

# White Rose University Consortium: College of Arts and Humanities

## Arts and Humanities Research Culture in Germany

### Universities

#### Austria and Switzerland

While this guide is mainly intended to facilitate a transition into the academic environment of Germany from the UK, this section provides some basic information on tuition fees, funding and further reading on Austria and Switzerland. A lot of what has been said about Germany may be true for Austria, too, and possibly also for the German-speaking parts of Switzerland. However, it is always best to double-check with your university of interest, especially as fee structures and admission guidelines are constantly in flux.



#### Austria

Tuition fees at one of the 22 universities in Austria are currently around 360 Euros for those students exceeding their Regelstudienzeit (see glossary); everyone else does not pay any at all. They will be higher at the 13 private universities there are; they will be lower or non-existent even when exceeding the Regelstudienzeit if you decide to study at one of the 20 technical universities, e.g. the FH Burgenland, Kärnten, or the FH Vorarlberg. The fee structure in Austria is debated and might be changing again in the near future – see this article in the [der Standard](#) from July 2013 (in German). Note that students with non-EU nationalities have to pay around 730 Euros per semester as things currently stand.

A good first port of call to read up on the Austrian funding situation is the website of the [Österreichischer Austauschdienst](#), the Austrian equivalent to the DAAD. In terms of research funding, the website of the [Fonds zur Förderung der wissenschaftlichen Forschung](#) (FWF), or, in English, Austrian Science Fund might be worth a look. The FWF is the Austrian equivalent to the German DFG. Other than that, the website [Studieren in Österreich](#) promotes studying in Austria and answers FAQs (in German). Lastly, this blog on the [Studieren in Österreich](#) website, maintained by an Austrian student studying biology in Salzburg, might be of interest to learn more about every-day life and issues as a university student in Austria.

#### Switzerland

Switzerland is very successful in attracting students from abroad. Around a quarter of its enrolled students are not Swiss. The country offers 12 universities, plus Fachhochschulen and Pädagogische Hochschulen. However, note that even as a citizen of the EU, you need to fulfil certain entry requirements. The language situation in Switzerland is diverse. Five of its universities have German as their main language; these are the universities of Basel, Bern, Luzern, St. Gallen and Zürich. Increasingly, in Switzerland, too, whole degree courses are taught in English. Life in Switzerland is

noticeably more expensive than in Germany or Austria. According to [Studieren in der Schweiz](#) the average students spends between 18,000 CHF and 28.000 CHF (equalling 1,200 Euros) a month, a number set to increase in the future. Tuition fees are called 'Kollegiengeld' in Switzerland. The amount varies from university to university. Note also that at five of the twelve universities, students from abroad have to pay an extra fee. The base fee is 500 CHF per semester at Genf, for instance, but as much as 4.000 CHF per semester at the Università della Svizzera italiana. [crus.ch](#) is an informative website for people from abroad considering to study in Switzerland. The website [berufsberatung.ch](#) offers another helpful read. At the moment, Switzerland does explicitly not enrol foreign students in the degree courses leading to medical qualifications – for reasons of capacity. Try the following links to gain an overview over the funding situation in Switzerland, and which Stiftungen and Stipendien you might be eligible for as a non-Swiss applicant.

[Stipendien](#)

[Crus.ch International Offices](#)

[EURAXESS Switzerland Fellowships and Grants](#)

For research funding, check the Swiss equivalent to the DFG, which is the [Schweizerische Nationalfonds](#) (SNF) or, in English, Swiss National Science Foundation.

[Swiss University](#) is an English-language website about studying in Switzerland.

[Semestra](#) is an entertaining and handy Swiss website from students for students. The article by [Sebastian Horndasch](#) sums up concisely the main advantages and disadvantages (the latter of which are mostly monetary) of studying in Switzerland.



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