



University of St.Gallen



Ph.D. Programmes 2026

Create your future with us

The University of St.Gallen is a place of thought leadership at the heart of Europe. We think, work and act in an integrative, committed and cooperative manner. Together we develop new ideas, gain new insights and thus create sustainable solutions – for the economy and the society of today and tomorrow.

Join the HSG community – we would like to welcome you!

Facts and figures

1898

Foundation

9047

Students from more than 80 nations

3335

Employees

107

Full professors

200

Partner universities for exchange semesters

46

Institutes and research semesters

4 out of 5

Bachelor's and Master's students have a regular job before graduation

> 90 % of all graduates would choose the HSG again

Our students come from
70 % Switzerland
25 % Europe
3 % Asia/Pacific
2 % America

Accreditations



Member of



From insight to impact



Dear Prospective Students

Your Ph.D. studies will be one of the most challenging and most exciting times in your life. By choosing the University of St.Gallen (HSG), you will become part of a vibrant research community whose members often work closely with partners in the private and public sector.

It is our ambition to equip our Ph.D. candidates with the tools they need to succeed in their research and beyond. We therefore do not only enforce the highest academic standards in our programmes but continually strengthen both solution-oriented basic research and rigorous applied research. Moreover, we provide you with opportunities to build your methodological competencies, your teaching and your personal skills.

You can expand your methodological toolkit at our Global School of Empirical Research Methods (GSERM) where renowned experts will teach and coach you. Your personal and general career toolkit will benefit from the Early Career Programme that also fosters exchange with other researchers. And you can improve your teaching skills by pursuing a CAS in Teaching and Learning for Higher Education.

We hope that you take advantage of these opportunities and become an active member of our campus community – welcome!

Prof. Dr. Manuel Ammann
President

You have a goal.
This is where you start.



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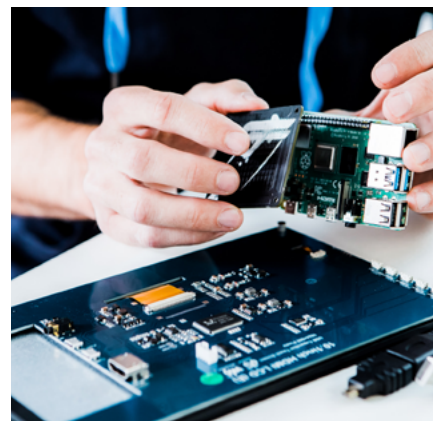
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“HSG is famed for its community, internationally connected in friendship. This network will carry you throughout your life.”



Why St.Gallen? Study as an integrative learning experience

Integrative. Committed. Cooperative. As a student at the University of St.Gallen, you will experience these values come to life. Be it through our unique degree course architecture, the combination of high academic and strong practical relevance, or through your involvement in our projects and associations. Thus “From insight to impact” is our promise, which contributes to the social and economic development as well as to your personal growth.

We view studying as a holistic learning experience. We teach knowledge and skills that make the difference in the economy, society, and politics of the 21st century.

Contextual studies – part of the “HSG DNA” and a distinguishing feature of our university – allow our students to make valuable cross-curricular connections and develop social, ethical, historical, and intercultural awareness in addition to acquiring subject knowledge. This combination will help them make the right decisions in terms of their professional career and far beyond. For those who are aware of their own social responsibility think more integrative, act more sustainably.

St.Gallen connects

As a student of the University of St.Gallen, you have the opportunity to spend an exchange semester at one of our roughly 200 partner universities worldwide.

The HSG is known for its friendly community. This network carries you throughout your life. It is established during your studies, e.g., in group work, practical projects or voluntary commitment in one of our 120 student associations and initiatives or in joint leisure activities.



Excellence in teaching and research

Oriented towards the future, of strong societal impact, and globally networked – as one of the leading European business universities, we distinguish ourselves internationally through world-class research and integrative teaching. As our student, the road is laid out for you to make your impact in business and society.

Accreditations



Science and practical application in dialogue

This maxim guides us as a public educational institution that is fully aware of its social responsibility and creative leadership.

Our 107 professors, 24 associates and 62 assistant professors, 32 permanent lecturers and 591 lecturers dedicate themselves to the education of our students.

They do this with great success. Our holistic education at the highest academic level has been awarded the accreditation labels EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA.

In addition to their teaching activities, many of our academic teachers work in one of the 46 institutes, independent research centres and centres of the University of St.Gallen. There they research today's and tomorrow's pressing scientific topics such as the future of healthcare, sustainable investment strategies, renewable energies and climate change.

All the while our academics maintain contacts with organisations in business, law and politics. With these activities rooted in science and practice, we ensure that our lecturers not only keep their finger on the pulse of the

times but can also pass on this knowledge and experience to their students in lectures and seminars.

At the University of St.Gallen, six schools conduct both basic and applied research: School of Management, School of Finance, School of Economics and Political Sciences, Law School, and the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

In 2020, the School of Computer Sciences was established. Its 11 professors are currently researching and teaching in the fields of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Cybersecurity, Data Science, Foundation of Computation, Human-Computer Interaction, Interaction- and Communication-based Systems, and the Programming and Development of Software Systems.

Tackling social core topics head-on, these schools ensure our mission in teaching and research. [unisg.link/schools](https://www.unisg.ch/schools)

The HSG's institute model differs greatly from other universities in Switzerland. This federal concept reflects the exceptional academic nature of the HSG and its research. Groups and teams conduct research with the aim of making a contribution to the University's top European position and the HSG's typical coope-

orative organisation culture. A comprehensive insight into the HSG research (projects, publications and profiles) is provided by the Alexandria Research Platform. alexandria.unisg.ch.

As a place of research, we offer young and experienced academics attractive working conditions, and we specifically support up-and-coming researchers. Thus, there is a possibility for young academics to be employed on the research staff or as assistants at institutes and chairs while working towards a Ph.D. degree, so laying the foundations for their later academic careers.

Our focus when supporting the new generation of academics is on career and research-funding opportunities. For this purpose, we provide a wide range of services, tools and infrastructure for HSG researchers. This includes, for example, our Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM), our Behavioral Lab, the Early Career Programme and the support by the Grants Office HSG.

