



Bern University  
of Applied Sciences



## Master's Degree Programme in Wood Technology

A master's programme  
unlike any other in Europe

► Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering

# Master of Science in Wood Technology: Practical, Sustainable, International

Are you a wood engineer, civil engineer or materials engineer seeking to deepen your knowledge of sustainable and future-oriented use of wood? In this master's degree programme, you will specialise in complex timber structures and multi-storey timber and hybrid construction or acquire expertise in innovation management, digital manufacturing and technologies for bio-based materials.

## Main Areas of Study

The programme offers outstanding application-oriented training with involvement in current industry and research projects and a strong emphasis on sustainability issues. In the specialisation Complex Timber Structures, you will develop the expertise needed for planning and implementing challenging timber construction projects. The specialisation Management of Processes and Innovation will enable you to develop innovative technologies, products and business models and manage processes with an entrepreneurial focus. Both specialisations seek to provide you with a firm grasp of the latest technologies in the wood industry, in timber construction, and in timber engineering. You will be collaborating closely with industry partners.

### Perspectives

Develop a science-based, application-oriented profile.

## Programme Content

This degree programme has a modular structure and can be undertaken full-time (4 semesters) or part-time (5 to 6 semesters). You complete core modules as part of your programme and work with students from both specialisations. Elective modules, semester-long specialisation projects and a master's thesis allow you to personalise your profile. In addition to a greater expert knowledge, you will also acquire managerial know-how along with strong methodological and interpersonal skills.

You will be taught and coached by a team of highly experienced lecturers and experts from the private sector. Workshops, excursions, and assignments at the Technology Park and in the laboratories in collaboration with industry partners consistently ensure a high degree of practical relevance from the outset.

## The Degree Programme at a Glance

Focus	In-depth knowledge of the topics that will shape the future of the wood industry Applied sustainability in the construction sector and wood industry
Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Training focused on application and involvement in current industry and research projects</li><li>– Personalised profile thanks to elective study options based on personal preferences</li><li>– Development of an international network</li></ul>
Specialisations	<b>Complex Timber Structures CTS:</b> multi-storey timber and hybrid construction; earthquake protection, fire protection and structural physics; assessment and upgrading of building condition; complex free-form and shell structures; BIM and digital processes in construction <b>Management of Processes and Innovation MPI:</b> innovation management; digital manufacturing in the wood industry; bio-based material technologies; eco-design of products and buildings
Professional Development and Profiles	<b>Complex Timber Structures CTS specialisation:</b> structural timber engineering; modelling, calculation of complex timber structures; data processing for the manufacture of technically demanding components and joints <b>Management of Processes and Innovation MPI specialisation:</b> Product development and management; production planning; marketing and sales; innovation management
Mode of Study	Programme available full-time (4 semesters) or part-time (5 to 6 semesters)
Language of Instruction	English. Student research projects can be written in German or French subject to agreement
Mobility	Optional semester abroad and internship
Study Location	Biel, Switzerland
Costs	One-time registration fee CHF 100.– Semester fee CHF 750.–, for foreign students CHF 950.–
Beginning of Studies	September (Week 38)
Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Bachelor's degree in wood technology, timber engineering or a comparable discipline with 210 ECTS credits (a shortfall in credits may be made up during the master's degree programme)</li><li>– Applicants with a degree in other engineering disciplines (e.g. civil or material engineering) are also welcome to apply</li><li>– Suitable qualifications in timber construction and/or structural engineering are required for the specialisation Complex Timber Structures</li><li>– Proof of English language skills if your native language is not English</li></ul>
Application Deadline	15 June Candidates requiring a visa for Switzerland are advised to apply as soon as possible
Title/Degree	Master of Science (MSc) in Wood Technology



Discussions about environmental management and sustainability

### Professional Profile and Career Prospects

As a graduate of our master's degree programme in Wood Technology, your expertise and leadership skills are in demand across the wood industry. Your comprehensive knowledge, sound technical expertise and ability to make savvy business decisions set you apart from the crowd. You possess the skills required to understand the interactions with related industries and to coordinate and lead research and development tasks. Your employment will become increasingly international and interdisciplinary with time. If you specialise in Complex Timber Structures, you can work as a timber engineer to create structural or technical plans for complex tasks. The specialisation Management of Processes and Innovation equips you with the skills needed to develop innovative technologies, products and business models and manage relevant processes with an entrepreneurial focus.

The degree programme will open up outstanding career opportunities where you will help shape a sustainable, future-oriented wood industry.



Digital manu-  
facturing at  
the Technology Park

### Good Reasons for the Master's Degree Programme in Biel

- You will study alongside fellow students from all over the world and develop an international network of contacts.
- The bilingual city of Biel and lectures in English will improve your intercultural skills.
- You will learn from leading experts and tackle challenging, application-oriented tasks.
- You will benefit from BFH's research and development activities and have access to a Technology Park unparalleled in Switzerland with CNC machines and robots, testing equipment for façade elements, furniture, construction elements and load-bearing structures as well as laboratories for materials, wood modification, wood components, adhesive technology and surface treatment.

### Information Event and Personal Consultation

Visit one of our information events or arrange for a personal consultation to discuss the degree programme and your specific plans.

Arrange an appointment for a personal consultation

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Register for  
an information  
event now

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