Università della Svizzera italiana

International Relations and Study Abroad Service

Fact Sheet - Lugano Campus Faculty of Biomedical Sciences

2020/2021



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Erasmus code CHLUGANO01

International Relations and Study Abroad website

All relevant information for incoming students, including application instruction is available on the International Relations Service website:

www.usi.ch/en/academic-mobility-usi-incoming-students

Autumn Semester deadlines

- Deadline for nomination (by e-mail): 1 May
- Deadline for online registration: 15 May

Spring Semester deadlines

- Deadline for nomination (by e-mail): 15 October
- Deadline for online registration: 1 November

Academic calendar

Autumn Semester
 14 September – 18 December 2020

Exam session: 9 – 12 February 2021

Spring Semester
22 February – 4 June 2021
Exam session: 6 – 9 July 2021
Retake exam: 24 August 2021

Switzerland and Canton Ticino

Despite its small population (8 million people), Switzerland has four national languages (German, French, Italian and Romansh). The part of the Swiss Confederation which lies entirely south of the Alps is known as "Italian" Switzerland. It comprises Canton Ticino and Grigioni italiano. Italian is the official language of this region.

Length of mobility period

Incoming students are allowed to spend maximum 2 semesters at USI, to be carried out exclusively during the first 4 semesters.

Language

The language of tuition for the Master of Medicine is English. Italian will also be used during the clinical practice. Therefore, a B2 certificate is strongly recommended both in English and in Italian.

Places available

The Master of Medicine has maximum capacity of 72 students per year. Incoming students applications will be considered only if places are available after the enrollment of regular students.

Study programmes

Master of Medicine

www.biomed.usi.ch/study-plan

Course lists and descriptions

- 1. Semester: 2 weeks General introduction, 4 weeks Circulation, 4 weeks Homeostasis, 4 weeks Immune disorders
- 2. Semester: 2 weeks Bench to bedside, 4 weeks Children and adolescents, 4 weeks Women, 4 weeks Circulating cells and signaling
- 3. Semester: 2 weeks Pediatric practice, 4 weeks

- Critical care, 1 week Pediatrics, 3 weeks Skeleton, 4 weeks Abdominal organs
- 4. Semester: 2 weeks Family doctor practice, 4 weeks Nervous system, 4 weeks Head and neck, 4 weeks Personality and cognition
- 5. and 6. Semester. Semester are not open to guest/ exchange students.

https://content.usi.ch/sites/default/files/storage/attachments/biomed/biomed-presentation-of-master-curriculum-biomed-web-version.pdf

Study outline

Guest students should attend all classes and clinical activity outlined in the study plan. Exams are mandatory for receiving ECTS and can only be taken on the official dates. No special exam session will be organized and it is not possible to ask for rescheduling or extra-muros exams.

Approval of the study plan

The relevant Faculty or Department of the home institution must approve the study plan. Guest students have to make sure, that any exams taken during the exchange term are accepted and fulfill the requirements of the original degree program.

Class schedules

Class schedules and timetable will be available a few weeks prior to the beginning of classes.

www.desk.usi.ch/en/course-schedules-master

Prerequisites and limited access to courses

Guest students must be enrolled in medical studies (human medicine) at their home institution and must have acquired at least 180 ECTS during the first 3 years of medical studies. The Representative of the Commission of international relations, on behalf of the Faculty of biomedical sciences, will validate the transcript. The accepted mobility programmes are Swiss Mobility and SEMP. Due to the complex study plan structure, international mobility programmes outside Europe, as well as any other study abroad programmes, are not applicable.

Italian language courses

USI offers intensive Italian language courses before the autumn and spring semester as well as Italian language courses during the semester. All non-Italian speaking students, researchers and professors are invited to participate free of charge.

www.italiancourse.usi.ch

Tuition fees

Tuition fees are waived at USI Università della Svizzera italiana where a reciprocal exchange agreement has been signed, and students are formally nominated by their home university.

SEMP scholarship

Switzerland will not participate as a program country in Erasmus+ for the academic year 2020/2021. In order to ensure reciprocity, Switzerland will pay the



scholarships for students doing an exchange at a Swiss university. Grants are awarded to individual students if all the necessary conditions are met. Students will be informed about the procedure for obtaining the grant upon arrival in Lugano. The precise monthly amount of the grant will be announced in due time, but it is likely to be similar to the one paid in the framework of the Erasmus+ program. The grant is paid regardless of the number of ECTS earned.

www.movetia.ch/en/programmes/swiss-programmefor-erasmus/higher-education/mobility

Registration procedure

Nominated students will need to register online:

https://exchangeprogrammes.lu.usi.ch/selection.aspx

The login and the password will be sent to the student after the nomination.

