 210 und 211</td>
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<td>Pharmacenter/Biozentrum</td>
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</table>

For more tips on student life, visit the Beast Blog.

[markt.unibas.ch](http://markt.unibas.ch)
[beast.unibas.ch](http://beast.unibas.ch)

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# University marketplace

Whatever you need, seek and you shall find. The University marketplace has everything imaginable – from jobs, to apartments, to car-sharing opportunities and offers of exchange. Many people even give things away. It’s always worth looking to see what’s available.

For more tips on student life, visit the Beast Blog.

[markt.unibas.ch](http://markt.unibas.ch)
[beast.unibas.ch](http://beast.unibas.ch)
**ABC of studying**

**A**  
**Academic quarter-hour**  
The academic quarter is the time designated to allow students to get from one class to the next. Class times are generally specified as “ct” (cum tempore), which means that if the class is stated as starting at 8:00, it actually begins at 8:15.

**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**  
**Dean’s Office**  
The Dean’s Office is the unit that runs a particular faculty. As a student, the most important place for you is the secretariat, as this is where your exams are organized and your degrees are awarded. Unfortunately, its opening hours are short and its queues are long.

**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.

**G**  
**“Green Holidays”**  
Some of you may find yourselves called upon to serve in the military during your studies – not exactly convenient if you’ve got an upcoming exam or an essay to write. To find out how to postpone your military service and where to obtain the necessary confirmation, go to: unibas.ch/de/Studium/Beratung/Militaerdienst.html

**H**  
**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

Kids

The Equal Opportunities 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.

chancengleichheit.unibas.ch
unibas.ch/kinderkrippe

“If you don’t ask, you don’t get! The university has many service units that can provide help and support. Particularly in terms of finance, forward planning is useful to avoid making your studies more stressful. The Social Services is happy to help students draw up a realistic monthly budget.”

Gaudenz Henzi
Head of the Social Services at the University of Basel
Legi (Student ID)
The student ID in credit card format – also known as a “Legi” – officially proves your student status. It allows you to take books out of the University Library and eat for less in the cafeteria. Your “Legi” will also get you discounts in many places outside the university – so be sure to ask!

MOnA
MOnA – which stands for “My Online Account” – is an online self-service portal at services.unibas.ch where students of the University of Basel can carry out administration related to their studies. You can use MOnA to register for the transition to the next semester, sign up for courses, and update your contact details; your account also shows the credit points you have accumulated, as well as the courses for which you are registered.

services.unibas.ch

Numerus clausus
If there are more students than places on a course, then a numerus clausus 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 body. If conflicts arise during your studies that must be treated as confidential, you can contact the Ombudsman’s Office.

unibas.ch/de/Mitarbeitendenportal/Beratung/Ombudsstelle.html

“Skuba dedicates itself to the needs of students at the University of Basel and represents your interests towards the university management, society and politics. For example, it is committed to giving students a greater say in matters that affect them. It also offers various services and runs the SkuBar in the basement of the Kollegienhaus. Anyone can get involved with and contribute to Skuba.”

Giuliano Borter
Head of the skuba department of external affairs
Studies Law
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.

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 on how to compile a bibliography and format footnotes correctly.

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.

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.

Services
At services.unibas.ch, you can edit personal data such as your name and address, and you can generate your timetable. The portal gives you an overview of all lectures and seminars and direct links to the ADAM distribution platform. It is also where you register for the next semester – note that the registration period ends after the fourth week of lectures.

WLAN
You can access the unibas-public WLAN in university buildings. An additional Virtual Private Network (VPN) is used to ensure that the network can only be accessed by members of the University of Basel. Instructions for installing the VPN client are provided on the UCC page.
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 overloaded, so make sure to plan plenty of time for your search!
“At the moment, I’m still living at home in the Canton of Aargau. My main reason for not moving out is my sports club. It’s an important part of my life and I’m not ready to give it up. Unfortunately, this also means I have to commute. On the other hand, no rent means I can save lots of money and stay with my circle of friends.”

