Special Education and Social Pedagogy

Degree conferred
Bachelor of Arts

Languages of study
Possibility to study in French or in German

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies only in the Autumn Semester (September)

Access to further studies
Master

This course of study deals with the special educational needs of children, adolescents and sometimes also adults whose social and academic education and general fostering of their needs pose a long-term challenge. Before students start their course, they have to undertake a nine-month internship in one area of special education or social pedagogy. During the Bachelor's programme, the students take an in-depth look at special education and social pedagogy issues, at the same studying basic subjects in related disciplines such as education, psychology and medicine. Internships and research work are also an integral part of the course. The Special Education and Social Pedagogy programme in Fribourg is the only university course in Switzerland which qualifies students for both academic and professional careers in this field.

Profile of the study programme

The Bachelor of Arts in Special Education and Social Pedagogy is a vocational university training course which teaches students basic theoretical and practical skills as well as giving them a broad, basic grounding in special education and related fields.

The programme is aimed at students with a general upper secondary school leaving qualification who wish to take up a practical career or do research in the fields of special education and social pedagogy. This means that they will be dealing with the special educational needs of children, adolescents and sometimes also adults whose social and academic education and general fostering of their needs pose a long-term challenge. It also encompasses the issue of social environment.

In preparation for the programme, students must undertake a nine-month internship. Special Education and Social Pedagogy is a full-time course in which students earn 180 ECTS credits over six semesters. The curriculum encompasses the basics of special education and related disciplines (such as education, psychology and medicine), in-depth study of special education and social pedagogy issues, practical training in various fields and writing research papers.

Fribourg profile

The Special Education and Social Pedagogy programme is the only university course in Switzerland which qualifies students for both academic and professional careers in this field. Including both a theoretical part and practical experience, it not only gives students a basic grounding in the subject studied but also in the discipline of Special Education as a whole.

The Special Education and Social Pedagogy training course is made up of two core study areas: intellectual and developmental disability and lifespan perspectives, of which they acquire in-depth knowledge.

This Bachelor's degree teaches students the requisite skills either for a professional career in the field of special education and social pedagogy or for further academic studies. Here, the choices open to them are a Master's degree in Special Needs Education or a consecutive Master's degree combined with a Doctorate in Special Education and Social Pedagogy and related disciplines.

The Bachelor's course in Special Education takes both a humanistic and a scientific approach.

Learning outcomes and career openings

With regard to the professional and academic training of students in Special Education and Social Pedagogy, the overall goals are:

- To teach them the required skills to educate socially and academically, foster and support, guide, counsel, integrate, mentor and care for disabled and potentially disabled children, adolescents and adults. The possible clients are, notably, children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disability or profound intellectual and multiple, as well as children and adolescents with behavioural disorders and their respective social environments;
- The required skills for working with reference people from the clients' social background (families, specialists) and for counselling, guiding and supporting them;
- Self-awareness, self-reflection and self-evaluation in their professional activity and role;
- The required skills for observing, analysing and interpreting situations and using this knowledge to take appropriate action;
- The required skills to undertake process and network analyses, planning and evaluation, and public relations work;
- Theoretical knowledge of academic and social education and disability and the ability to categorise these contents to critical discernment.

During the programme, the students do practical work with the following client groups:

- Children, adolescents and adults with intellectual and developmental disability or profound intellectual and multiple disabilities;

http://studies.unifr.ch/enbachelor/pedpsy/specialeducation

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Descriptif de programme d'études
Bachelor

- Enfants et adolescents avec comportements difficiles ou dans des situations de vie difficiles;
- Enfants, adolescents et adultes avec des handicaps moteurs ou sensoriels, ou autisme;
- Personnes en danger de handicap.

Les perspectives de carrière des diplômés avec un Bachelor of Arts en Éducation spéciale et Pédagogie sociale couvrent les mêmes objectifs globaux et groupes de clients que pendant leur stage:

- Travail éducatif et pédagogique spécialisé en services de soutien aux personnes handicapées et aux services de jeunesse;
- Gestion éducative et fonctions d'advisory dans les services de soutien aux personnes handicapées et aux services de jeunesse;
- Formation à tous les niveaux de travailleurs spécialisés dans les services de soutien aux personnes handicapées et aux services de jeunesse;
- Études supérieures (Master).

Organisation des études

Structure des études

180 ECTS credits, 6 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/6bJ0s (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/AC34U (German)

Admission

Les diplômes scolaires suisses reconnus accédent à Bachelor programmes à l'Université de Fribourg:

- Diplôme de maturité académique;
- Diplôme de maturité professionnelle en conjonction avec le diplôme de maturité supplémentaire émis par la Commission suisse de maturité;
- Diplôme de licence d'une université suisse, dû à une université suisse reconnue par l'HEP ou une université de teacher education (HEP/PH)


Certificats scolaires supérieurs étrangers sont reconnus uniquement si le niveau scolaire est équivalent à la maturité suisse. Ils doivent être considérés comme un enseignement général. Les certificats scolaires supérieurs sont considérés comme un enseignement général si les trois dernières années de l'école comprennent au moins six sujets généraux indépendants, en accord avec la liste suivante:

1. Première langue (langue maternelle)
2. Deuxième langue
3. Mathématiques
4. Sciences naturelles (biologie, chimie ou physique)

Les candidats se présentant au programme de Bachelor in Special Education and Social Pedagogy doivent remplir l'une des conditions suivantes:

- Confirmation d'avoir effectué un stage de trois mois en établissement d'éducation spécialisée;
- ou: confirmation d'avoir effectué neuf mois d'emploi en tant qu'enseignant qualifié (une année scolaire avec un emploi complet).

Si le stage ne correspond pas à temps plein, sa durée doit être prolongée correspondamment.

Contact

Faculté des Lettres
Éducation et Pédagogie sociale
Arnaud Maret, conseiller de stage
arnaud.maret@unifr.ch

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-specialeducation (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-specialeducation (German)