Christianity and Religious Studies

Degree conferred
Bachelor of Arts in interreligious Studies

Options
Option of an award bearing the distinction «Bilingual curriculum» (French – German).

Languages of study
Possibility to study in German or in German and French.

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Master

The Bachelor of Arts in interreligious Studies offers systematic basic training in the field of Christianity and religious studies, covering religions, their role and their evolution throughout history and society. Special attention is focused on Christianity, interreligious and intercultural dialogues, and self-reflection in other religions, particularly Islam.

The main programme is currently being offered in German or as part of the bilingual course (German and French), in which case the resulting degree will carry the distinction «Bilingual curriculum».

Profile of the study programme

The religious landscape in Switzerland has been changing for some time. One of the main reasons for this evolution is the growing number of religions represented in the country. Contrary to secularisation theory, what we currently see unfolding is less a return to the established churches that have existed in Europe for centuries than the stabilisation of these same religious groups, and the growing importance of denominations recently introduced into Switzerland through immigrant communities (whether Christian, Muslim, Hindu or Buddhist).

Religions are thus becoming key social players because, by virtue of their histories, they possess rich reservoirs of practices, institutions and ways of attributing meaning to human life. These reservoirs can, if needed, be useful to society, for example in interreligious discussions or peace education. However, it must not be forgotten that religion can also spark conflict, and it is therefore also necessary to be able to anticipate interreligious dynamics that could trigger destructive forces.

The programme serves to link the perspectives of theology,
120 ECTS credits + 60 ECTS credits in one or two minor study programmes freely chosen, 6 semesters

Curriculum
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/-2cSf (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/qzm2J (German)

Admission
The following Swiss school-leaving certificates grant admission to Bachelor programmes at the University of Fribourg:

- Swiss academic Maturity Certificate
- Swiss professional Maturity Certificate in conjunction with the supplementary exam certificate from the Swiss Maturity Commission
- Bachelor Degree from a Swiss university, from an accredited Swiss university of applied sciences (HES/FH) or from a Swiss university of teacher education (HEP/PH)

A complete list of all further recognized Swiss school-leaving certificates is to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities (in French and German only): http://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-swisscertificates

Foreign upper secondary school-leaving certificates are recognised only if they correspond substantially to the Swiss Maturity Certificate. They must qualify as general education. Foreign school-leaving certificates are considered to be general education if the last three years of schooling include at least six general education subjects, independent from each other, in accordance with the following list:

1. First language (native language)
2. Second language
3. Mathematics
4. Natural sciences (biology, chemistry or physics)
5. Humanities and social sciences (geography, history or economics/law)
6. Elective (an additional language or an additional subject from category 4 or 5)

The general admission requirements to the Bachelor programmes at the University of Fribourg for holders of foreign school-leaving certificates as well as the admission requirements for individual countries are to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities: http://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-country-list

In addition, foreign candidates must present proof of sufficient language skills in French or German.

The assessment of foreign school-leaving certificates is based on the «CRUS Recommendations for the Assessment of Foreign Upper Secondary School-Leaving Certificates, 7 September 2007» (http://studies.unifr.ch/go/crus07en). The admission requirements are valid for the respective academic year. The Rectorat of the University of Fribourg reserves the right to change these requirements at any time.

Alternatives
Also offered as a minor study programme (60/30 ECTS credits).