Rankings

Financial Times Ranking

Masters in Management:

1st place worldwide with the Master in Strategy and International Management

Masters in Finance Ranking:

6th place worldwide with the Master in Banking and Finance

European Business School Ranking:

7th place

The Economist

Masters in Management:

2nd place worldwide with the Master in Strategy and International Management

Handelsblatt / Wirtschaftswoche Ranking

Business Research (Wirtschaftswoche):

1st place in German-speaking Europe

Economics Research (Handelsblatt):

10th place in German-speaking Europe

rankings.unisg.ch

Cooperative and Committed – Vibrant #Studentlife

On campus

Situated on the Rosenberg with a grand view over the city, our campus offers ideal study conditions. The distances between the individual areas are short, and the modern infrastructure supports our students ideally in their learning. The HSG campus is more than just a place of education – it is a place of encounter, inspiration, and art. Here, works of art by Penalba, Richter, Miró or Giacometti meet the buildings of the architects Walter M. Förderer and Bruno Gerosa.

More Campus 2022

We are building the future of learning and teaching. The aim is for the SQUARE to be a future oriented place to think and work, paving the way for new forms of learning and interaction between students, lecturers and people with practical backgrounds. Here, a holistically conceived infrastructure for learning, teaching and exchange is being created, geared entirely to the requirements of tomorrow's society.

In 2025, ground will also be broken for work on our second location. On six floors and a total of 31,000 square metres, our new building in the middle of the city will create new space.

In the city

St.Gallen has a lot to offer its approximately 80,000 inhabitants: a historically valuable Old Town, numerous shops, street cafés and restaurants, bars and clubs.

The monastery quarter with the baroque cathedral and the abbey library was named UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Situated between the Alps and Lake Constance, St.Gallen also provides ideal conditions for a wide range of leisure and sports activities in the surrounding area. The natural swimming pools “Drei Weieren” are within walking distance of the city centre.

Connect. Collaborate. Create.

In the heart of the city, our students run the innovative coworking space «TheCo». From 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and seven days a week, workplaces for individuals and groups, design thinking spaces and retreats are available in an interactive and communicative atmosphere.

Art and culture

An impressive cultural programme awaits you with one of Switzerland's biggest Open Airs, the performances of the City Theatre and the Tonhalle, the St.Galler Festspiele – a classical music event held every summer – and numerous exhibitions in museums and private galleries. The St.Gallen Art Museum and the Kunsthalle Sankt Gallen connect the city with the international art scene.

Our own grounds are home to important works of art waiting to be discovered. The Pro Arte association offers guided art tours. Dive into the space between science, art, and architecture. Immerse yourself in the fascinating art of the modern age.

Our sports offer

To keep body and mind in balance, Unisport provides you with a wide range of sports and training opportunities at our own and external sports facilities. On campus, for example, you will find a modern sports hall with a gym, group fitness courses as well as an artificial turf pitch and a beach volleyball court.

Around 150 training instructors professionally supervise you and support you in shaking off the stress of university life. Our programme includes more than 150 training sessions in more than 50 sports every week. Most of our courses and services are available to you free of charge. With us, even professional sports careers integrate seamlessly with your studies. sport.unisg.ch

Well catered for

Our cafeteria offers a wide selection of delicious menus over lunch, as well as a cold and a warm buffet to meet almost all dietary needs. Meet your friends in one of the popular cafeterias for a chat, a snack or to learn. Students run the campus bar “[ad]hoc” and the “MeetingPoint” downtown at the Blumenbergplatz. Here you can enjoy a strong coffee or just hang out with other students on your nights off.

FUTURE
CAMPUS
PLATZTOR



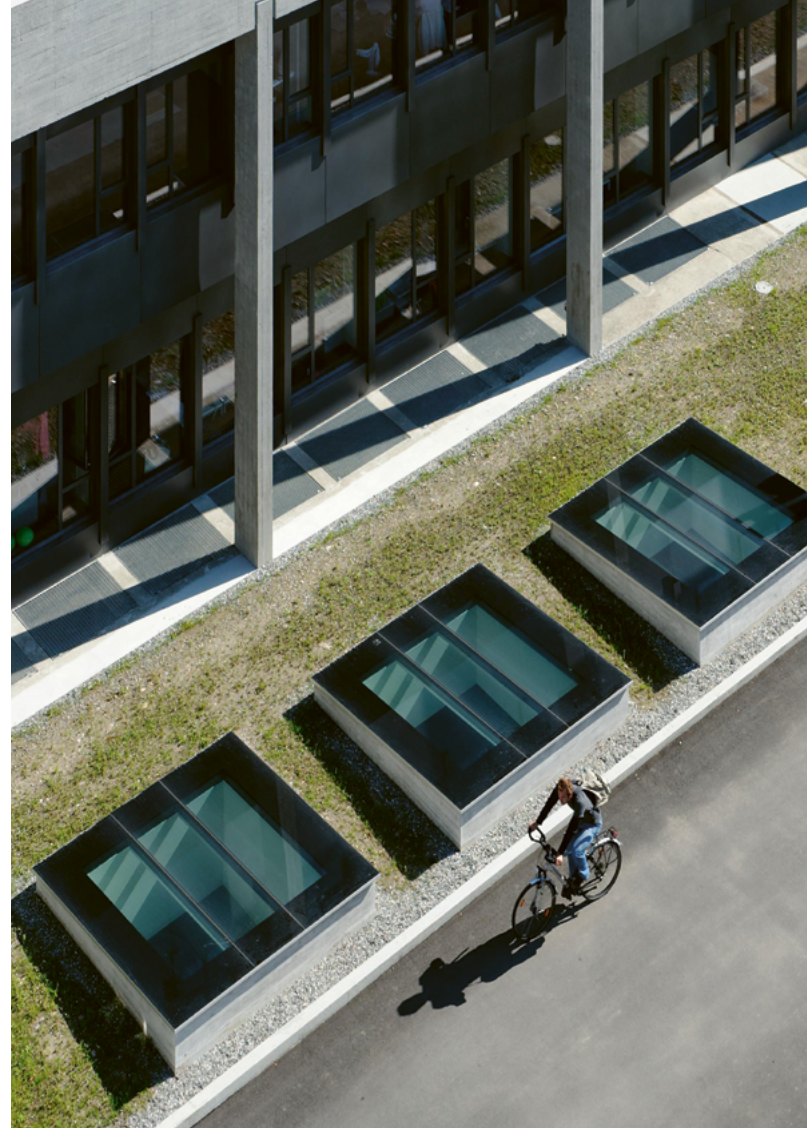
TheCo, run by our students, is a success story and only one example for the big commitment of our students. Learning and working in that environment is a real pleasure. We are proud of you guys!



Virtual Campus Tour



Virtual Campus Tour with
Andreas Oberholzer
unisg.link/campustour



Would you like to learn more about the campus and student life at our University? Then you can get an idea from our virtual campus tour: have a look at the Audimax, the Library and the student-run cafés and bars. Learn more about what makes our HSG* so unique.

