Social Work and Social Policy

Degree conferred

Commencement of studies
An application for admission may be submitted at any time.

Regulation
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/dGLfK (French and German only)

Application procedure
Candidates with Swiss qualifications
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/0bJpN
Candidates with foreign qualifications
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/4a2qV

Fribourg profile
The Department of Social Work, Social Policy and Global Development supervises doctoral theses in Social Work and Social Policy on various topics and various methods. Doctoral theses at the Department of Social Work, Social Policy and Global Development encompass both basic research and applied research. Supervision takes place individually and/or within a doctoral programme.

Individual supervision includes regular colloquia where doctoral students present their work and receive feedback from their supervisors.

The doctoral programme PROWEL (Social Problems and Social Welfare; see link below) is offered in English in the field of Social Work and Social Policy. Doctoral students present their work at regular intervals throughout the doctoral programme. They receive comments and feedback on their work from colleagues, professors and international experts. Doctoral students are motivated to and supported when presenting their results at national and international conferences. They are also given national and international networking opportunities. PROWEL does not dispose of grants for doctoral students.

Content, methods and language of the thesis work are agreed with the supervising professor, supervising assistant professor.

Professors who are eligible to supervise theses

- Prof. Monica Budowski

Areas of specialisation:
- Social inequalities and cultural differences; poverty; precariousness; vulnerability
- Welfare regimes; social policy and social security in countries of the Global South
- Families, households and gender; life events and life course
- Health and social support; quality of life; social quality
- Qualitative and quantitative methods; longitudinal analyses; comparative methods

Theses can be supervised in German, English, Spanish or French.

- Prof. Michael Nollert

Areas of specialisation:
- Welfare production, social state, social security, social networks
- Economic sociology, labour market, voluntary work, interest intermediation
- Social conflicts, cultural differences, delinquency, self-injurious behaviour
- Quantitative methods; qualitative comparison analysis (QCA); network analysis

Theses can be supervised in German or English.

- PD Dr. Marina Richter (in co-direction)

Areas of specialisation:
- Practices and policies of migration and transnationality
- Judicial system (penal and correctional system); administrative detention and other forms of confinement
- Gender and intersectionality
- Qualitative methods; evaluation research

Theses can be supervised in German, Spanish or English.

- Prof. Marc-Henry Soulet

Areas of specialisation:
- Social work
- Social problems
- Social policy

Theses can be supervised in French.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies
No ECTS credits can be earned.

Doctoral school
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-prowel

Admission

In order to be admitted to a doctorate the candidate must have been awarded an academic Bachelor’s and Master’s degree or an equivalent qualification by a university recognised by the University of Fribourg.

Before applying for a doctorate the candidate must contact a professor who would be willing to supervise the thesis work.
There is **no general right** to be admitted to a doctorate.

*The respective conditions of admission for each doctoral study programme are reserved.*

**Contact**

Faculty of Humanities  
Social Work and Social Policy  
Prof. Marc-Henry Soulet  
marc-henry.soulet@unifr.ch  
Doris Gehring  
doris.gehring@unifr.ch  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-socialwork](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-socialwork) (French)  
Prof. Monica Budowski  
monica.budowski@unifr.ch  
Prof. Michael Nollert  
michael.nollert@unifr.ch  
PD Dr. Marina Richter  
sopa@unifr.ch  
Etienne Raemy  
etienne.raemy@unifr.ch  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-sociology-socialwork](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-sociology-socialwork) (German)

**Doc- Postdoc-portal**

[http://www.unifr.ch/phd](http://www.unifr.ch/phd)