Forming individuals who shape the future

swissuniversities supports and looks after the interests of Switzerland’s Doctoral/Research Universities, Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts and Universities of Teacher Education.

Together, these three university types constitute Switzerland's higher education – a complementary campus with close ties and relationships around the world.

We strive for uncompromising quality in everything we do, and we are proud that our unique education system makes Switzerland one of the world's leading countries for education, research and innovation.

More information on the different universities and the Swiss education system:

Booklet Studying in Switzerland: www.swissuniversities.ch/hei

Swiss Conference of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions: www.swissuniversities.ch

Your local experts for Swiss education, innovation and research around the world: www.swissnex.org
Putting knowledge into practice – and vice versa
A central pillar of the Swiss higher education system, the Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts understand sustainable progress as the evolution of the economy, culture and society through people and technology. Thus they form individuals who shape the future and contribute to lasting progress.

The Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts are closely linked with economy, culture and society and maintain beneficial collaborations with companies, public institutions and other educational establishments.

The Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts...

1. … are highly relevant to practice.
2. … increase companies’ innovative strength.
3. … provide the employment market with the experts it needs.
4. … provide excellent job and career prospects for their graduates.
5. … comply with Swiss quality standards in the field of education and research.
6. … lay the foundation for sustainable economic, cultural and social progress.
15 sec

The Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts: what we do.
What we do

- **We teach** – theoretically sound and practice-oriented
- We practice *applied research*
- We offer *continuing education*
- We make our knowledge available to companies and institutions from the fields of economy, society and culture

Degrees

**Degree programmes:**
- Bachelor
- Master

**Continuing education:**
- CAS Certificate of Advanced Studies
- DAS Diploma of Advanced Studies
- MAS Master of Advanced Studies/EMBA Executive Master of Business Administration

And after you’ve received your degree?

**Get hired!**
Most degree programmes at the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts qualify you for a job already at Bachelor level. What’s more, with their practice-oriented education our graduates are much sought after.

**Launch a start-up!**
Our students benefit from the close collaboration between the university and the “real world”. From day one, they are encouraged to think and act independently and innovatively.

**Continue studying!**
There is always something exciting to learn – and the Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts are sure to have something that interests you.

**Research!**
Finding new solutions for concrete technical or social problems – that’s what we’re all about. The Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts offer qualified researchers a fascinating working environment. In some departments, you have the possibility to earn a PhD in collaboration with a Doctoral/Research University.
Local advantages

A key strength of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts is their solid local roots. Direct personal contact with companies, other universities as well as private and public institutions has many advantages, for example:

**Practice orientation:** Teaching staff and students are up to date and aware of the latest developments in their fields. During their studies future graduates already establish valuable contacts with the professional world.

**Innovative strength:** time to market is very short, therefore current “real world” problems can be addressed and quickly solved.

**Effective support:** The Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts contribute to an optimal value chain in economy, society and culture – both regionally and on a national level.

Switzerland has four national languages: French, German, Italian and Romansh. English is widely spoken and used as a language of business, higher education and research.
Local and global impact

The Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts maintain partnerships with local and global partners to exchange knowledge and experience and to ensure practical relevance. We also work closely with universities, corporations, research facilities as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations to address local and global challenges such as climate, energy, water, migration, demographics, health, economics, etc.

This means that finding solutions to questions such as those below can benefit an organization, a community, a city, a country or even people worldwide.

How can IT be innovatively used in the banking sector?

How can agricultural waste be recycled and used as construction material?

How do we develop foods that are healthy, tasty, safe and sustainable?

How can welfare integration programmes be successfully planned and realised?

How do cultural journalists and ethnologists create social realities with cultural storytelling?

How can we make factories more energy efficient?
Award-winning excellence
A selection of award-winning graduates

**Michael Fehr**
Author
Kelag-Prize (Ingeborg-Bachmann Contest) for *Simeliberg*
Master of Arts in Contemporary Arts Practice
Bern University of Applied Sciences and Arts BFH – HKB

**Laura Couto Rosado**
Designer
Design Parade 9 Award for *Le Chant des Quartz*
Master of Arts in Design
University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland HES-SO – HEAD

**Thomas Bentivegna**
Junior scientist
“BestMasters” award by science publisher Springer for *Innovation Network Functionality*
Master of Science in Business Administration, Major in New Business
University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland FHO – HTW

