



University of St.Gallen



Student Exchange

Fact Sheet 2025/2026



#6

Financial Times -
European Business
School 2023

#2

Financial Times -
Masters in Management:
Strategic & International
Management (SIM-HSG)
2023

Content

- 1 Overview Programmes
- 2 Courses
- 3 Examinations

4 Living in St.Gallen

5 Language

6 Student Services & Engagement

7 Application

8 Contacts

9 Term calendar

Why University of St.Gallen?

- integrative and practice-relevant education
- promotion of entrepreneurial spirit
- inspiring campus in the heart of Europe
- global networks
- student life (140 clubs and associations)
- life-long community (>37.000 alumnae/i)

Facts

- ✓ top-rankings and renowned accreditations
- ✓ excellent employability rate: 4 out of 5 Bachelor's and Master's graduates have a job by the time of their graduation
- ✓ partnerships with 200 universities worldwide

Exchange Programmes

01

FULL SEMESTER EXCHANGE

PARTNER
UNIVERSITY

This exchange option allows student exchange worldwide at partner universities on Bachelor and Master level.

SWISS
MOBILITY

The Swiss Mobility programme enables Bachelor and Master students to study at another university within Switzerland.

FREE
MOVER

Students enrolled at a university that is not a HSG partner university can apply for a freemover exchange semester.

THEMIS

The International Legal Network of Excellence offers a joint certificate programme in International and Business Law for graduate-level law students focussing on theoretical and practical business law skills.

ECOL

ECOL (European Common Online Learning) is a network of seven leading European business schools offering a virtual exchange programme on undergraduate level.

CEMS

CEMS is a global alliance of academic and corporate institutions dedicated to educating and preparing future generations of international business leaders. Can be combined with all our Master programmes.

DOUBLE
DEGREE

The University of St.Gallen offers several double degree programmes that award students two full master's degrees from the partnering institutions. Most graduate programmes in St.Gallen offer a double degree option.

START
FELLOWSHIP

START Fellowship is an accelerator programme for young entrepreneurs from low- and middle-income backgrounds, focused on Latin American and African students. It offers online and offline sessions with experienced investors, classes at the University of St. Gallen, mentoring, and coaching with experts. (Spring semester only.)

Autumn

September to
December

Spring

February to May

SPECIALISED SHORT-TERM PROGRAMMES

ISP

International Study Programme for MBA students

This 10-week programme requires students to be enrolled in an MBA at their home university and have significant work experience. An average ISP class size is fewer than 40 students. Courses are taught entirely in English. isp.unisg.ch

Autumn

September to
November

Spring

January to March

(ESADE)
BUSINESS
STUDY WEEK

This customized week-long programme for Master's level students of ESADE Barcelona provides a unique opportunity to develop knowledge and network onsite in Switzerland. Cultural visits and company visits to Swiss companies are also part of this programme.

Degree Programmes

MASTER

Banking and Finance ^{EN}
 Strategy and International Management ^{EN}
 Quantitative Economics and Finance ^{EN}
 International Law ^{EN}
 International Affairs and Governance ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Marketing Management ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Accounting and Finance ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Economics ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Business Innovation ^{DE}
 General Management ^{DE}
 Law ^{DE}
 Law and Economics ^{DE}
 Management, Organization Studies and
 Cultural Theory ^{DE} *
 Computer Science ^{EN}
 Joint Medical Master in St.Gallen ^{DE}

BACHELOR

Business Administration ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Economics ^{EN} ^{DE}
 International Affairs ^{EN} ^{DE}
 Law ^{DE} *
 Law and Economics ^{DE} *
 Computer Science ^{DE}

^{EN} = English
^{DE} = German
 * = some courses in English

Courses

02

COURSE INFORMATION

Courses are offered in English in Business Administration, Economic, International Affairs, Social Sciences and Law. The definite course programme is available approximately one month before the semester starts. Guest students are strongly recommended to attend courses that correspond to their level of study at their home university.

Bachelor

Bachelor students attend bachelor courses and may only attend master's courses if necessary and if prerequisites are fully met. Master's core courses are not open for guest undergraduate students.

Master

Master's students attend master courses and may attend undergraduate courses if necessary.

CEMS MIM

The course programme and descriptions can be found on:

cems.org/academic-members/schools-list

[HSG Course Catalogue](#)



COURSE REGISTRATION

Course registration takes place through an online course registration procedure (bidding) about three weeks before the semester begins. Student Mobility Services will inform guest students about the process well in advance.

[Further information](#)

Courses take place throughout the entire semester (13 weeks) and/or in block seminars.

REQUIRED WORKLOAD

The workload per semester averages 24-30 ECTS credits. Guest students are required to take at least 16 ECTS credits and may not exceed 40 ECTS credits (THEMIS max. 33 ECTS) per semester. Credits are awarded only for successfully passed courses.

Special workload requirements apply to CEMS and THEMIS according to their corresponding curriculum regulations.

1 ECTS = 30 course-related working hours (in and out of class)



Examinations

03

Examinations may be taken only for courses allocated through the bidding process.