*HSG is the nickname of the University of St.Gallen. It derives from the University's previous name, Handelshochschule St.Gallen (Graduate School of Economics and Business Administration).



Facts & Figures

St.Gallen, Switzerland

From St.Gallen to ...

Paris
700 km

Munich
220 km

Berlin
770 km

HSG

Milan
320 km

Bern

Capital

CHF

1 CHF = 1.1 USD
1 CHF = 0.91 EUR



Summer
24° Max | 13° Min



Winter
4° Max | -3° Min

158 sunny days/year

Zurich
International
Airport
(1 hour by train)

2175 million
foreign population (25%)

1.8 million
from Europe (83%)

41,285 km²
Switzerland

8.6 million

Population Switzerland

80,000

Population St.Gallen

10% Students



4 Official languages

German

French

Italian

Romansh



7000 km

Ski runs (St.Gallen – New Delhi)

2433

Ski lifts, cable cars and mountain railways,
1700 km in total (St.Gallen – Helsinki)

4634 a.s.l.

Highest point

193 a.s.l.

Lowest point

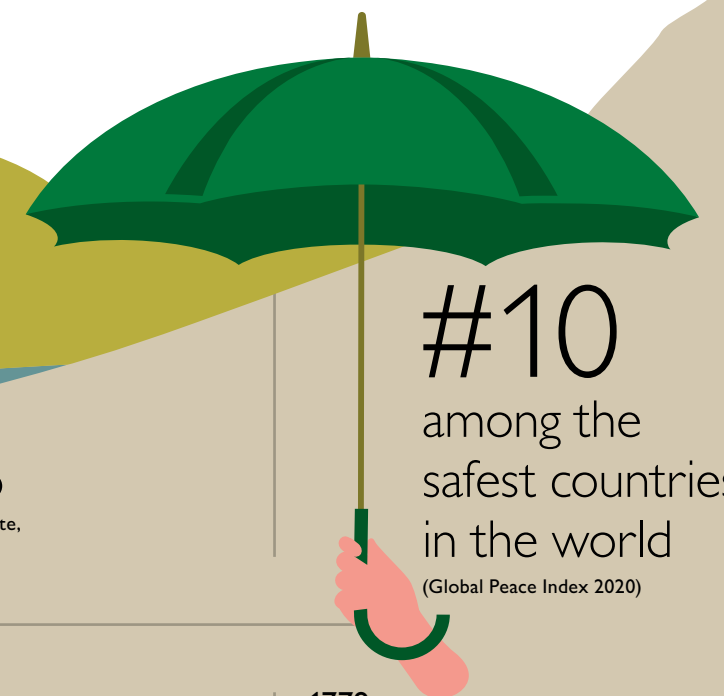
3.3%

Unemployment rate,
April 2021

#10

among the
safest countries
in the world

(Global Peace Index 2020)



St.Gallen Trivia



612
the Irish monk
Gallus established
a hermitage by
the river Steinach

1438

first mention of
the Bratwurst in the
“Statuten der
Metzgerzunft St.Gallen”

1779

foundation of
Schützengarten,
the oldest brewery
in Switzerland

1879

FC St.Gallen is the
oldest football club in
mainland Europe

1910

the world's most
important embroidery
producer and exporter

Structure of Ph.D. studies

Ph.D. studies at the University of St.Gallen (HSG) provide Ph.D. students with the necessary preparation to apply both theory and practice in their later work. The methodology that is essential for this task is reinforced in lectures and seminars during the coursework and research phases, and is refined individually while students are writing their theses.

Enrolment process

To apply, you will have to fill in the online application on our website. During this process, you will be informed about the documents you have to submit. Once you have entered your data, uploaded the required files and paid the application fees, your application for a Ph.D. programme is complete. If you fulfil the requirements and all the documents are accepted, you will receive a confirmation by e-mail. Before you complete the online application, the Ph.D. Office will be happy to conduct a non-binding preliminary assessment. For us to be able to check whether you satisfy the formal requirements for studying a Ph.D., please e-mail all the grade transcripts and degree certificates, along with a CV, to phd@unisg.ch. Graduates of the University of St. Gallen fulfil the requirements if they have achieved the required grade average in their licentiate or master's degree. If you meet all the requirements and the programme committee agrees to your admission, you may be admitted unconditionally. If your admission is subject to certain conditions such as supplementary work, your admission is

conditional until they have been fulfilled. If you are admitted, you will have ten semesters from the start of your Ph.D. studies to complete the doctoral thesis. These ten semesters consist of a coursework phase and a research phase.

Coursework phase

The coursework phase lasts a maximum of four semesters and consists of

- Methodological and specialist courses, which serve to deepen subject knowledge and teach methodological skills.
- Preparation of your research proposal. In this, the thesis project and the methodological approach must be described and evidence of initial research results must be provided.
- Colloquium on the research proposal. This will be assessed by the thesis committee and the colloquium will be conducted within eight weeks. At the colloquium, the research proposal will be presented to the thesis committee, followed by a question and answer session regarding content and methodology. The colloquium is

not open to the public. The thesis committee will decide whether or not to accept the research proposal.

Research phase

The methodological and theoretical part of the Ph.D. studies takes central stage in the research phase. It lasts a maximum of six semesters and consists of:

- Thesis-related seminars which may provide the opportunity to present and discuss the current status of the research and give a platform for an academic exchange with fellow students and faculty.
- Writing the Ph.D. thesis, which must be your own scientific achievement and provide evidence of advanced specialist knowledge and the mastery of scientific methods. It can be submitted in the form of a self-contained book (monograph) or individual essays (cumulative thesis).
- Defence. The thesis has to be defended before the thesis committee. You have to provide evidence of whether you satisfy the Ph.D. thesis requirements. The defence is open to the public and lasts for at least one hour.

The Ph.D. Office ensures the smooth running of the administrative side of the Ph.D. studies. It is the point of contact for prospective Ph.D. students, professors, institutes and schools, for all questions relating to the Ph.D. studies.

Graduation

The Senate awards the degrees at a graduation ceremony. The Ph.D. diplomas are presented by the President. The following degrees are awarded:

- Management: Doktor oder Doktorin der Wirtschaftswissenschaften (Dr. oec. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Management (Ph.D. HSG)
- Economics and Econometrics: Doktor oder Doktorin der Wirtschaftswissenschaften (Dr.oec. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Economics and Econometrics (Ph.D. HSG)
- International Affairs and Political Economy: Doktor oder Doktorin der Staatswissenschaften (Dr.rer.publ. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in International Affairs and Political Economy (Ph.D. HSG)
- Organizational Studies and Cultural Theory: Doktor oder Doktorin der Sozialwissenschaften (Dr.rer.soc. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Organizational Studies and Cultural Theory (Ph.D. HSG)
- Law: Doktor oder Doktorin der Rechtswissenschaft (Dr.iur. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Law (Ph.D. HSG)
- Finance: Doktor oder Doktorin der Wirtschaftswissenschaften (Dr.oec. HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Finance (Ph.D. HSG)
- Computer Science: Doktor oder Doktorin der Wissenschaften (Dr.sc.

