

Curriculum of the studies in Psychology at Swiss universities

The Swiss law of psychological professions (PsyG¹) serves as the basis of the legal regulation of the study in Psychology at Swiss universities, the further specialist titles and the regulated professional titles in the various fields of psychology listed in the article 8 of the PsyG. The Swiss universities represented by KPSYCH² created the following consensus based on their study regulations and curricula (see attachment 1 and 2). This consensus serves as the basis for the recognition of psychology majors at Swiss universities and as an evaluation basis for professional and political decision-making bodies.

1. Contentual und structural minimum criteria

Bachelor program 180 ECTS, of which at least 120 ECTS fall within the various fields of psychology	Methodology	At least 30 ECTS with at least 21 ECTS in statistics / methodology and at least 3 ECTS in empirical-experimental internship and participation in psychological studies
	Basics and their application	At least 54 ECTS with at least 3 ECTS in one or more of the following five fields: Cognitive/Emotional / Motivational Psychology; Biological Psychology/Neuropsychology; Social Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Personality Psychology/Differential Psychology; Clinical Psychology/Health Psychology; Business/Work/Organizational psychology
	Practical skills	At least 3 ECTS
	Other	At least 33 ECTS within the field of Psychology
	Master program 120 ECTS, of which at least 105 ECTS fall within the various fields of psychology	Theory
	Methodology	At least 6 ECTS
	Master's thesis	At least 30 ECTS
	Internship	At least 9 ECTS
	Other	At least 48 ECTS within the field of Psychology

2. Consecutiveness

In order to pursue the regulated profession of a psychologist (see Swiss law of psychological professions „PsyG“) and to obtain further professional titles in the field of psychology, the successful completion of a consecutive study in Psychology is required. The Bachelor as well as the Master program need to meet the contentual and structural minimum criteria listed above.

3. Minimal criteria regarding the qualification and quality control

The study in Psychology needs to be taught by qualified personnel and evaluated continuously.

Approved on 10 October 2020 by the Commission for Studies in Psychology at Swiss Universities (KPSYCH)

¹ SR 935.81

² University of Basel, University of Bern, University of Freiburg/Université de Fribourg, Université de Genève, Université de Lausanne, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz, UniDistance/FernUni Schweiz, Università della Svizzera italiana, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, University of Zürich

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Swiss Psychological Society
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Psychologie
Société Suisse de Psychologie

Attachment 1: Study regulations and curricula of the Bachelor program in Psychology at Swiss universities represented by the KPSYCH

Bachelor program	University of Basel	University of Bern	University of Freiburg	University of Zürich	Université de Genève	UniDistance FernUni Schweiz		Université de Lausanne	FHNW		ZHAW
Field						F	D		AOP	WP	
Introduction	6	2	3	2	9	4	10	3	1	1	5
Methodology	34	31	42	33	33-42	46	40	45	33	36	31
Statistics und Methodology	26	25	27	25	30-39	36	30	36	27	30	21
Empirical-experimental internship and participation in psychological studies	9	6	18	8	3	10	10	12	6	6	10
Basics / Application	81	56	54	75	123-132	110	100	60	61	64	59
Cognitive/Emotional/Motivational Psychology	11	12	6-9	13	15-24	20	30	3	10	10	8
Biological Psychology/Neuropsychology	11	6	3-12	10	6	20	10	9	3	3	4
Social Psychology	11	6	0-6	6	6-9	10	10	6	6	6	3
Developmental Psychology	11	6	6-9	10	6-12	20	10	6	3	3	5
Personality Psychology/Differential Psychology	3	3	0-3	4	6	10	10	6	3	3	4
Clinical Psychology/Health Psychology	11	9	6-12	20	3-18	20	20	18	9	3	27
Business/Work/Organizational Psychology	3	6	0-9	8	3	10	10		27	36	8
Other fields	20	8	0-21	4	54-87			12			-
Practical skills	13	21	27	4	6	10	10	9	21	12	28
Diagnostics	10	11	9	4	6	10	10	6	3		18
Practical skills	3	10	18					3	18	12	10
Work internship / scientific internship	10		18		6 (optional)				26	26	21
Bachelor's thesis	8	10	15	6	6 (optional)	10	10		12	12	15
Elective subjects	15-39	60	18	60	42		10	63	26	29	21
Total	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180

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Attachment 2: Study regulations and curricula of the Master program in Psychology at Swiss universities represented by the KPSYCH

Master program	University of Basel			University of Bern		University of Freiburg	Université de Neuchatel	University of Zürich	Université de Genève				UniDistance FernUni Schweiz		Université de Lausanne			FHNW	ZHAW	Università della Svizzera italiana
	KPB	SWE	PEP	HB	VB				CI	A	F	RAP	F	D	PCO	AOP	WP			CPHC
Theory	15	15	12	60	60	45-60	48	38	36		27	27	25	15	36	39	33	27	19	69
Practical skills	4	4	8														12	12	3	
Methodology	6	6-20	6	10	10	15-30	18	8	9	9	9	9	20	20	9	9	12	18	20	9
Internship	10	10	10	10	10	15	12	16	15	15	15		15	15	18	15	18	18	12	9
Master's thesis	45	45	45	30	30	30	30	38	30	30	30	45	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Master's exam	10	10	10					8												
Elective	6-34	6-34	6-34	10	10		12	12	30	33	39	39	30	40	27	27	15	15	36	3
Total	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120