Luca Raffi
Lives with his parents
Sports Science and Mathematics

“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
Blogs 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 tension in the 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, has to be the Rhine riverfront, where Basel’s residents spend much of their free time in the summer. Numerous “buvettes” (refreshment stands) between the Mittlere Brücke (Middle Bridge) 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 recently gained a new trademark in the Roche Tower, Switzerland’s tallest building. 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

- You can post a small ad free of charge on the University of Basel “marketplace”.
  markt.unibas.ch

- The student accommodation service WoVe helps students to find affordable places to live in Basel.
  wove.ch

- Online database of rooms in 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:
  studentenheim-mittlere-strasse@unibas.ch

- This independent cost calculator shows you in which district in Basel you should look for a place to live and where you can save the most on rent.
  wohnungsrechner.ch

WoVe

Finding somewhere to live can prove pretty challenging for students, which is why we’re lucky to have WoVe – the student accommodation service. Ever since its foundation in 1970, the charitable organization has been renting and finding good-value accommodation for young people in education.

wove.ch

How can I improve my chances of finding a room or a small apartment?

Over the past few years, apartments suitable for students have become increasingly rare in Basel. And the fact that many landlords prefer not to rent to groups of students has not made things any easier. Providing a rental guarantee can help. Otherwise, it’s the same as applying for a job: be polite and look smart!
How do I look for an apartment via WoVe (the student accommodation service)?
You need to fill out our registration form and pay a fee. You will then receive a list of available properties. If you’re interested in a room in a shared apartment, you’ll need to contact the current tenants and they will decide whether they think you would fit in. WoVe will then draw up the rental contract.

What are the benefits of registering with WoVe?
We don’t just make it easier to find a room, but cheaper too. A room in one of our shared apartments costs between 311 and 660 Swiss Francs depending on size and comfort level. On the regular property market, landlord profits always come first, but not at WoVe. We rent many of our properties via the foundation Wohnstiftung für Studierende, which provides student accommodation at low rates. We also often arrange accommodation in “temporary use” properties, such as buildings that are set to be renovated and are therefore empty. Properties of this type are ideal for students and are very cheap.

Chaim Howald, Managing Director of WoVe
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.
Supplementing your budget

“I work in the Employer Branding and Recruiting team at the Baloise Group as a student trainee with a 30% workload. I particularly appreciate the flexibility, which allows me to work less during exam periods and more in the semester vacations. For me, it was also important to find a job related to my studies that will make it easier for me to get on the career ladder later.”

Kim Berrendorf
Master’s in Sustainable Development

“In addition to studying Language and Communication, I work part-time in a communications agency. My workload is 60%. This adds a pleasant balance to my everyday student life, and I also believe it’s extremely useful for students to gain practical experience in different areas of work.”

Samuel Seifert
Language and Communication
Internships

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

markt.unibas.ch

Let’s go abroad!

The international student network AIESEC organizes global 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/basel

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 for working 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/marktplatz
**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.

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**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.

[siropglobal.org](http://siropglobal.org)

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**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. November 16, 2017 is a date you should already enter into your calendar. Starting at 6pm, the Long Night of Careers will take place at 15 Swiss institutions of higher education simultaneously. The event features everything from interview training to style coaching.

[unibas.ch/csc](http://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

“UniGärten is the perfect place for anyone who likes to plant, sow, water and weed. Through our gardening, we make an active contribution to sustainability, and the fruit and veg we grow gives the project a concrete use. Courses and group work also provide opportunities for further education and to use the garden for experiments.”

Florian Christ
Master's in Sustainable Development

“Making music with others is incredibly fun. The university’s orchestra offers the ideal opportunity to dust off your old instrument from back in school and meet a bunch of new people from different fields while you are at it. Led by Olga, our very patient director, we rehearse for a concert that we perform together with the university's choir at the end of each semester.”