HSG) or Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science (Ph.D. HSG)

Working and studying

During their Ph.D. studies, some students work at their professor's institute, others write their thesis extramurally. To attend the seminars, however, the students have to come to St.Gallen. The way you structure your Ph.D. studies is something you have to discuss with your supervisor before you take up the studies.

Online enrolment time frame

To start in September (Autumn Semester): 1 February to 30 April of the current year
To start in February (Spring Semester): 1 September to 30 November of the preceding year.
Extended deadlines are applicable for rematriculated and research assistants at the HSG institutes.

Ph.D. Office



University of St.Gallen (HSG)
Ph.D. Office
Tellstrasse 2
CH-9000 St.Gallen
Switzerland

+41 71 224 22 20
phd@unisg.ch
phd@unisg.ch

Enrolment / Supervisor for the thesis / Admission

Coursework phase: Courses / Research proposal / Colloquium

Research phase: Seminars / Writing thesis / Defence

Graduation

Admission criteria

Admission to Ph.D. programmes at the University of St.Gallen (HSG) is contingent on a master's degree from a recognised university in the same or similar subject as the chosen Ph.D. programme. You must be able to demonstrate a Swiss grade average of at least 5.00 (Germany/Austria 2.00; US GPA 3.5). To be admitted you need to have secured a supervisor. Admission to our Ph.D. programmes is not possible with degrees from a university of applied sciences or degrees from a higher education institution without the right to award Ph.D. degrees or with an MBA, Executive Master or Master of Advanced Studies.

Your degree programme will be recognised:

- Your degree was awarded by a university which is recognised in the country where you attended the course.
- You have completed at least half of the course work on-site at the university awarding the degree.
- You have completed all course work at a university which is recognised in the country of teaching.

Please note that admission regulations and processes differ between our programmes. admissions.unisg.ch



Financial information

Living costs

Ph.D. students' living costs vary according to their lifestyles and how they structure their studies. Some students commute to St.Gallen for their studies, others live in St.Gallen and work at their professors' institutes. Students living here spend on average approx. CHF 29,000 per year.

Tuition fees

Tuition fees are rather low in Switzerland because the Swiss Confederation and the cantons subsidise university education.

Tuition fees as of autumn semester 2026	CHF
For matriculated domestic students in a regular semester	668.50
For matriculated international students in a regular semester	1150.50

Examination fees	CHF
For the submission of the research proposal	300
For the submission of the Ph.D. thesis	600

Accommodation

We do not offer on-campus housing. Generally, students share an apartment or rent a small one. The Student Union provides more information on the housing market: shsg.ch

Food

A regular menu at the on-campus cafeteria costs about CHF 8. You can find all kinds of restaurants and snack bars in town.

Visa process

Most students who come to Switzerland must obtain a visa prior to entering the country. Please contact the Swiss Embassy in your home country at an early stage to find out about the relevant procedures and documents to be submitted.

In some cases, students must prove that they have sufficient financial means for their stay in Switzerland. Therefore, they will have to transfer money (currently CHF 24,000) into a Swiss bank account and submit the bank statement with the other documents to the Embassy to obtain the visa. eda.admin.ch

Moving to St.Gallen

Various items of information about moving to St.Gallen and about health insurance schemes for students can be found on the website of the City of St.Gallen. International students are required to take out a Swiss health insurance unless the Swiss authorities accept their original one. Costs will amount to at least CHF 100 per month. stadt.sg.ch

Scholarships and grants

Switzerland offers research, Ph.D. and post-doctoral scholarships to international students. Interested parties should contact both the Swiss Embassy in their home country and the HSG's Federal Grant Officer Andrea Haefner (andrea.haefner@unisg.ch). sbfi.admin.ch

Are you looking for financial support for your studies? Or do you need funding for your research? The Funding Finder will help you find all relevant funding sources such as scholarships, student loans, grants, awards, prizes and other financial help that can advance your personal career. research@unisg.ch

Employment opportunities

Open positions for Ph.D. students can be found in our job portal, on the institutes' websites and through the Career & Corporate Services (CSC). International students must fulfill certain requirements to be able to take up a position. HSG Human Resource Services will be able to provide further information on the required permits and documents. hsgcareer.ch hrs.unisg.ch

Student engagement



Lisa Milić
President of the Student Union

Life at the HSG as well as the “HSG-Spirit” live from the unique student engagement. Many students are involved in the Student Union (SHSG), in initiatives or in clubs and thus actively shape life on and off campus at our university. In addition, students can further broaden the already extensive offerings by founding new clubs for their own interests. With their own involvement, students quickly realise that a lot is possible at the university as well as in society as a whole, because many clubs pursue the goal of having a noticeable and measurable impact. In addition, it offers the opportunity to take on initial responsibility and to get to know a community of like-minded people. The friendships made in this way are an enormous enrichment and accompany the students throughout their studies.

This is not the only indication that the HSG values, supports and encourages active students. As an official part of the university, the Student Union is the official body of students at the HSG and represents student interests. All enrolled students are members of the SHSG. Approx. 250 students are directly involved in the Student Union and initiatives, advocating for the concerns of their fellow students, with many more being part of other associations. Through its representation on university committees and commissions, SHSG brings the interests of students into direct dialogue. In addition, SHSG is also a coordinator of the association landscape and itself an active part of the student community, offering direct opportunities to have an immediate impact.

All information on
shsg.ch

“The friendships formed here will stay with you throughout your studies – and long thereafter.”

DocNet – Doctoral Network at the University of St.Gallen

DocNet is an association that aims to establish and strengthen the network between Ph.D. students from different research backgrounds and postdoctoral scholars at the University of St.Gallen (HSG). With over 1,000 members, our club is the largest of its kind in Europe. We offer a variety of professional, social, cultural, and sports events for all Ph.D.s and postdoctoral scholars. Visit our website (docnet-hsg.ch) to register, and make sure to follow us on Instagram (@docnet_hsg) and on LinkedIn (linkedin.com/company/docnet-hsg).