**Tobias Ott & Claude Ritschard**
Mechanical engineers
Siemens Excellence Award for *the Development and construction of an experimental wood carburetor*
Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering
Zürcher Fachhochschule ZFH – ZHAW

**Anete Melece**
Illustrator, animator and graphic designer
Swiss Film Award in the category “Best Animation Film” for *The Kiosk*
Master of Arts in Design
Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts HSLU – D&K
**Variety and versatility**

The Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts offer great variety and a unique choice of degree programmes. This versatility allows us to provide a comprehensive range of studies and continuing education. In all faculties and departments, students benefit from the practice-oriented expertise of our lecturers and researchers as well as from our close cooperation with local and international companies and institutions.

**Students according to departments**

- **Architecture, construction and planning** 6.2%
- **Business and services** 35.6%
- **Engineering and IT** 17.0%
- **Design** 4.2%
- **Music, theatre and other arts** 8.7%
- **Chemistry and life sciences** 3.6%
- **Agriculture and forestry** 0.6%
- **Applied linguistics** 0.7%
- **Social work** 11.3%
- **Applied psychology** 1.9%
- **Health** 10%
- **Sports** 0.2%

Swiss Federal Statistical Office, 2013, n = 68 802
Innovate

A selection of 4 groundbreaking research projects
**Project: MacSheep**
*University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland, FHO (Hochschule für Technik Rapperswil)*

The University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland is coordinating the international project MacSheep. Its objective is the development of new innovative products and advanced test methods for a next generation of compact combined renewable energy systems based on solar thermal and heat pump technology for space heating and hot water preparation, using breakthroughs in ICT, new materials and technology. The goal is to achieve 25% energy savings compared to current state-of-the-art systems, while ensuring competitive prices on the market.

**Project: Building materials from agricultural waste**
*Bern University of Applied Sciences, BFH (Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering)*

Rice, corn and other agricultural residues are valuable in northern Nigeria, where they are recycled and have become a particular challenge for the local construction industry. The Bern University of Applied Sciences is conducting a research project investigating ways in which agricultural residues might, in the future, be processed at low cost for use in the building trade, for example in the form of composite construction panels.

**Project: Kill-Spill**
*University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, FHNW (Life Sciences)*

The University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland is participating in the project Kill-Spill. Kill-Spill is a European funded project focusing on the development of highly efficient, economically and environmentally viable solutions for the clean-up of oil spills caused by maritime transport or offshore oil exploration and related processes. It provides new tools to promote novel (bio)technologies in oil spills remediation.

**Project: Factory-Ecomation**
*University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland, SUPSI (Department of Innovative Technologies)*

The goal of the project Factory-Ecomation is to increase the energy efficiency and reduce emissions of factories. Its main objective is to conceive, define, design and demonstrate, through adequate industrial pilots, a new paradigm of factory where energy, emissions, and environmental-related aspects in general, are considered and included into the structure and management of the factory itself. These aspects are considered with the same importance of traditional criteria such as productivity and product quality.
97% of our Bachelor graduates are employed one year after completion of their studies.

Swiss Education Report 2014

63% of the Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts Graduates are offered management-level positions.

IF Schweiz, Salary survey 2013
One of the most important aspects of my UAS study was to further develop the ability to reason systematically. In addition, I found the practice orientation and the broad content very valuable.

Lukas Gähwiler
Alumnus FHO/FHS, CEO UBS Switzerland

The Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts consistently align their study programmes with the current and future job-market requirements. Thus they increase the graduates’ job perspectives as well as the competitiveness of Switzerland as a business location.

Mauro Dell’Ambrogio
Swiss State Secretary for Education, Research and Innovation

Companies in Switzerland are fortunate to have excellent Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Dr. Erich Hochuli
Head Biotech Production Roche, Switzerland

I am grateful for the Swiss education system. Based on my apprenticeship, it allowed me to reach a level where I can take decisions and really make a difference.

Cédric Ochsner
Alumnus ZFH/ZHAW, Chief Operating Officer Chocolat Frey
A survey with Business Administration Bachelor graduates shows that more than *85 percent* attribute a high to very high use for professional life to their studies.

*Nine out of ten* bachelor graduates would also recommend the study programme.
The salary survey 2013 by FH SCHWEIZ shows University of Applied Sciences and Arts bachelors’ satisfaction with their studies: *Four out of five* state that they have been well to very well prepared for professional life by their university.