Luzia Iseli
Blogs at beast.unibas.ch
Medicine
Traffic

The University of Basel’s various sites are close together in the city center. The short distances are best covered using the well-established public transport system. The green Basel “Drämmli” (or trams) are well known. And the “U-Abo” pass enables you to travel cheaply to the Frick Valley and into Germany. An even better option is to take your bicycle. Well-constructed cycle routes will get you from A to B in no time at all.

tnw.ch

University Sports

From finding your inner balance through yoga, learning elegant turns in tango nuevo, to undergoing wildly romantic sea kayaking adventures and polishing your soccer skills, University Sports offers you a program of over 100 sports, movement and body awareness activities. In addition to weekly training sessions from Monday to Saturday, University Sports organizes camps, weekend events, workshops, advisory services and friendly tournaments. Whether you’re a beginner, returning to sports, 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 sessions are free of charge and do not require advance booking. If you do need to book in advance, please visit our website or the office. Some courses are very popular and quickly become fully booked. We recommend that you register as early as possible. As a student of the University of Basel, your student ID allows you to participate in University Sports activities. Remember to take it with you every time because cards are often checked at the entrance. You can find out more about the sports on offer as well as other useful information in our brochure or online at unisport.ch

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

“A team of students, doctoral candidates and staff give regular insights into their uni lives on the University of Basel Instagram feed. For me, it’s a great opportunity to portray the colorful everyday life of a biology student in images. I go through life with my eyes wide open and enjoy discovering all the little details that I can capture on camera to show you.”

Laura Rieder
Photographs with the hashtag #throughthelensof for instagram.com/unibasel
Biology

Beast blog

Live, study, work and party: at www.beast.unibas.ch, students blog about their lives in Basel. They report on their experiences at the University, part-time jobs and internships, communal living and how they spend their free time.

beast.unibas.ch

facebook.com/unibasel
instagram.com/unibasel
twitter.com/unibasel
youtube.com/unibasel
Student organizations

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. It began life as a gymnastics club in 1819 and has been a lifelong society since 1885.
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.
aacbaser.ch

AKV Rauracia
AKV Raurica is Switzerland’s largest academic association. Counting academics and students from all disciplines among its members, it has a history stretching back 150 years. This student society promotes lifelong friendship, scholarship, and society “finishing”.
rauracia.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.
amnestystudentsbasel.ch

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

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. We believe that the Christian faith encompasses and shapes all areas of life. We therefore encourage each other to express our Christianity in our everyday student lives.
basel.vbg.net
Campus live
campuslive.ch/basel

Choir and orchestra at the University of Basel
coub.unibas.ch

ELSA
facebook.com/elsabasel

English Seminar Choir
esc-basel.ch

ESN Basel
facebook.com/Esn-Basel-925571977508649/

Helvetia Basel
helvetia-basel.ch

IAESTE Switzerland
iaeste.ch/lokale-komitees/join-us/lc-basel

ICCSN Basel
iccsn.com/Basel

foraus
foraus.ch/#!/regiogruppen/basel

frei denken uni basel
freidenken-unibasel.ch

Helvetia Basel
helvetia-basel.ch

IAESTE Switzerland
iaeste.ch/lokale-komitees/join-us/lc-basel

ICCSN Basel
iccsn.com/Basel
**ISA Basel**
For international students and academics, ISA Basel provides the opportunity to connect with each other and build friendships, share experiences and explore the Christian faith.
isabasel.ch

**Jurassia Basiliensis**
Jurassia Basiliensis is a color-wearing (farbtragend) student society at the University of Basel that offers lifelong membership. We have made it our mission to cultivate and cement friendships between our members.
jurassia.ch

**Katholische Universitätsgemeinde Basel**
As a Catholic university community, we are open to students and teaching staff of all ecumenical and religious leanings. Searching for answers ourselves, we allow ourselves 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 will focus on classic Marxist texts.
marx-unibas.ch

**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.
toastmasters-basel.ch

**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.
facebook.com/msa.basel

**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.
of-unibas.ch

**Queer University Basel**
The Queer University Basel student society serves as a meeting point for all LGBT students at the University of Basel, offering direct and uncomplicated contact.
facebook.com/queerstudentsbasel