FORMAT

Examinations may be oral and/or written. Presentations/course participation may also constitute part of the final grade. The examination format is indicated in the course information sheet available on:

[HSG Course Catalogue](#)

EXAMINATION PERIODS

At the HSG there are two different types of examination periods. Decentral and Mid-Term examinations take place within or at the latest at the end of the lecture period. Central examinations take place after the end of the lecture period. Guest students are entitled to take all examinations within the lecture period (= same duration as decentral examination period). The examination type of each course is indicated in the course information sheet.

Autumn semester

Decentral & Mid-Term examinations

Examination Period - September - December
Notification of grades - Early February
Academic Record - Early February

Central examinations

Examination period - January - February
Notification of grades - Early March
Academic Record - Early March



GUEST STUDENTS ENROLLED FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE SEMESTERS

Students staying for two consecutive semesters must take examinations for their first semester courses as specified in the course information sheet.

If a "central examination" is specified, guest students may schedule a "decentral guest examination" if the course instructor permits.

GRADE TRANSCRIPT

An electronic Notification of grades and Academic Record will be published on our student platform Compass.

[HSG grading scale](#)

Spring semester

Decentral & Mid-Term examinations

Examination period - February - May
Notification of grades - Mid-July
Academic Record - Mid-July

Central examinations

Examination period - June - July
Notifications of grades - Mid-August
Academic Record - Mid-August

Living in St.Gallen

04

HOUSING

The Housing Office provides off-campus housing. Housing is assigned on a first come, first served basis.

- Non-refundable application fee: CHF 250 (required)
- Housing price per room: CHF 700 to CHF 1050 or higher per month, depending on personal requirements
- Liability insurance: approx. CHF 20

Students may [arrange housing on their own](#).

Housing Office

T: +41 71 224 22 00
housing@unisg.ch

More

MONTHLY LIVING EXPENSES

Accommodation (rent plus utilities) CHF 700 to CHF 1050; Food CHF 600; Communication (telephone, internet, TV) CHF 70; Transport (public and private) CHF 180; Insurances (liability, health) CHF 100 to CHF 280; Leisure activities CHF 150; Other CHF 100 to CHF 150.

TRANSPORTATION

In Switzerland, travelling by public transport is very convenient and it is encouraged. Students are advised to obtain the Swiss Federal Railway half-fare card in order to save 50% on all tickets for trains, buses, trams, ferries. It is available for CHF 190 and valid for one year.
sbb.ch/en



HEALTH INSURANCE

Full-semester guest students must either have proof of sufficient health insurance coverage for Switzerland from provider in home country or purchase health insurance in Switzerland. Acceptable proof varies according to nationality.

[Insurance Information](#)

FEES FOR VISA & RESIDENCE PERMIT

Students are responsible for any visa and/or permit-related documents (fees vary: CHF 66 to CHF 240 depending on nationality).

[Visa Information](#)

Language

05

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

German and English (course availability will vary depending on degree programme).

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

German

Guest students are not required to be fluent in German although some basic language skills are helpful. For courses taught in German, students should have at least B2 level CEFR.

English

All programmes (except ISP): No formal English certificate required but guest students are expected to have an advanced level of English comparable to B2 level CEFR for courses taught in English.

ISP: Non-native English speakers must have a minimum TOEFL score of 89 (itb) or IELTS score 6.5. This requirement is waived for students enrolled in an English-taught MBA at the home university.

LANGUAGE COURSE

Incoming exchange students are invited to enrol in a cost-free, seven-day intensive German language course before the semester starts and may continue with the course during the semester. Other language courses offered during the semester may include: Chinese, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, Russian.



Student Services

06

STUDENT MOBILITY SERVICES

Student Mobility Services handles all administrative issues related to guest students.

exchange.unisg.ch

SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with a disability or a chronic illness may face particular challenges during their studies and may require special assistance. Contact Student Mobility Services at the University of St.Gallen well in advance.

[advisory offices/special needs](#)

BUDDYSYSTEM

The BuddySystem organises various events for guest students bringing local and international students together and promote the Swiss culture.

ressortinternational.ch/buddysystem

CAREER SERVICE CENTER

Guest students have access to information on internships and may participate in recruitment fairs.

hsgcarer.ch/en

LIBRARY

557.000 volumes; 375.000 E-books; 120.000 E-journals.

unisg.ch/en/university/library/

SPORTS OFFICE

Sports activities on- and off-campus. Gym and workout rooms, tennis, beach volleyball, football field. Off-campus recreation facilities nearby for skiing, sailing, golfing, climbing, etc.

[HSG Unisport](#)

Student Engagement

06

The Student Union is the official student representative body at the HSG and the umbrella organisation of all the student associations and clubs. Its representatives and the students work towards the realisation of their ideas and contribute to the development of the university.

shsg.ch

STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS & CLUBS

About 140 clubs and student associations contribute to a rich and diverse university life. These include the BuddySystem and many cultural and sporting activities.

