The master programme «Islam and Society» is unique in Europe. It teaches skills required for a nuanced approach to complex debates, addressing central questions of the religious self-understanding of Muslims and developing perspectives on current social challenges. The particularity of the programme is the systematic interweaving of the two fields of knowledge, Islam and society, whereby sociological, theological, historical and practical aspects are incorporated into an integrative approach. The programme is run by the Swiss Centre for Islam and Society (CSIS) at the University of Fribourg.

Learning outcomes and career openings
Students who successfully complete the study programme will have acquired the skills to:

- Analyse complex phenomena related to Islam and Muslims in a European and Swiss context using different disciplinary approaches;
- Transpose existing knowledge to new contexts in a dynamic interaction between Islam and society;
- Formulate innovative research ideas in previously little explored domains;
- Develop independent scientific positions in a highly controversial and polarised area of research and debate;
- Formulate results based on scholarly standards, also taking into consideration the different expectations of political and social actors.

Many lines of work today require skills connected to cultural and religious diversity. Graduates of the Islam and Society master's degree programme may consider the following professional fields:

- Public administration and institutions;
- Social area;
- Diplomatic service, political parties and foundations;
- Adult education;
- Religious communities and organisations;
- Diversity management in the private sector;
- Communications and media;
- Migration and intercultural competence;
- Civil society organisations (NGOs);
- Academic research and scholarship.

Studies organisation
Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits, 3 semesters
Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor's degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master's degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master's degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

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

Contact

Swiss Centre for Islam and Society
szig@unifr.ch
http://www.unifr.ch/szig