**Reformiertes Pfarramt beider Basel an der Universität**
The Reformiertes Pfarramt beider Basel an der Universität Basel 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

AIESEC is the largest student organization in the world and is active in 126 countries. Established after the Second World War, AIESEC aims to build bridges between cultures through intercultural exchange and to develop leadership potential. The organization has been active in Switzerland since 1951 and is represented at nine universities. The team in Basel comprises 30 active members in the fields of marketing, HR, communication, finances, sales, and incoming and outgoing exchange. AIESEC values all its members – anyone can get involved and promote innovation. It offers you a first taste of professional life in a friendly environment, where you can put what you’ve learned in your studies into practice and develop your soft skills. Through regular exchanges with other universities, AIESEC helps its members to get to know people from Switzerland and all over the world.
aiesec.ch/Basel
**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.

facebook.com/Schwizerhuesli

**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

**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.

lastab.ch

**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.

sdubs.unibas.ch

**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

**Unitheater Basel**
Unitheater Basel is the first theatre to involve the entire University of Basel. Its aim is to stage one theatre production every year with professional support or direction. The Unitheater is open to anyone at the University of Basel.

unitheater.ch
Verein Frauenstadtrundgang Basel
City history from a different angle? Stories of the city with a view to the unseen? The Verein Frauenstadtrundgang Basel offers unconventional tours of Basel and the region from a gender-specific perspective.
frauenstadtrundgang-basel.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

skuba※
Studentische Körperschaft der Universität Basel

The University of Basel Student Union (skuba) officially represents the interests of students at the University of Basel. You automatically become a member when you matriculate. Skuba aims to ensure that the interests and opinions of students are heard by the university boards. It represents you in front of the University Management and the general public, and is committed to student co-determination, high-quality education and a study-friendly environment. In addition to student co-determination and representation, skuba also works to create a diverse student life. As part of skuba, you can be directly involved with the Student Council, and with boards and committees such as the Senate and faculty assembly. To make life easier for University of Basel students, skuba offers a range of services such as tutoring, legal services, and general advice and counseling. The skuba office is a student coordination office that you can contact with questions about the university. Skuba also runs the skuBAR – the cultural center for students in the Kollegienhaus – where cool music, exciting events and great parties can help you leave the stress of uni life behind. The ground floor of the Lernoullianum at Petersgraben 45 also offers around 60 well-lit workspaces with plugs. The skuba conference room can be booked for meetings.
skuba.ch
Life

Food and drink

Mensa & Cafeteria

The main refectory (Mensa) of the University of Basel at Bernoulli-strasse 16 is open all year and serves a various low-price lunches from 11:30 to 14:00 (don’t forget your student ID). Outside of lunch time, the facilities of the refectory can also be used for studying. In addition, there are several cafeterias at the University of Basel where you can get your caffeine fix or stack up on snacks and sandwiches. The top floor of the University Library offers a beautiful view from the roof terrace to go along with your coffee. In between lectures, the cafeteria at the Kollegienhaus with its lovely courtyard is a great place to be. Shielded from the sun by big umbrellas you can take a break from learning while enjoying a popsicle from the cooler. For those that do not spend their university days around Petersplatz, there are other catering facilities. The mensa at the Department of Physics is located at St. Johannis-Ring 25. Just around the corner, at Klingelbergstrasse 70, the canteen of the Biozentrum/Pharmazentrum welcomes hungry customers at lunch time. Students of law and economics are taken care of in the cafeteria “La Strada” at Peter Merian Weg 8, where two daily lunch menus, as well as the salad buffet and the soup of the day are served.

universitaet-basel.sv-group.ch
Cantina E9
This restaurant at Eulerstrasse 9 is open every lunchtime from 11:00 to 14:30 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 9.50 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 each day (including a vegetarian option) from 11:30 to 14:00. Make sure to try the homemade pasta, and don’t forget to take your “Legi” card.
borromaeum.ch

SkuBar
No plans for Thursday evening? During the semester, the bar at Petersgraben 50 opens at 9 pm with unbeatable prices and new music every time. SkuBar also has a Facebook page – become a fan and never miss out.
facebook.com/skuBAR.Basel
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