- At a glance:
- We help our members to connect with peers from various disciplines.
 - We organise a range of social, cultural, sports and career events.
 - We connect Ph.D.s with stakeholders from corporates.
 - We assist our members in their careers with various platforms and events, including the renowned DocNet Symposium.



Become a member!
Learn more on our website



Join our WhatsApp group.



Ph.D. programmes

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Ph.D. Programme
in Management (PMA)

28

Graduate Programme in Economics
and Finance (GPEF)

Ph.D. Programme
in Finance (PiF)

Ph.D. Programme
in Economics & Econometrics (PEcon)

29

Ph.D. Programme
in Computer Science (DCS)

34

Ph.D. Programme
in International Affairs and Political
Economy (DIA)

36

Ph.D. Programme
in Law (DLS)

38

Ph.D. Programme
in Organization Studies and Cultural
Theory (DOK)

Ph.D. Programme in Management (PMA)

The Ph.D. Programme in Management (PMA), organised by the School of Management, is Europe’s largest Ph.D. programme in management. It is distinguished by its strong emphasis on rigorous academic scholarship combined with meaningful, practice-oriented, and transferable research—true to HSG’s guiding principle: from insight to impact. The curriculum offers five areas of specialisation: Accounting, Behavioral Science, Business Innovation, General Management, and Marketing. A success factor of the PMA is the vital connection between academia and the world of practice, where Ph.D. students find an attractive, international learning environment that is relevant to their future research-based careers in academia and industry.

Structure of the Ph.D. Programme in Management

The Ph.D. Programme in Management (PMA) is the largest Ph.D. programme at the University of St.Gallen and provides preparation for a research-based career in academia and industry. Thanks to the broad orientation of the School of Management, Ph.D. students can choose from among five areas of specialisation: Accounting, Behavioral Science, Business Innovation, General Management, and Marketing.

The programme is divided into a coursework phase and a research phase. The purpose of the coursework phase is to deepen methodological skills, provide specialised knowledge and lay an important foundation for good, responsible, and sustainable scientific practice. Therefore two compulsory and a minimum of two method courses need to be completed. Method courses can be selected either from the PMA curriculum or the Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM). Furthermore, all

doctoral students must complete the integration course “10.161 Ethics, Responsibility, and Sustainability in Management Research” as part of their first year of study in the PMA. Ph.D. students finalise the coursework phase by preparing and presenting a research proposal to their thesis committee. The research phase is focused on the writing of the Ph.D. thesis and is accompanied by at least two Ph.D. colloquia in order to discuss the research progress and to get new insights from colleagues and faculty members. One additional phase-independent Ph.D. colloquium or method course has to be conducted during either the coursework or research phase. The research phase is finalised by the submission of the thesis and its defence in an oral examination.

“Through a diverse portfolio of courses and seminars, the HSG Ph.D. Programme in Management provides solid foundations for an academic career and beyond. Our past graduates have continuously secured competitive placements at internationally renowned universities and in the corporate world.”

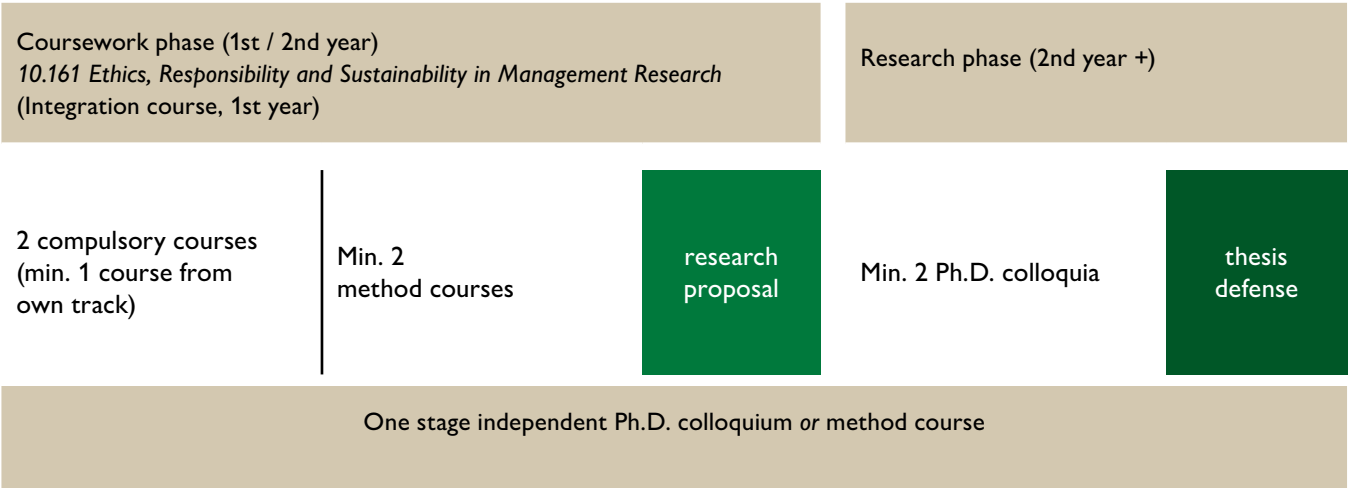
Prof. Dr. Tami Dinh, Academic Director PMA

“The Ph.D. Programme in Management (PMA) gave me the chance to focus on a fascinating topic, supervised by an outstanding mentor and accompanied by great Ph.D. fellows. The programme offered the framework to familiarise myself with various research methods and improve my presentation and writing skills. It enabled exchanges with world-class researchers and provided flexibility in combining theory and practice-oriented research. Overall, I believe facing the Ph.D.’s day-to-day challenges prepared me well for any obstacles ahead.”



Dr. Anna Husmann
Job placement after graduation: Investment Banking Analyst, Goldman Sachs

Ph.D. Programme in Management (PMA)



Specialisations

Accounting

The Accounting curriculum does not only include accounting theory and research methods but also deals with theoretical and practical aspects in the fields of financial accounting, management accounting, auditing, and corporate finance. Our objective is to provide Ph.D. students with relevant knowledge that transcends their previous education. Rather than focusing on theoretical problems alone, the specialisation area aims to combine practical issues with quantitative and qualitative research methods. These encompass a wide range of research methods including but not limited to empirical archival, experimental, survey, and qualitative research designs. Ph.D. students that aim for a career in academia get first-hand insights into how to publish in top tier journals. The ACA research seminar series with regular research talks by international accounting academics is an integral part of the accounting Ph.D. curriculum, offering ample opportunities for 1:1 exchanges and networking. This specialisation area is aimed at all graduates who would like to concentrate on financial accounting, management accounting, auditing, and corporate finance, and who intend to acquire special skills for senior positions in business or qualify for an academic career in these areas.

