Educational Sciences

Degree conferred
Philosophiae Doctor in Scientia Paedagogica / Doctor of Philosophy in Education (PhD)

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
In line with the Department’s philosophy, you will be allowed to write your thesis on a rich variety of topics within the general framework of educational sciences. Our Professors will guide you in defining the most relevant questions referring to education and training in various contexts such as school, –from Kindergarten to High-school or University—, families, culture or workplace.

Depending on the topics you’ll work on, your dissertation will have a stronger empirical focus or a more theoretical, fundamental accent. In any case however, you’ll be asked to ground your work in a strong theoretical perspective, and to conduct a thorough literature review on the subject.

Doctoral students in education at the University of Fribourg are given the possibility to attend various doctoral programs, offered by our Department in conjunction with partner Universities in Switzerland, Bern, Geneva, Lausanne, Neuchâtel or Zurich.

Before registering, you’ll have to contact a Professor in the list below and discuss your intentions and interests with him or her. Although most of them do accept dissertations to be written in English, not all of them do so. In some cases, you might be asked to compose your thesis in French or in German, the two official languages of the University.

Professors who are eligible to supervise theses

- Prof. Bernadette Charlier

Areas of specialisation:
- Educational technologies
- Adult education
- High school education

- Prof. Edgar Forster

Areas of specialisation:
- Social and philosophical foundations of education
- Globalization and education / post-colonialism
- Knowledge production

Dissertations will have to be written in French or in English.

- Prof. Philippe Genoud

Areas of specialisation:
- Social relationships in school and in the classroom
- Emotional aspects of learning
- Classroom climate
- Educational measurement

Dissertations will have to be written in French.

- Prof. Claudia Leopold

Areas of specialisation:
- Educational psychology
- Self-regulated learning
- Multimedia learning with visual tools

Dissertations will have to be written in German or in English.

- Prof. Cathryn Magno

Areas of specialisation:
- Comparative and international education
- Education and governance
- Migration, human rights, and gender in education

Dissertations will have to be written in English.

- Prof. Tania Ogay

Areas of specialisation:
- Family-school relationships
- Professional practices in intercultural contexts
- Intercultural training of professionals

Dissertations will have to be written in French, in English or possibly in German.

- Prof. Christine Pauli

Areas of specialisation:
- General didactics
- Empirical research on teaching
- Professional knowledge of teachers
- Research on teacher training

Dissertations will have to be written in German.

- Prof. Eric Sanchez
Areas of specialisation:
– Game-based learning
– Epistemic games
– Design and use of digital environments for education and training
– Teaching and learning of Natural Sciences

Dissertations will have to be written in French or in English.

**Studies organisation**

**Structure of studies**

No ECTS credits can be earned.

**Doctoral school**

[https://education.cuso.ch](https://education.cuso.ch)
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-doktori-renden-kolloquium](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-doktori-renden-kolloquium)
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-migration-and-postcoloniality-meet-switzerland](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-migration-and-postcoloniality-meet-switzerland)

**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  
Department of Educational Sciences  
Xavier Conus (French)  
xavier.conus@unifr.ch  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-educational-sciences](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-educational-sciences)  
Prof. Christine Pauli (German)  
christine.pauli@unifr.ch  
[http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-educational-sciences](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-educational-sciences)

**Doc- Postdoc-portal**

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