Education 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
https://studies.unifr.ch/go/Ul3b4
Candidates with foreign qualifications
https://studies.unifr.ch/go/2KPbe

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 education 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 programmes, 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. Jean-Louis Berger
  Areas of specialisation:
  - Self-regulated learning
  - Motivation to learn and to teach
  - Metacognition
  - Vocational Education and Training

- Assessment
  Dissertations will have to be written in French or in English.
  - Prof. Pierre-François Coen
    Areas of specialisation:
    - Assessment, self-assessment
    - Teacher training
    - Educational technology
    - Musical education/training
    Dissertations will have to be written in French.
  - 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. Veronika Magyar-Haas
    Areas of specialisation:
    - Qualitative-empirical research on education and inequality
    - Social scientific research on body and emotions
    - Well-being, participation, agency and vulnerability in childhood and youth
    - Research on multilingualism in early childhood
    Dissertations will have to be written in German or 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.

**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-doktorierenden-kolloquium](http://studies.unifr.ch/go/phd-doktorierenden-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 from 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 Education Sciences  
Xavier Conus *(French)*  
xavier.conus@unifr.ch  
[https://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-educationsciences](https://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-educationsciences)

Prof. Cathryn Magno *(German)*  
cathryn.magno@unifr.ch  
[https://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-educationsciences](https://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-educationsciences)

**Doc- Postdoc-portal**

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