Behavioral Science

The specialisation in Behavioral Science within the PMA delves into the scientific exploration of human behavior within companies, organisations, and broader contexts, all through a management lens. The subprogramme equips Ph.D. students to become a data-driven, evidence-based management professional. They will develop the expertise to design and implement human-centered product and service propositions. Understanding and predicting human behavior in

management settings requires an interdisciplinary perspective and a multi-methodological approach. This specialisation provides a comprehensive and rigorous education that prepares Ph.D. students to excel in both academic and industry careers. The ideal candidate for this subprogramme possesses a strong interest in investigating, understanding, and influencing human behavior from a multidisciplinary and management-oriented viewpoint. Potential Ph.D. students may hold a master's degree in a behaviorally-focused field (psychology, communication, cognitive science) or a discipline with an empirical foundation in human behavior (management, marketing, economics, finance data science).

Business Innovation

The PMA subprogramme in Business Innovation is perfect for those who aim to go beyond traditional analysis and explanation of innovation, offering a path to design and implement groundbreaking solutions to real-world problems. At the intersection of descriptive research and practical design, the subprogramme stands out by embracing design-oriented research that is increasingly recognised and valued in both the professional world and academic circles. The digital era, with its rapid transformations, exemplifies the urgent need for innovative digital business models, platforms, and solutions. These are not merely theoretical concepts but are vital components that need to be systematically designed, tested, and refined. Our approach is distinct from typical consultancy or practice-focused innovation. We dive deeper, systematically exploring requirements, leveraging existing solutions, and crafting projectable, innovative solutions that demonstrate real-world applicability and value. This process is underpinned by close collaboration with industry, ensuring our research is grounded in reality. Targeted at graduates with a

keen interest in fields like information management, business engineering, technology and innovation management, media and communication management, and logistics management, the subprogramme is designed to mold the next generation of innovators. Those who join us are set on a path to rigorously explore, develop, and elucidate new innovative business solutions that can shape the future.

General Management

The research focus in the subprogramme General Management is on the strategies, structures, processes, and behaviors that affect the purpose and operations of organisations. Under this broad umbrella, the overarching aim is to address through rigorous scientific research questions that have important implications for managerial practice. The research in this field includes, among others, Boards and Governance, Corporate and Competitive Strategy, Strategy Processes and Strategic Decision-Making, International Business, Family Firms and Ownership, Organizational Leadership and Behavior, and Management of Stakeholders and Sustainability. Doctoral students will become familiarised with existing theories of management research and the discipline's most important research areas, as well as, on the methodological front, with quantitative and qualitative research methods and formal modelling. Interdisciplinary concepts will help to address important research questions in a sound way. This specialisation area caters to graduates interested in focusing on strategic management, international business, leadership, and entrepreneurship, with an eye towards preparing for an academic career in these fields. It offers the essential skills and knowledge needed to contribute to academic research and teaching in these areas, as well as to assume executive roles and drive innovation in a variety of business contexts.

“Doing my Ph.D. in St. Gallen allowed me to follow my passion – understanding the role of business in the fight against climate change. I still benefit from the incredible international network that I built here, including leaders in academia and industry.”

Marketing

The focus in Marketing in the PMA is designed for master's degree graduates interested in Marketing or the research of Consumer Behavior. At the University of St.Gallen, the focus is on combining academic rigor with application-oriented relevance, which means that focusing on Marketing within the PMA in addition to being taught reflective fundamental scientific-theoretical concepts and a solid, appropriate and sound research methodology, Ph.D. students are also trained to independently take charge of innovative and empirical projects. Most dissertations in Marketing are empirically oriented, using a wide range of methods; in principle, conceptual work is also possible. In addition to strong perseverance, Ph.D. students focusing on marketing should have a keen interest in researching consumer behavior and/or relevant, market-oriented topics in marketing, as well as the ability to think analytically and systemically.

Programme language

The Accounting, Behavioral Science, and General Management specialisations are offered in English; passive German language skills might be helpful in the general study context. The Marketing and Business Innovation specialisations are offered in English and German.



Dr. Lukas Falcke

Job placement after graduation: Assistant Professor, KIN Center for Digital Innovation, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Contact



Prof. Dr. Tami Dinh
Academic Director



Maria Tittel
Executive Director



University of St.Gallen (HSG)
Ph.D. Office
Tellstrasse 2
CH-9000 St.Gallen
Switzerland

pma.unisg.ch

Graduate Programme in Economics and Finance (GPEF)

Since autumn 2021 we offer the Ph.D. Programme in Economics and Econometrics, PEcon, and the Ph.D. Programme in Finance, PiF, under the umbrella of the Graduate Programme in Economics and Finance (GPEF). GPEF trains students to achieve academic excellence in the areas of Economics, Econometrics and Finance. The GPEF is tailored towards a high-quality and internationally orientated education in economics and financial research. It prepares students to pursue an academic career or to take up an applied research position in a central bank, an international policy institution or in the financial sector.

Our large economics and finance faculty and the resources devoted to the Ph.D. programmes allow for a broad range of core elective courses. Ph.D. candidates can expect close faculty guidance while pursuing their own research. They publish their research in well-known international scientific journals and present it at international conferences.

Student profile

We welcome excellent graduates of Master's programmes in Economics, Finance, Quantitative Methods, or equivalent. We expect our students to be fully committed, creative, talented and hard-working. Students should enjoy interaction with their fellow students and be prepared to engage and work closely with faculty. Prospective students must be proficient in English and have sufficient knowledge of their desired field of specialisation. Please check our website for the admission criteria.

Career perspectives

Our Ph.D. programmes prepare students for top academic as well as non-academic careers enabling them to take on positions that require a strong education in economics, finance and quantitative methods. Our graduates are regularly selected for highly reputable academic and non-academic positions (research departments of top-ranked institutions and international organisations, national banks, the banking sector, etc.).

Programme language

The GPEF is taught in English.

EN



Contact



For any questions regarding the application
phd@unisg.ch

For any questions regarding the admission regulations or a preliminary review
admissions@unisg.ch

For any questions regarding the content and structure of the GPEF
gpef@unisg.ch
gpef.unisg.ch

Ph.D. Programme in Finance (PiF)

Faculty

The research activities of the School of Finance faculty cover topics such as asset pricing, banking, behavioural finance, corporate finance, derivatives and computational finance, energy finance, insurance, macro finance, market microstructure, real estate finance, and systemic risk. Since autumn 2022, our doctoral programme in Finance, PiF, operates under the umbrella of the Swiss Finance Institute.

