

BERN UNIVERSITY OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Individualised studies for international mobility students

With over 3,000 students, Bern University of Teacher Education (PHBern) is one of Switzerland's major universities of teacher education.

Bern University of Teacher Education trains teachers for the entire school system: from pre-primary to lower secondary school and for middle school (upper secondary schools, vocational secondary schools), as well as special needs teachers. Every year, 700 qualified teachers graduate from Bern University of Teacher Education with a degree in teaching.

Training at this university is characterised by a large amount of practical work, which is facilitated by the university's cooperation with more than 70 schools offering internships. This ensures that students are well prepared for their future professional life.

Training takes place in the modern vonRoll university centre, a former industrial compound. Bern University of Teacher Education shares these attractive premises with the University of Bern. The largest library in the city of Bern, the vonRoll library, can be found here.

Bern University of Teacher Education supports teachers not only during their studies, but throughout their entire career – with advanced training courses, conferences and courses in advanced studies. The university's media centre offers practising teachers a large selection of teaching and learning media for all subjects. The core tasks of Bern University of Teacher Education also include research, development and evaluation. The aim is to link research, teaching and school practice.



Individualised studies for international mobility students

Bern University of Teacher Education offers incoming mobility students with proficient knowledge of English the following selection of individually arranged modules. After having applied for a mobility semester at Bern University of Teacher Education, incoming students create their individual study programme with the help of their assigned counsellor. The selected modules for incoming students take place in an authentic setting within the standard curriculum for domestic students. Within the modules incoming students are given specific individual support by the teaching staff. Mobility students can produce all their contributions in English.

AUTUMN SEMESTER

Exploring Education Systems: a critical examination and comparison of curriculum, structure and pedagogy (choice of 5 or 10 ECTS, compulsory for incoming mobility students)

Analysing and comparing education systems of different countries through pedagogical perspectives and theoretical models.

Handling sociocultural diversity (5 ECTS)

Concepts of diversity pedagogics, dimensions of sociocultural diversity, institutional discrimination, good practice examples etc.

Migration and interculturality (3 ECTS)

An interdisciplinary approach to framework, models and challenges of multicultural schools

Adolescence and society (3 ECTS)

Generating multidisciplinary knowledge about adolescents and their environment, development, existential and ethical challenges

Homework (3 ECTS)

How to give and see through homework

Basics of educational sociology for special needs education (4 ECTS)

Understand educational inequalities and critically discuss measures to reduce educational inequalities, apply this analysis to examples from school practice

Children with difficulties in oral and written language in the classroom (4 ECTS)

How to teach and support children with language problems in the classroom

Nature, Human, Society 1 (5 ECTS)

Understanding of learning and teaching the subject Nature, Human, Society in Swiss primary education (containing ethics, religion, community, economy, work, household, spaces, times, societies, nature, technology)

Vocational training and working environment (3 ECTS)

The Swiss vocational education system

Media and information technologies 1 (3 ECTS)

Learning and teaching with media

Art Education 2 (3 ECTS)

Developing artistic skills by exploring a range of different media, materials & techniques and planning teaching sequences for art education

French as a foreign language (language, culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, primary or secondary education, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

English as a foreign language (language, culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, primary or secondary education, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Italian as a foreign language (language culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Integrated traineeship (Various ECTS)

Placement at a local school with German, French or English as language of instruction

Traineeship for research and development (3 ECTS)

Deepening of scientifically reflected practice through participation in projects

Physical Education for future teachers (Various ECTS)

Various courses, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Music for future teachers (Various ECTS)

Various courses: basics of music, vocals, guitar, piano

Individual assignment (Various ECTS)

Students write a paper about a topic of choice linking scientific theories with teaching practice

German language courses (Various ECTS)

International Office provides details upon request

SPRING SEMESTER

Exploring Education Systems: a critical examination and comparison of curriculum, structure and pedagogy (choice of 5 or 10 ECTS, compulsory for incoming mobility students)

Analysing and comparing education systems of different countries through pedagogical perspectives and theoretical models.

Handling sociocultural diversity (5 ECTS)

Concepts of diversity pedagogics, dimensions of sociocultural diversity, institutional discrimination, good practice examples etc.

Global Education in the context of migration and mobility (3 ECTS)

Questions of knowledge inclusion from the Global South for learning and teaching. Form: research practice in social science

Childhoods and environments (5 ECTS)

Socialisation through family and school, peer relations, children as learners etc.

Migration and interculturality (3 ECTS)

An interdisciplinary approach to framework, models and challenges of multicultural schools

Adolescence and society (3 ECTS)

Generating multidisciplinary knowledge about adolescents and their environment, development, existential and ethical challenges

Teaching 4 (2 ECTS)

Age group transcended learning, teaching in age mixed classes, transitions in school careers etc.

Homework (3 ECTS)

How to give and see through homework

Vocational training and working environment (3 ECTS)

The Swiss vocational education system

Media and information technologies 1 (3 ECTS)

Learning and teaching with media

Media and information technologies 2 (2 ECTS)

E-Portfolio, LEGO Education Innovation Studio, algorithms for problem solving, digital organisation of schools etc.

Art Education 2 (3 ECTS)

Developing artistic skills by exploring a range of different media, materials & techniques and planning teaching sequences for art education

Optional module in Creative Design (2 ECTS)

Contents may vary depending on academic year, International Office or student counsellor provides more details upon request

French as a foreign language (language culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, primary or secondary education, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

English as a foreign language (language, culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, primary or secondary education, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Italian as a foreign language (language culture, teaching techniques) (Various ECTS)

Various courses, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Integrated traineeship (Various ECTS)

Placement at a local school with German, French or English as language of instruction

Traineeship for research and development (3 ECTS)

Deepening of scientifically reflected practice through participation in projects

Physical Education for future teachers (Various ECTS)

Various courses, International Office suggests suitable courses upon request

Music for future teachers (Various ECTS)

Various courses: basics of music, vocals, guitar, piano

Political Education (2 ECTS)

Research-based approach to children's ideas about politics, migration and political conflicts. Development of learning settings for political education in primary schools.

Sing playfully – sing with ease (2 ECTS)

Playful approach to singing using movement, mathematics, image, form, instruments, coordinative rhythm work, body percussion

Individual assignment (Various ECTS)

Students write a paper about a topic of choice linking scientific theories with teaching practice

German language courses (Various ECTS)

International Office provides more details upon request

Bern University of Teacher Education (PHBern) at a glance

Bern University of Teacher Education represents

- 4 institutes for teacher training
- 7 degree programmes
- 1 bilingual study programme (German / French)
- More than 70 partner schools
- Large amount of practical work

Key facts

- Founded in 2005
- over 3,000 students from throughout Switzerland
- 5 % international students
- Modern campus with great infrastructure



Testimonials

«I have grown both professionally and personally here.»

Sarah from South Africa

«I received useful suggestions for my master thesis.»

Maria from Columbia

«I could learn a lot about myself during an internship.»

Olwethu from South Africa

Useful Information

Application

Application should be carried out online. Please contact the International Office for the application link.

Application deadlines:

- April 1 for Autumn Term
- October 1 for Spring Term

Contact details

internationaloffice@phbern.ch

Further information

For further information, please visit the following website:

www.phbern.ch/international

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