



Bern University
of Applied Sciences



CAS Accounting in Switzerland for International Professionals and Expats

Swiss accounting and reporting standards in practice: Swiss CO, Swiss GAAP FER and IFRS for accounting, controlling, reporting and finance roles.

Fully taught in English



Your Gateway to Accounting Careers in Switzerland

Description and Conception

This CAS equips international finance professionals and expats with the accounting and reporting expertise required for the Swiss labour market. You gain a practical understanding of the Swiss Code of Obligations (Swiss CO), Swiss GAAP FER and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and learn how these frameworks are applied in Swiss companies. Case studies, practical exercises and real-world business scenarios develop the skills needed for accounting, controlling, financial reporting and finance roles. The hybrid format combines interactive online sessions, guided self-study and an intensive on-campus week in Zurich.

The CAS is taught exclusively in English.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of the programme, you will:

- understand Swiss accounting standards and reporting requirements;
- apply Swiss CO, Swiss GAAP FER and IFRS in practice;
- analyse financial statements prepared under different accounting standards;
- evaluate recognition, measurement, valuation and disclosure decisions;
- understand consolidated financial statements and group reporting;
- communicate financial information effectively to stakeholders;
- transfer accounting knowledge to controlling, reporting and finance roles.

Characteristics

- Title/Degree: Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)
- Number of study days: 18
- Programme format: 8 online sessions, 1 intensive on-campus week in Zurich and guided self-study
- Schedule: according to website
- ECTS credits: 12
- Proof of competence: online learning assignments and a final report on an applied transfer project
- Cost: CHF 8,500
- Study location: online and on-site
- Next session: according to website
- Application deadline: 6 weeks before the start; later applications subject to availability

Topics

Modules 1–8

- Swiss CO, Swiss GAAP FER and IFRS
- Financial reporting, disclosures and accounting policies
- Hidden reserves, recognition, measurement and valuation
- Group reporting and consolidation
- Financial analysis, key performance indicators (KPIs) and performance measurement
- Governance, audit and tax implications
- Environmental, social and governance (ESG), digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI) in finance

On-campus week (Zurich)

- Integrated case studies under Swiss CO, Swiss GAAP FER and IFRS
- Financial statement analysis and consolidation cases
- Accounting policy, reporting and disclosure challenges
- Transfer of knowledge into Swiss business practice

Self-study

- Preparation readings, annual report analysis, case preparation and transfer project

Why attend?

- Build Swiss accounting expertise valued by employers
- Improve employability in accounting, controlling, reporting and finance
- Apply the acquired skills immediately in practice
- Expand your professional network in Switzerland

Contact

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