Coursework phase

The courses of the PiF programme ensure that graduates have the necessary fundamental knowledge to pursue their own original research. The coursework phase lasts between two and four semesters during which candidates have to take four compulsory subjects (Asset Pricing, Corporate Finance, Microeconomics for Finance and Econometrics for Finance) and five core electives. The core electives cover topics such as Computational Finance, Energy Finance, Financial Derivatives, Financial Intermediation, Market Microstructure, Spatial Econometrics and Systemic Risk. The menu of core electives can be completed with topics and methods courses from other Ph.D. programmes of the University

of St.Gallen as well as from other universities or our Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM). During the coursework phase, Ph.D. students submit a research proposal to their thesis committee. This proposal forms the basis for their own research.

Research phase

During the research phase, Ph.D. candidates focus on writing their Ph.D. thesis. In addition, they are expected to give four presentations in Ph.D. seminars where they receive feedback from faculty and their fellow students. The thesis has to be written as a cumulative thesis that consists of at least three publishable essays. At least one paper is a single authored paper and it represents a notable contribution to the thesis as a whole. The overall quality and style of the three papers should be equivalent to those found in renowned international academic journals. The thesis has to be written in English. After successfully defending their thesis, students are awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Finance from the University of St.Gallen (Ph.D. HSG).

Ph.D. in Finance (PiF)

	Courses	Credits	
Semester 1-4	compulsory courses	16 ECTS	course phase 36 ECTS
	compulsory elective courses	20 ECTS	
	research proposal (including the colloquium on the research proposal)		
Semester 5-10	Ph.D. seminars	16 ECTS	research phase 16 ECTS
	thesis		
	thesis defence (including pre-defence)		



Kristian Blickle,
Ph. D.

Financial Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

“After spending a few years in management consulting, I wanted to deepen my understanding of banking, asset pricing, and corporate finance. The Ph.D. Programme in Finance gave me an opportunity to delve into research of my choosing on these subjects. Ultimately, the programme prepared me to compete with top graduates from around the world. It gave me the theoretical and empirical foundations to apply my knowledge to important academic and policy questions.”

Marc-Antoine Ramelet, Ph. D.

Head of Research Coordination at Swiss National Bank Zurich.

“I joined the Ph.D. Programme in Economics and Finance after working in the financial sector. My motivation was to build expertise in macroeconomics and to get closer to policy institutions. The programme provided me with rigorous foundations in economics during the course phase. As a Ph.D. student, I could also benefit from the accessible faculty. The programme entails various interactions with faculty members and distinguished speakers. I had sufficient time for my research and could also engage in teaching activities. I am still in contact with the faculty and continue to value what the programme brought me.”

Ph.D. Programme in Economics and Econometrics (PEcon)

Faculty

The research activities of the School of Economics and Political Science faculty cover topics such as development economics, dynamic macroeconomics, public economics and economic policy, international trade and economic development, economic growth, applied microeconomics, applied microeconomic theory, computational statistics and machine learning, behavioural finance, financial econometrics and statistics, causal machine learning, and microeconometrics.

Coursework phase

The programme is designed to ensure that students receive advanced knowledge in the main areas of economics and econometrics. The curriculum begins with intensive courses (coursework phase), followed by two to three years of advanced studies, including students' own original research with topics chosen from two specialisations: Economics and Econometrics. Courses are designed to be challenging and cover a broad range of topics including theoretical and empirical research methodology. Students benefit from an international environment, with English being the exclusive programme language. Each year, a number of distinguished visiting professors from European and US universities teach in the programme. Crediting of courses from our partner programmes at the University of Frankfurt, the University

of Constance and the University of Lugano is possible. You may also enroll in the Gerzensee programme. The Study Center Gerzensee is a foundation of the Swiss National Bank and offers postgraduate education to central bankers and to Ph.D. students in economics. The Ph.D. courses cover the core curriculum of a US-style Ph.D. programme and are always updated to include recent developments in various subfields of economics. It is advisable to contact the programme administration in advance to check which courses can be credited.

Research phase

During the research phase, Ph.D. candidates focus on writing their Ph.D. thesis. In addition, they are expected to give four presentations in Ph.D. seminars where they receive feedback from faculty and their fellow students. A research-oriented and internationally established faculty offers expert advice and close supervision to Ph.D. students writing a Ph.D. thesis. The thesis has to be written as a cumulative thesis that consists of at least three publishable essays. At least one paper is a single authored paper and it represents a notable contribution to the thesis as a whole. The overall quality and style of the three papers should be equivalent to those found in renowned international academic journals. After successfully defending their thesis, students are awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy with specialisation in Economics or Econometrics from the University of St.Gallen (Ph.D. HSG).

Ph.D. in Economics and Econometrics (PEcon)

Courses		Economics	Econometrics	course phase 36 ECTS
Semester 1-4	compulsory courses	12 ECTS 8 economics, 4 econometrics and/or finance	12 ECTS 8 econometrics, 4 economics and/or finance	
	compulsory elective courses	24 ECTS 12-16 economics, 8-12 econometrics and/or finance	24 ECTS 12-16 econometrics, 8-12 economics and/or finance	
	research proposal (including the colloquium on the research proposal)			
Semester 5-10	Ph.D. seminars	16 ECTS	16 ECTS	research phase 16 ECTS
	thesis			
	thesis defence (including pre-defence)			

Ph.D. Programme in Computer Science (DCS)

The Ph.D. Programme in Computer Science (DCS) provides a high-quality research education in the field of Computer Science. Our students get prepared for an academic career or for corporate research and development positions. The DCS is offered by the School of Computer Science of the University of St.Gallen. Our Ph.D. supervisors cover a wide range of cutting-edge topics in areas like artificial intelligence, cyber security, or software and systems engineering.



Konstantin Schürholt
Researcher and Ph.D. Candidate at the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Group.

“The DCS is a great place to do a Ph.D. in Computer Science because the programme provides the freedom to pursue academic research in my field of Machine Learning and many others, as well as to translate it into practice. The institute offers amazing work conditions, outstanding infrastructure with the labs or our DGX-2, and colleagues from all over the world, complemented by the city and nature around it. As all the groups are young, there is a start-up atmosphere. Everyone is motivated, helps each other out and everything is moving fast.”

The DCS offers a range of courses covering various of advanced topics in Computer Science. Furthermore, our students have the opportunity to gain in depth knowledge about quantitative methods by participating in the courses of the GSERM summer school. Excellent graduates of Master’s programmes in Computer Science or closely related subjects qualify for the DCS. Prospective Ph.D. students need explicit support from a member of the Computer Science faculty to apply.

