



Double Degree Programme

at Bern University of Applied Sciences –
Business School

One Programme, Two Degrees!

- 2 Take part in our Double Degree programme at BFH Business School and benefit from the unique opportunity to gain two Bachelor's degrees from two different institutions in the same time it takes to earn one.

Studying in Bern

Bern University of Applied Sciences BFH

BFH is an international, multilingual university, with over 7000 students enrolled in 60 degree programmes and lecturers from many different countries. We cooperate with international partners in a large number of projects and in research activities. The 33 bachelor's degree programmes, 27 master's programmes, and numerous continuing education programmes combine to give us a remarkable profile.

Portrait of the Business School

The Business School is one of eight departments of the BFH. We offer an entire package of courses, further education, applied research and development, as well as services. The Business School provides an enriching environment for around 1300 students of which international students make up 10%.

Situated in the city centre, in the Marzili district, we are not only centrally located, but also five minutes away from one of Switzerland's most popular outdoor swimming areas and the Aare river.

Double Degree Programme

BFH Business School has established Double Degree agreements with selected partner institutions in Switzerland and abroad. In order to benefit from the double degree, you complete the first part of your studies at your home institution and spend the final year with us.

Year 1 and Year 2
at home institution
120 ECTS

Year 3
at BFH Bern
60 ECTS

3 During your Double Degree year at BFH Business School you choose your desired specialisation and write your Bachelor Thesis within the selected specialisation.

Obtaining two degrees from two different universities not only enhances your employability prospects, but provides you with the opportunity to work and learn in an international environment.

Explore the Bachelor Degree Programmes

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration BScBA

The BScBA is our German taught programme and is a practice-oriented, interdisciplinary degree programme which prepares you for specialised management functions.

Bachelor of Science in International Business Administration BScIBA

The BScIBA is our English taught programme and is especially designed for international students and all those who are looking for a career in an international environment.

The BScBA and BScIBA share the following specialisations (taught in German and/or English):

- Accounting & Controlling (GE)
- Applied Data Science for Business (EN)
- Banking & Finance (EN)
- Digital Business Management (EN)
- Digital Government (GE)
- Global Management (EN)
- Human Resource Management (GE)
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship (EN)
- Marketing (GE & EN)
- Sustainable Business (GE & EN)
- Real Estate Management (GE & EN)
- Wirtschafts- & Digitalrecht (GE)

For the specialisation Marketing, Sustainable Business and Real Estate Management you need to know both languages, German and English (strong B2 level or higher recommended).

- 4 Please consult with your home university which specialisations you are allowed to attend.

Bachelor of Science in Digital Business & AI BScDigi

This study programme is the science of designing, developing and using IT and communication systems to support business processes. It is a scientific discipline that combines Business Administration and IT. The BScDigi programme provides you with the perfect combination of study course and professional experience and ensures you are capable of dealing with the complex challenges you will encounter daily during your subsequent careers.

In the BScDigi you can choose between the following specialisations (taught in German or English):

- Applied Artificial Intelligence (EN)
- Software Design & Architecture (EN)
- Business Data Analytics (EN)
- Innovation & Entrepreneurship (EN)
- Project Management & Agility (GE)
- Sustainable Business (GE)
- Wirtschafts- & Digitalrecht (GE)
- Digital Government (GE)

Please note that for the specialisation Project Management & Agility, Sustainable Business, Wirtschafts- & Digitalrecht and Digital Government you need to know German (strong B2 level or higher).

Please consult with your home university which specialisations you are allowed to attend.

How to Apply

Contact your home university and inform yourself about the application and selection process. We are happy to welcome and support you to manage your exchange year abroad successfully – making memories you will never forget.

Tuition Fees and Grants

During the double degree year you will remain enrolled at your home university and pay your regular tuition fees there. Additional fees for course literature may apply depending on the modules you choose. Students from “Swiss-European Mobility Programme – SEMP” partner universities are eligible for grants between CHF 3800 and CHF 4400 (subject to change) depending on the country of origin.