EVENTS OF INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE ORGANISED BY HSG STUDENTS

- The St.Gallen Symposium - symposium.org
- The oikos Model WTO - model-wto.org
- HSG TALENTS Conference - hsgtalents.ch
- START Summit - startsummit.ch

ENTREPRENEURSHIP @ HSG

HSG actively supports entrepreneurship with numerous consultations and events. startupshsg.com

Application

07

STEP 1: ONLINE NOMINATION BY PARTNER UNIVERSITY

Nominations must be entered in our online portal Mobility-Online using the personal login provided. Login data should be kept on record for future nominations.

Nominated students must be enrolled at their home university in study fields similar to degree study fields of the University of St. Gallen (Management, Business Administration, Economics, Political Sciences and Law).

Autumn term nomination period

1 February to 15 April

Spring term nomination period

1 February to 15 April and
15 May to 15 September*

*Late nominations may be possible until 20 September but require prior verification with Student Mobility Services.

Swiss Mobility spring nominations only:

31 October at the latest.

ECOL autumn term nomination period

1 June to 5 July

ECOL spring term nomination period

1 November to 30 November



STEP 2: STUDENT ONLINE APPLICATION

After a nomination is entered in the Mobility-Online portal, Student Mobility Services will provide the student with further instructions and information about completing the online application.

Autumn term application period

1 February to 15 May

Spring term application period

15 August to 30 September

Swiss Mobility spring applications only:

15 November at the latest

ECOL autumn term application

1 June to 10 July

ECOL spring term application

1 November to 5 December

STEP 3: PREPARATION

OPTIONAL SEVEN-DAY GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSE

Student Mobility Services organises an optional intensive German language course prior to the start of each semester. All students with beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of German are welcome to attend free of charge. No credits are awarded for this course.

ISP students may take part in an ISP German language course for beginners as one of their electives.

MANDATORY ORIENTATION DAY

A mandatory Orientation Day takes place prior to each semester. This day includes general orientation, HSG student ID card as well as social activities. No credits are awarded.

Contacts

08



STUDENT MOBILITY SERVICES GENERAL CONTACT

University of St.Gallen
Student Mobility Services
Tellstrasse 2
9000 St.Gallen
Switzerland

+41 71 224 23 39
exchange@unisg.ch



CEMS OFFICE

Jacqueline Meier
Marion Schönenberger
Sybille Gmünder
+41 71 224 31 15
cems@unisg.ch

ISP - INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMME

Dr. Manali Kumar
Executive Director
isp-info@unisg.ch

HOUSING OFFICE

Christine Schönenberger
Laura Affolter
+41 71 224 22 00
housing@unisg.ch

Peggy van der Wallen
Head of Student Mobility Services

Nicole Gsell
Asia, ECOL Virtual Exchange
nicole.gsell@unisg.ch

Esther Staeheli
The Americas, Oceania
esther.staeheli@unisg.ch

Andrea Häfner
Incomings Europe, Russia, Africa, Middle East
SEMP and Swiss Federal scholarships
andrea.haefner@unisg.ch

Maria Bader
Outgoings & Agreements
Europe, Russia, Africa, Middle East
maria.bader@unisg.ch

Bettina Trachsel
Swiss Mobility, Transcripts guest students
bettina.trachsel@unisg.ch
guesttranscripts@unisg.ch

Magdalena Piller
THEMIS, Event & Content Management
magdalena.piller@unisg.ch

Lamis El Farra
Double Degree DM2-FGV-SSE
lamis.elfarra@unisg.ch

STUDENT MOBILITY SERVICES



Term Calendar 2025/2026

AUTUMN SEMESTER 2025

09 September - 20 November 2025
ISP Autumn 2025 (programme for MBA students from partner universities)

31 August - 05 September 2025
CEMS block seminar
(one week, starting Sunday)

03 - 11 September 2025
Optional German language course for autumn semester guest students

11 September 2025
Mandatory Orientation Day for autumn semester guest students

15 September 2025
Mandatory CEMS semester kick-off
(for CEMS students)

15 September - 20 December 2025
Autumn semester 2025 (includes exams for guest students staying only one semester)

28 August 2025
Course registration - bidding starts
(CEMS students 21 August 2025)

27 October - 09 November 2025
Break autumn semester 2025
(block courses and CEMS requirements may take place)

December 2025
Farewell Event for autumn semester guest students

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

08 January - 12 March 2026
ISP Spring 2026 (programme for MBA students from partner universities)

04 - 12 February 2026
Optional German language course for spring semester guest students

12 February 2026
Mandatory Orientation Day for spring semester guest students

16 February 2026
Mandatory CEMS semester kick-off
(for CEMS students)

16 February - 23 May 2026
Spring semester 2026 (includes exams for guest students staying only one semester)

29 January 2026
Course registration - bidding starts
(CEMS students 22 January 2026)

19 - 27 February 2026
CEMS Business Project Kick-Offs

30 March - 12 April 2026
Break spring semester 2026
(block seminars and CEMS requirements may take place)

May 2026
Farewell Event for spring semester guest students



ACCREDITATIONS



MEMBER OF



From insight
to impact.