

# **University of Zurich**

# Information Sheet Student Exchange 2012/13

Name of Institution University of Zurich

Address International Relations Office

University of Zurich Rämistrasse 71 CH-8006 Zurich

Office E 17

Website http://www.uzh.ch

http://www.int.uzh.ch

http://www.int.uzh.ch/in/programme\_en.html

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**Exchange Students** International Student Advisor

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Academic Calendar Lectures dates:

Fall Semester 2012: 17.9.2012 – 22.12.2012 Spring Semester 2013: 18.02.2013 – 01.06.2013

(http://www.uzh.ch/studies/dates en.html)

Examination dates are different at each faculty and depend on the kind of courses students would like to take. For information, students should contact the student advisors of the respective institute or

faculty:

(http://www.uzh.ch/studies/infoadvice/information/a

dvisorycenters\_en.html)

**Application** Please read the information available on

Procedure http://www.int.uzh.ch/in/programme/austausch-

1\_en.html and

http://www.int.uzh.ch/in/programme/austausch-1/gesamtuniversitaer en.html. In any case,

students need to contact the International Office of their home university. We only accept applications

sent by the International Relations Office.

**Application** March 15 for Fall Semester or Academic Year

Deadline September 30 for Spring Semester

at the International Relations Office of the

University of Zurich.

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# About the University of Zurich (UZH)

The University of Zurich is the largest university in Switzerland and plays a leading role in Swiss higher education. To its 26,000 students it offers a great diversity of studies, with more than 100 different degree programs and over 3,000 combinations of disciplines in seven faculties.

The university's strong commitment to the highest standards in scientific knowledge and responsible research are the fundaments of excellence in research and teaching. As a member of the League of European Research Universities (LERU), the University of Zurich belongs to the leading European research universities. On the national level, it is the center of five strategic focal areas of research in the fields of life sciences, economics, and humanities.

Of great concern to the University of Zurich is the promotion of young academics who are encouraged and supported in their research activities and in preparing for international careers. Through a close cooperation with the ETH (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich) as well as with other institutions of higher education in Switzerland and worldwide, the University of Zurich initiates and sustains stimulating academic exchange at the highest level.

With its modern infrastructure and excellent local and international networks, the University of Zurich is well integrated into the cultural and economic metropolis and offers an attractive and stimulating working environment to more than 2,600 members of research and teaching staff from all over the world.

## **Faculties open to Exchange Students**

International students can take courses offered by:

- Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Mathematics and Sciences
- (Faculty of Medicine)
- Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
- Faculty of Theology

Students applying for the Faculty of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine first need to seek the approval of the Faculty. At the moment it is very difficult to be admitted for an exchange semester/year in Medicine.

The course catalogue can be found at <a href="http://www.vorlesungen.uzh.ch">http://www.vorlesungen.uzh.ch</a> or on the page of the respective Faculty or Department at <a href="http://www.uzh.ch/about/faculties">http://www.uzh.ch/about/faculties</a> en.html.

Please note that you have been registered in the subject you choose on the application form. You can take courses offered by the Faculty you are registered in. There is no guarantee that you will be accepted into courses outside this Faculty. Admission criteria may apply for some courses.

The student advisor of the University of Zurich will be able to answer specific questions regarding your field of study. You can find the addresses on: http://www.uzh.ch/studies/infoadvice/information/advisorycenters\_en.html.

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# Language of Instruction

Courses are mainly conducted in German. Exchange students who take courses taught in German are expected to have proficiency in German at level C1 according to the Common European Framework.

A proof of good German skills (e.g. Goethe Institute, confirmation of the German department of the Home University, native speaker) has to be attached to the application.

At the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Mathematics and Sciences an increasing number of courses is taught in English. The Swiss Banking Institute of the University of Zurich publishes every year a fact sheet with courses offered in English. This can be obtained from the International Relations Office of the University of Zurich. All courses offered at the English Department are in English.