«The possibility of doing a Double Degree was a dream opportunity for my career. I wanted to improve my German, maintain my daily activities and the Double Degree allowed me to do all this just 15 minutes more away from home. What's more, the specialisation «Sustainable Business», which was only offered in Bern, was fully in line with my plans and professional ambitions.»



Chanel Rose Gilomen

Haute école de gestion Arc Switzerland

«The double degree program was probably the best decision I have made up to date. Not only receiving a second degree which is very beneficial to stand out, but also the chance of going on an exchange for a full year. It not only changed my behaviour but also me as a person, and once Christmas starts to roll around you'll be happy you chose to stay a whole year, time really does fly when you're having fun, and that's what you'll be doing when you choose for a double degree at BFH.»



Ian Hoogstrate

Thomas More University of Applied Sciences Belgium

«Having the chance to go on a double degree exchange has forever changed my perspective on academics. I learned some techniques, implementations, and interpretations that I do not believe I would have come across without this exchange. Additionally, I believe Switzerland, one of the most looked-up countries in the world, is a place and culture everyone should experience at least once in their life»



Victoria Duble

Linnaeus University Sweden

6 Schedule for the Academic Year

Autumn semester

	September				October					November				December				January					February	
Calendar week	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Welcome Days																								
Contact lessons																								
Lecture-free time																								
Special weeks																								
1. examination date																								
2. examination date																								

Spring semester

	Feb		March					April					May					June				July					August					September			
Calendar week	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39			
Welcome Days																																			
Contact lessons																																			
Lecture-free time																																			
Special weeks																																			
1. examination date																																			
2. examination date																																			

Please note:
 * The 2. examination date in the spring semester are the two weeks around Easter holidays. These weeks move accordingly each calendar year.

- Lesson-free days:
- Easter (Friday to Monday)
 - Ascension (Thursday to Saturday)
 - Whitsun (Monday)

Welcome Days start in calendar week 37 and are mandatory. Lectures commence in calendar week 38 in the autumn semester and in calendar week 8 in the spring semester.

During the 14-week teaching period you will be expected to attend face-to-face lessons. In addition, you are required to do individual and guided self-study (including exam preparation) during the semester. Certain modules may take place during Special Weeks.

Living in Bern

8 Switzerland is a small country made up of 26 cantons and approximately 8 million inhabitants coming from a range of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. The official languages are German, French, Italian and Romansh. As a matter of fact, English is our first language for business and research and it is often used to overcome language barriers, so you will be able to communicate in English in most places and shops.



It's an excellent place to live, study, and work. With our cultural diversity, beautiful landscapes, and innovative environment, an ideal surrounding is offered for both personal wellbeing and career advancement. Switzerland is widely recognised internationally as a centre of excellence in education, research, and innovation. It is part of the global community and maintains a worldwide network of co-operations and partnerships in education and science.

The city of Bern is the capital of Switzerland. Its ideal central position makes it a perfect point of departure for excursions throughout Switzerland and our neighbouring countries. All major cities can be reached very easily using our excellent public transport system.

Besides, Bern offers:

- the imposing Bernese Alps, an ideal backdrop for a great variety of outdoor activities, from hiking to skiing and bungee jumping.
- a lively music scene and a variety of theatres, museums, galleries, concert halls and clubs.
- Swiss cuisine with German, French and North Italian influences.

Accommodation

We do not have onsite accommodation. Even though you are responsible for your own housing needs, we recommend staying in the student lodging (vbsl.ch), where we hold a few places reserved for international students (first come, first served).



«The Double Degree program was an incredible opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and experience a new culture while developing a global perspective. It challenged me academically and personally, helping me grow in unexpected ways and gain invaluable insights. This journey has left me with lifelong memories and skills that will continue to inspire me for years to come.»