Students will be asked to upload a passport picture as part of the online registration process, so we suggest to have an electronic version at hand (allowed files: .jpg, .jpeg, .gif, .png; size < 0.5MB). Please note that only passport-style pictures are accepted, taken in full-face view directly facing the camera.

To finalize the application, candidates are required to send the following documents to the International Relations Service by 15 May (autumn semester / full academic year) or by 1 November (spring semester):

- The application form automatically generated after the online registration, printed, signed and stamped
- Most recent transcript of records including all courses, marks and ECTS
- Scan of your Bachelor diploma or, if no division between Bachelor and Master is established in the University of origin, full transcript at the end of the 3rd year of study
- Curriculum vitae (in English)
- A passport photo
- Copy of language certificates (English, Italian)
- Copy of your vaccination record booklet (Diphteria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Varicella, Hepatitis B, Poliomyelitis)
- · Copy of the health insurance card

We only accept complete applications approved and signed by the home representatives and sent by ordinary mail or by email. Students will receive a written confirmation (together with other relevant information) as soon as their personal data has been processed.

Welcome meeting

Exchange students will be invited to an orientation meeting where they will receive a welcome package containing their personal USI badge and account, the necessary documents for registration at Migration Office and Punto Città, information about the health insurance as well as general information about Lugano and USI. We strongly recommend to be present on that day. Detailed information will be sent after the application deadline.

Exam registration

Exam registration will be available under:

https://esami.lu.usi.ch

Living in Switzerland

Students from Non-EU/EFTA country bound by a Visa requirement must request a Visa to the Swiss Embassy or Consulate in their home country before entering Switzerland. Within 14 days of the arrival in Switzerland students from EU/EFTA and Non-EU/EFTA countries must apply for a residence permit "L" for educational purposes. All students must register to the town population office (Puntocittà) within 8 days of arrival in Switzerland. The International Relations Service will assist exchange students with the procedure.

Health insurance

All Swiss residents, including foreign students holding a residence permit valid for more than three months, are obliged by law to be insured with a recognised Swiss health insurance company, providing basic coverage when in need of medical care in case of illness or accident. Foreign students living in Switzerland may be exempted from this obligation if they can prove they are covered by an equivalent insurance in their home country. To ask for exemption, the student must make an official request using the appropriate form.

- Students coming from EU/EFTA countries who have a Health Insurance Card.
- Students with private insurance in EU/EFTA counties who can prove that it complies with Swiss standards, i.e. that it is unlimited.
- Students from Non-EU/EFTA countries who can prove that such insurance complies with Swiss standards, i.e. that it is unlimited.
 Students with private insurance in ELI/EFTA countries.

Students with private insurance in EU/EFTA counties who can prove that it complies with Swiss standards, i.e. that it is unlimited.

Students from Non-EU/EFTA countries who can prove that such insurance complies with Swiss standards, i.e. that it is unlimited.

The International Relations Service staff will assist exchange students with the procedure. In order to provide students not eligible for exemption with an appropriate coverage at a more affordable price, USI has negotiated with a health insurance company.

www.desk.usi.ch/en/health-insurance-students

Housing

Students are responsible for securing their own accommodation. USI operates the USIHOME housing, 500 m away from the University Campus, which is mainly reserved for exchange students and is located in Via Lambertenghi 1, 6900 Lugano - a 5-min walk from USI. The 3-storey building has 24 double and 12 single rooms for a total of 60 beds; each floor is equipped with 2 kitchens and 2 laundry rooms. The laundry room has a washing machine and a dryer. The double room is a room shared by two same-gender students. Common areas can be shared by a maxi-



mum of 10 people. USIHOME has Wi-Fi access available with Eduroam with USI student access codes. There is no parking space, neither for motor vehicles nor for bicycles. More information, rates and payment options available at

www.desk.usi.ch/en/usi-home

If interested, students must send an e-mail to usihome@usi.ch with the following information: Preference for the single or double room;

- Length of the rent.
- Application will be processed in the order of receipt.
 Further information on housing is available on:

www.usi.ch/en/housing

Sport Service USI/SUPSI

The Service for Sport and Leisure promotes joint sporting activities between the Università della Svizzera italiana and the University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI) and coordinates local members' participation in national and international university sports events. The Service organizes regular sports activities, free or at preferred rates.

www.sport.usi.ch

Living costs

The minimum cost of living for a student is approximately CHF 1500/month (EUR 1300).