In comparison 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
- Rent: CHF 200.–
- Food, household, clothing: CHF 60.–
- Transportation: CHF 100.–
- Study material: CHF 140.–
- Culture and leisure: CHF 150.–
- Insurance, health care: CHF 140.–
- Tuition: CHF 150.–

**Total Minimum:** CHF 1500.–

### Average
- Rent: CHF 450.–
- Food, household, clothing: CHF 400.–
- Transportation: CHF 220.–
- Study material: CHF 500.–
- Culture and leisure: CHF 200.–
- Insurance, health care: CHF 300.–
- Tuition: CHF 150.–

**Total Average:** CHF 2100.–
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.
[hoeschulen.bs.ch/stipendien.html](http://hoeschulen.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.
[baselland.ch](http://baselland.ch)

**Aargau**
The Department of Education, Culture and Sport supports those students who cannot finance their university education themselves.
[ag.ch/stipendien](http://ag.ch/stipendien)

**Solothurn**
The Department of Education and Culture, Scholarships Department, advises students on all issues related to financing University education.
[so.ch](http://so.ch)

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

Financial support

The homepage of the Social Services provides an overview of possible sources of financial support for students at university. Resources are directed predominantly at students with very limited finances.
[unibas.ch/sozialberatung](http://unibas.ch/sozialberatung)

Switzerland’s scholarship system

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

Students are essentially responsible for their own insurance. However, all students enrolled at the University of Basel are automatically insured (free of charge) against accidents resulting in permanent damage. All persons residing in Switzerland are obligated to take out health insurance. And with so many potential providers, you really are spoilt for choice. To compare the different premiums, visit comparis.ch.

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 CHF 478.- (as at 2017) 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.
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 “Legi,” which allows you to make use of the library’s services. By the time the exams arrive, things are in full swing here and sought-after workstations become increasingly rare. Coats, bags, and food items are not permitted in the UB; all items must be handed in at the cloakroom or stored in one of the lockers by the entrance.

ub.unibas.ch

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., straight from your PC.

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
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 or +41 61 207 29 29

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 try out. The Student Exchange coordinates the opportunities 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
Language Center

As well as being fun, learning languages broadens your horizons. The Language Center offers good-value language courses for students at the University of Basel as well as intensive German courses for new students who do not speak German. The diverse range of courses covers everything from English and French to Swahili and Hungarian. And the best thing is that credit points for what is known as the complementary domain (komplementärer Bereich) – in which courses can be chosen freely across disciplines – can be attained for any courses you pass.

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

Swimming bag, t-shirts and more

The stylish way to swim: Keep your belongings dry with the University of Basel’s watertight swimming bag. The bags are available to buy for CHF 28 from the Unisport desk in the Kollegienhaus. You can also get your hands on t-shirts, hoodies and other uni merchandise.

unibas.ch/merchandise
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:

services.unibas.ch

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.
Support

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.
cfrentmate.urz.unibas.ch
Facts

The oldest university in Switzerland, Basel has a rich and fascinating history in teaching and research dating back more than 550 years. Since it was founded in 1460, our university has been constantly evolving and developing.
The university at a glance

Students
Humanities and Science are Basel’s largest faculties.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Theology</td>
<td>1460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Medicine</td>
<td>387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Humanities</td>
<td>5700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
<td>4300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-faculty</td>
<td>753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Founded

Faculties

Professors

Employees, of whom

are scientists

Million annual budget (CHF)
### Facts

#### Students

- **3489** Master’s students
- **6601** Bachelor’s students
- **1759** First-year students in Fall semester 2016

#### Level of study

With 22% doctoral students, Basel has a high proportion of early career researchers.

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

### International

- **114** Around 3000 international students from 114 nations
- **24** Percentage of international students and doctoral students

#### Origin

Around one quarter of students and doctoral students come from abroad.

![Origin chart](chart.png)
Did you know?

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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.
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.

2018
Opening of the new Biozentrum

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

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Switzerland
www.unibas.ch