Martina Mrázová
Häme University of Applied Sciences Finland



Working in Switzerland

EU / EFTA citizens:

Working conditions applicable for residence in Switzerland are dependent on both your nationality as well as on the reason for your stay. Please find all relevant information in the section «useful links».

Citizens from other Countries:

Part-time employment can only be approved for students after six months of residency in Switzerland, unless the part-time employment is closely related to the area of study. In addition, you may not exceed 15 hours work per week during the semester.

Cost of Living

We recommend a monthly budget (including Food, accommodation, transport and entertainment etc.) in the region of CHF 1710 – 2570, see breakdown below.

Rent / shared accommodation costs / other accommodation costs (electricity, telephone / radio / TV / Internet, home contents and personal liability insurance)	CHF 750–1000
Food	CHF 350–550
Insurances / health / taxes	CHF 300–400
Pocket money (mobile phone etc.)	CHF 300–500
Public transportation	CHF 10–120
Total cost per month	CHF 1710–2570

Source: www.budgetberatung.ch

Why Choose the BFH Business School?

12 Hands on Education

At the BFH Business School we define ourselves through research with real-world applications. We, therefore, have a strong focus on real world practice in all our courses where you will be working with local as well as international students and therefore totally immersed in the BFH experience.

Intensive Personal Support

You will find a low students-lecturer ratio which leads to open and frequent communication with lecturers and BFH staff.

Free Language Courses and Events

You will have access to several language courses (such as our German for Beginners course) and a whole host of events during the semester for free.

Welcome Days

In calendar week 37, we start with our Welcome Days. Our Welcome Days are mandatory for double degree students and are a great opportunity to learn more about Bern and university life, meet other students and BFH staff members. This allows you to be better prepared for your studies at the Business School.

International Family Mentor Programme

You will be allocated to a Buddy family, which consists of BFH students and fellow international students. You will be provided support in discovering life at BFH and in Bern, making for an excellent exchange experience.

Certificate of Global Competence

This additional certificate offers you the opportunity to acquire further intercultural and transcultural skills as part of your regular studies, and to provide evidence of this to future employers. This unique certificate provides excellent preparation for a professional future in an international context

Sports Facilities

As a BFH student, you can join [Unisport Bern](#) and enjoy a wide variety of sport activities and have access to outstanding sport facilities for a very reasonable membership fee.

Useful Links

Information about BFH

- in general: bfh.ch/en
- about Business School: bfh.ch/business/en



Academic Year Structure (Downloads)

Information about the study programmes & module descriptions

- BScBA: bfh.ch/business/en/studies/bachelor/business-administration/
- BScIBA: bfh.ch/en/studies/bachelor/international-business-administration/
- BScDigi: bfh.ch/en/studies/bachelor/digital-business-ai/

Certificate of Global Competence (CGC)

- bfh.ch/en/studies/international-study/certificate-global-competence/

More information and details about the services offered by us

- bfh.ch/business/en/about-department-business/international/

Information about living and working in Switzerland:

- in general: studyinswitzerland.plus/
- facts and figures: ch.ch/en/
- additional information: myswitzerland.com/en-ch/home

Information about Bern

- bern.ch/en
- bern.com/en/home

Working in Switzerland:

- EU / EFTA citizens:
sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/fza_schweiz-eu-efta/eu-efta_buerger_schweiz.html
- Citizens from other Countries:
sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/themen/arbeit/nicht-eu-efta-angehoerige.html

Vacant rooms and apartments

- bfh.ch/en/studies/studies-life/wohnen/
- esn.ch/accommodation-switzerland

Student lodging:

- studentlodge.ch

Mobility grants:

- bfh.ch/en/studies/international-study/foreign-students/

Bern University of Applied Sciences

Business School
Brückenstrasse 73
CH-3005 Bern

Telephone +41 31 848 34 00

international.business@bfh.ch
bfh.ch/business/en/

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