Curriculum of the studies in Psychology at Swiss universities

The Swiss law of psychological professions (PsyG[1]) 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 KPSYCH[2] 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 at least five of the following 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	At least 12 ECTS
	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 content 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 by the Commission for Studies in Psychology at Swiss Universities (KPSYCH) on 10 October 2020; updated version approved on 11 November 2025.

[1] SR 935.81; https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2012/268/de (in German)
[2] University of Basel, University of Bern, University of Freiburg/Université de Fribourg, Université de Genêve, Université de Lausanne, Hochschule Luzern HSLU, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW, UniDistance/FernUni Schweiz, Università della Svizzera italiana, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften ZHAW, University of Zürich

SPS SGP SSP

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 Fribourg**	**University of Zürich**	**Université de Genêve**	**UniDistance FernUni Schweiz**		**Université de Lausanne**	**FHNW**		**ZHAW**	**HSLU**	
Field						**F**	**D**		**AOP**	**WP**			
Introduction	**3**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**9**	**10**	**10**	**9**	**1**	**1**	**5**		
Methodology	**37**	**31**	**45**	**33**	**33-42**	**39**	**40**	**45**	**33**	**33**	**31**	**30**	
Statistics und Methodology	26	25	27	25	30-39	29	30	39	27	27	28	27	
Empirical-experimental internship and participation in psychological studies	11	6	18	8	3	10	10	6	6	6	3	3	
Basics / Application	**70**	**56**	**54**	**75**	**123-132**	**116**	**100**	**69**	**68**	**72**	**56**	**78**	
Cognitive/Emotional/Motivational Psychology	14	12	6-9	13	15-24	30	30	9	10	10	8	9	
Biological Psychology/Neuro-psychology	8	6	3-12	10	6	19	10	12	3	3	4	-	
Social Psychology	14	6	0-6	6	6-9	10	10	12	6	6	6	6	
Developmental Psychology	14	6	6-9	10	9-12	10	10	6	3	3	5	3	
Personality Psychology/Differential Psychology	0	3	0-3	4	6	4	10	6	3	3	7	3	
Clinical Psychology/Health Psychology	14	9	6-12	20	3-18	20	20	18	9	3	22	3	
Business/Work/Organizational Psychology	6	6	0-9	8	3	10	10	3	33	28	4	**AOP** 24	**MKP** 24
Other fields		8	0-21	4	54-87	13	-	3	1	16	-	30	
Practical skills	**11**	**21**	**27**	**4**	**6**	**15**	**10**	**9**	**21**	**12**	**28**	**27**	
Diagnostics	7	11	9	4	6	10	10	6	3		18	-	
Practical skills	4	10	18			5		3	18	12	10	27	
Work/scientific internship	**12**		**18**		**6 (optional)**				**27**	**27**	**20**	**12**	
Bachelor's thesis	**12**	**10**	**15**	**6**	**6 (optional)**		**10**		**12**	**12**	**15**	**15**	
Elective subjects	**35**	**60**	**18**	**60**	**42**		**10**	**48**	**18**	**23**	**31**	**12**	
Total	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	**180**	

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 Fribourg	University of Neuchatel	University of Zurich	University of Geneva	UniDistance FernUni Schweiz		University of Lausanne	FHNW	ZHAW	Università della Svizzera italiana
Field							**F**	**D**				
Theory	**15**	**60**	**63**	**51**	**38**	**54-81**	**15**	**40**	**39**	**36**	**18**	**62**
Practical skills	**12**					**3-18**			**3-15**	**12**		
Methodology	**26**	**10**	**12**	**6**	**8**	**9**	**20**	**20**	**12**	**12**	**20**	**6**
Internship	12	**10**	**15**	**15**	**16**	**6-15**	**15**	**15**	**15-18**	**18**	**12**	**14**
Master's thesis	**30**	**30**	**30**	**36**	**38**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**30**
Master's exam	**10**				**8**							
Elective	**15**	**10**		**12**	**12**	**6**	**40**	**15**	**6-24**	**12**	**40**	**8**
Total	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**	**120**