Exchange students who intend to take courses at the English Department are expected to have a standard of proficiency in English at the level C1 according to the Common European Framework (CEFR). This is equivalent to IELTS: 6.5, TOEFL internet-based: 90 or TOEFL computer-based: 232. Certification of English skills can also be provided by the Language Center of the home university. In addition, students may be required to sit the internal language test of the English Department at the beginning of term in order to be definitely admitted to courses offered by the department.

## **Language Courses**

The Language Center of the University of Zurich and ETH Zurich offers German Courses for International Students free of charge (<a href="http://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch">http://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch</a>). Before the beginning of the semester it is possible to participate in an Intensive German Course. The intensive course takes place two weeks before the beginning of the semester. For this course, a registration fee of 100 CHF will be charged. Application deadlines apply and places are limited.

We suggest students consider language training in English and German at their home university, before beginning the studies in Zurich. Even if specific students do not need German for their studies, the knowledge of German will help to learn more about local Swiss culture and deal with practical issues in everyday life. In working on their languages before their arrival here, they will find the Resource Pool at the University of Zurich/ETH Self-learning Centre of use. The Resource Pool is available on <a href="http://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch">http://www.sprachenzentrum.uzh.ch</a>.

During the studies in Zurich exchange students will have the opportunity to take the language course "German as a Foreign Language" at the University/ETH Language Center free of charge.

# **IBH Summer School**

International students can also apply for a Summer School in Constance, Germany, on the border to Switzerland. The Summer School is organized by the IBH (International Lake Constance University), a network of which also the University of Zurich is a member. The Summer School is held in August. The fees for the Summer School including accommodation are about 660 € (summer 2011), places are limited but exchange students are given priority. Further information can be obtained from the International Relations Office of the UZH on request.

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#### **ECTS**

ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) has been introduced in all faculties at the University of Zurich. At the University of Zurich, one ECTS credit corresponds to a workload of 30 hours (including presence at lectures, self-study, preparing for and taking examinations). Exchange students are advised to take a minimum of 20 ECTS per semester. Most of the courses and ECTS credits have to be taken in the faculty of enrolment. Important: The selected courses have to be attended and it is compulsory to sit the examinations. Otherwise the courses will be stated as failed and there will be no credit points.

### **Accommodation**

The University of Zurich does not own student dormitories. However, the International Relations Office assists students finding accommodation.

Students can find useful addresses at

http://www.uzh.ch/studies/studentlife/accomodation en.html

The following agencies also help students finding accommodation in flat share: Zimmer- und Wohnungsvermittlung Uni/ETH Zürich: <a href="http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch/index\_EN">http://www.wohnen.ethz.ch/index\_EN</a>, Woko Studentische Wohngenossenschaft: <a href="http://www.woko.ch">www.woko.ch</a>

A room in a student house costs 400 to 600 CHF per month.

# **Approximate Living Costs in Zurich**

in Swiss Francs: Rent incl. heat: 550.-

Utilities (telephone, Internet, TV, radio): 200.-

Health insurance, insurance: 250.-

Food, household: 400.-

Transport: 80.-

Clothes, laundry, toiletries: 70.-

Miscellaneous: 150.-

Total: 1'700.-

#### **Health Insurance**

For anyone staying in Switzerland longer than three months, it is compulsory to buy a health insurance in Switzerland. If the insurance at the home country is equivalent, students can be freed from the obligation. The Students' Advisory Office (ReBeKo) offers help concerning health insurance matters. Further information is available at: www.uzh.ch/krabe.

### Student Visa

Nominated students from countries with visa obligation will receive a form for immigration and further information directly from the International Relations Office of the University of Zurich.

#### **Further Information**

http://www.int.uzh.ch/in/wissenswertes\_en.html
Brochure "International Student Guide":
http://www.int.uzh.ch/in/studentguide englisch klein.pdf

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