

PH Zug

Mobility programmes in
Teacher Education



Kanton Zug

University of Teacher Education Zug

Welcome to PH Zug

The University of Teacher Education Zug (PH Zug) is situated at an idyllic place in the city of Zug, in the heart of Switzerland between Zurich and Lucerne. With approximately 350 students, the university is a transparent institution with a lively culture, personal atmosphere and future-oriented philosophy. PH Zug is also a young, modern and internationally oriented place that offers programmes in basic teacher training, research and development, as well as other services. Life on campus is marked by short distances and un-bureaucratic processes.

International orientation

PH Zug is internationally oriented: It prepares student teachers for the increasingly heterogeneous and international professional environment and supports them by offering appropriate training programmes. When it comes to establishing international relations with other learning centres, PH Zug is first and foremost committed to developing pedagogic and specialised expertise and to promoting the competencies that teachers need in order to cope in a heterogeneous environment. Accordingly, PH Zug has exchange programmes with approx. 40 partner institutions in about 20 other countries, and it thus uses cooperation as a means for further developing its offers in all areas.

Deepened cooperations

PH Zug selects its partner universities based on their areas of specialisation and in line with its strategic goal of providing competency-oriented programmes. Partner focal points are advertised accordingly.

As a result, PH Zug expects students and lecturers to develop a stronger motivation with respect to content by enabling them to choose «their» partner university. It also enables visiting student teachers to strengthen a particularly relevant and important set of competencies during their stay.

PH Zug is always interested in deepening partner relationships, whether through mobility or projects. Specific concerns and needs of lecturers and departments are purposefully linked with the know-how of our partners. All participating lecturers, students and teachers benefit from this exchange of best practices.

«At PH Zug, the maintenance of international partnerships with mutual exchange is a top priority. PH Zug would like to continuously intensify its cooperation within its network in order to learn from others and continuously develop the institution's services.»

Prof. Dr. Esther Kamm, Rector of PH Zug



Staff mobility

Colleagues in the fields of teaching, research, university management, administration and other areas are welcome to visit PH Zug. Furthermore, we are generally able to arrange for school visits in the region.

«It has been one of my best teacher exchange visits ever (and I have done a lot!)»

Alfonso López Hernández, Universidad Pontificia Comillas Madrid, Spain

Staff and faculty members of PH Zug have a strong interest in developing a dialogue with their colleagues in other fields and often attend professional development courses and workshops at partner universities. When it comes to mobility in teaching, lecturers of PH Zug are open to the idea of hosting teaching events at partner universities and to working together with colleagues on specialised modules at PH Zug, such as thematically linked block events. Contacting the International Office at an early stage helps to ensure that such arrangements are of optimum benefit.

«Exchanges in London, Prague, Brno and Vienna have allowed me to work with top practitioners in the field of drama in education. When hosting my colleagues at the PH Zug, their expertise is always an additional benefit for our students and staff alike. The rich and open exchange of ideas and experiences with international colleagues continues to be a source of inspiration for my own research and teaching practice.»

Eva Göksel, Research Assistant, Center for Oral Communication, PH Zug



We would be happy to show you the PH Zug campus and to meet with you to discuss the possibilities that our mobility programmes offer.

«Utah Valley University and PH Zug collaborate to engage our students and faculty in meaningful professional learning and experiences. Our partnership provides valuable opportunities to explore education and teaching from a global perspective.»

Prof. Vessela Ilieva, Utah Valley University, USA

Student mobility



Approximately 15% of the students at PH Zug spend an exchange semester during their studies at another university or as a school intern abroad. Under a bilateral agreement, students from other universities can enrol in a varied and enriching exchange semester at PH Zug or in a four-week teaching practicum at a Swiss or International school in the Zug region. Visiting students often mention the strong emphasis there is on applied studies in the form of school internships during their stay, as well as all the support and the high quality lessons they receive. The autumn semester (beginning of September to mid-December) is particularly suited for a stay at PH Zug.

Course programme

Teacher Education students on primary level can choose from a variety of English or bilingual (English/German) courses in the autumn semester. Our courses place a strong emphasis on practical classroom experience, teaching methodologies, education, and the social sciences. A mandatory course supports incoming students with guided reflection about intercultural issues. A German language course for beginners can be organised upon request. In addition, students can attend a range of specialised modules, depending on their interests. They can also select from a range of additional offers, such as choir or sports. Flexibility and individually-tailored offers are just some of the strengths of PH Zug.

«It has been a very powerful experience and made myself grow. Not only because of the modules here but because of the different experiences that I lived and the way challenges came into my way and how I overcame them. But overall because of the people that I have met here and what I have learnt from them. I really feel that this experience has been very enriching and gave me a completely new perspective about life, inclusion, openness and diversity.»

Stéphanie Condie, Universidad Pontificia Comillas Madrid, Spain

Finances

Visiting students from European Erasmus+ programme countries are eligible for a stipend directly from PH Zug. In addition, they receive a half-fare card, which gives them a significant discount when using public transport.

Accommodation

PH Zug is usually able to offer relatively affordable accommodations within walking distance from the campus, and it helps students to find suitable housing.

«Coming to Switzerland has been 100% worthwhile. It has opened up my eyes and allowed me to experience a whole new perspective on education, teaching, learning and life in a diverse and new environment. It has been inspiring, motivating and engaging.»

Laura Grant, Deakin University, Australia

Orientation and support

Visiting students will receive relevant organisational information during the welcome events at the beginning of their stay. PH Zug is committed to providing personal support, and incoming students have easy access to staff members who are happy to answer questions. In addition, visiting students will have a student buddy as-

signed to them who can provide them with useful tips and take them on joint excursions.

Application

As part of a first step, visiting students must be selected and nominated by their home university. They then receive information about the application procedure from the International Office of PH Zug.

Application deadlines

- 15 April for the following autumn semester
- 1 November for the following spring semester (only German courses)

«I believe that I have really achieved the goal of becoming a better teacher. I have learned how to allow students to take more control of their education and have learned the importance of getting to know your students.»

Heidi Sanders, Utah Valley University, USA





Programmes

The programmes at PH Zug provide student teachers with a comprehensive learning experience and closely link theory with practice as encountered in daily life at a school. In the three-year Bachelor programmes for the kindergarten/lower primary and primary levels, student teachers receive all the training they will need in order to be effective in the respective levels up to grade six. Visiting international students will find the broadly varied options of PH Zug's applied programme to be particularly appealing.

Facilities

PH Zug has very attractive facilities: A media resource centre featuring specialised literature in pedagogy and materials on didactics. Working spaces for students, music rooms, freely accessible teaching materials, as well as a wide selection at the excellent cafeteria. PH Zug also has an attractive sports programme, a choir, a vocal ensemble, offers in drama in education and a range of leisure activities that students and staff members can join.



Karte: stepmap.de

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