Faculty

The research activities of the faculty of the School of Computer Science cover a wide range of topics. Our website offers you an overview as well as the contact information for you to get in touch with your potential future supervisor. Find out more at:

scs.unisg.ch

Structure of the DCS programme

The DCS programme is divided into a coursework phase and a research phase. The coursework phase takes a maximum of four semesters in which students need to earn 12 ECTS. In the research phase students advance their research, publish articles, and write a thesis. Additionally, they participate in at least two colloquia, during which they present their research to members of the research community and gather their input. Our website offers further details about the programme structure.

Programme language

The DCS is taught in English.



Contact

For any questions regarding the application process
phd@unisg.ch

For any questions regarding the admission regulations or a preliminary review
admissions@unisg.ch

For any questions regarding the content and structure of the DCS
dcs@unisg.ch

Ph.D. Programme in Computer Science (DCS)

Coursework phase	Research phase Contextual Studies
12 ECTS in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4-12 ECTS from advanced topic courses of the DCS• Upon request: 4 ECTS from publications or other Ph.D. courses or method courses offered at the HSG• Upon request: 4 ECTS from Ph.D. courses from other universities	2 colloquia

Ph.D. Programme in International Affairs and Political Economy (DIA)

The Ph.D. Programme in International Affairs and Political Economy (DIA) is the ideal platform for writing a Ph.D. thesis in the fields of political science, economic policy, and public management. DIA is run by the School of Economics and Political Science. The faculty enjoys international reputation for academic excellence and high-quality teaching.

The great challenges in society, policy and management require expert knowledge. The DIA programme combines the perspectives of political science, economics and management to analyze, understand and develop solutions to local and global challenges. An interdisciplinary curriculum and an internationally oriented faculty coaches students to develop expert knowledge and a global mind set.

The Ph.D. Programme in International Affairs and Political Economy focusses on developing research skills for exploring challenging problems in politics, economics and management. Students combine theory, data and empirical methods to develop original academic research. The interdisciplinary approach of the DIA programme broadens the perspective and promotes the

necessary skills for stimulating scientific dialogue with neighboring disciplines.

Our Ph.D. programme welcomes students with a Master's degree in International Affairs and Governance or a degree related to social sciences. DIA graduates start academic careers and take leadership positions in applied research, management and public policy.

Faculty

Professors from economics, political science and management are teaching in the DIA programme. Distinguished guest professors are invited to offer demanding and specialized Ph.D. courses. Ph.D. candidates can expect close faculty guidance and mentoring in pursuing their own research.

Ph.D. Programme in International Affairs and Political Economy (DIA)

Courses		Credits	
Semester 1-4	compulsory courses	12 ECTS	course phase 24 ECTS
	compulsory elective courses	4-12 ECTS	
	elective courses	0-8 ECTS	
	research proposal (including the colloquium on the research proposal)		
Semester 5-10	essay seminars	6 ECTS	research phase 12 ECTS
	dissertation seminar	6 ECTS	
	thesis		
	thesis defence		

Coursework phase

The courses of the DIA programme ensure that students get the necessary fundamental knowledge to pursue their own original research. During the course phase students have to take two compulsory, at least one core elective and up to two elective courses. In the compulsory course Philosophical and Methodological Foundations of Social Science Analysis, students explore the theoretical and normative principles of the social sciences. The Proposal Colloquium helps students to address, develop and improve a coherent research question, and discuss appropriate research designs.

Elective courses cover a broad range of fields. Various courses addressing methodological and thematic questions are offered in the areas of political science, economics and public management. The choice of the core elective course depends on the students' research interests. The menu of core electives can be completed with topics and methods courses from other Ph.D. programmes of the University of St.Gallen as well as from other universities or our Global School in Empirical Research Methods (GSERM). During the coursework phase, students will submit a research proposal for the Ph.D. thesis and they will defend it in a colloquium in the presence of their thesis committee members.

Research phase

In the research phase, students will focus on writing their Ph.D. thesis. The thesis may be submitted either as a monography or as a cumulative thesis (several articles). The cumulative thesis consists of at least three publishable essays. At least one paper is a single authored paper and it represents a notable contribution to the thesis as a whole. Students undertake a substantial piece of work that is worthy of publication and which makes an original contribution to their research field. They publish their research in well-known international scientific journals and present it at international conferences. They also have to attend an Essay Seminar and a Dissertation Seminar. After successfully defending their thesis, students are awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in International Affairs and Political Economy (abbreviation Ph.D. HSG).

Programme language

The DIA is taught in English.

EN



Lisa Marie Garbe, Ph.D.
Postdoctoral researcher, Berlin Social Science Center, The Institutions and Political Inequality Research Unit

"I enjoyed the interdisciplinarity and flexibility in the Ph.D. programme in International Affairs and Political Economy (DIA). The programme attracts Ph.D. students from various backgrounds encouraging fruitful discussions about one's research from different disciplinary perspectives. The possibility to attend summer schools and courses from other programmes allowed me to gain specific and deep methodological skills. I am very grateful for the opportunities offered by the DIA programme that successfully shaped my Ph.D. journey."

Contact



For any questions regarding the content and structure of the DIA
dia@unisg.ch

Ph.D. Programme in Law (DLS)

According to its academic structure, the HSG conceives of itself as a university with an interdisciplinary approach. On the basis of this concept, the Ph.D. Programme in Law (DLS) provides a consolidation of legal education with respect to legal problems of an economic or other interdisciplinary background. The Ph.D. in Law is taught by the Law School of the University of St.Gallen. The members of the Law School are actively engaged in research and regularly publish legal assessments of current issues in business and society.

The Ph.D. Programme of the Law School of the University of St.Gallen provides candidates with an opportunity to conduct an in-depth research project (thesis) of their own design. The thesis is produced within the overall context of a sophisticated didactic model. The DLS is made up of four components: coursework phase, research proposal and colloquium, research phase and defence of the thesis. Each of these phases is extended by different educational and supervisory elements (for example Ph.D. seminars or discussions with thesis supervisors).

The coursework phase is intended to provide you with an awareness of the problems surrounding the generation of substantial academic work, as well as with the methodological and specialist tools required for this task. You will have to attend three courses. Attendance at one of these three courses can be replaced by a publication in a legal journal that has been awarded an appropriate grade.

Courses are offered in the following fields:

- Fundamentals (legal and political philosophy, legal history, contemporary legal history, legal theory, legal sociology, legal psychology)
- Methods (methodology, comparative law, legal hermeneutics, legislative theory)
- Law and Economics, or interdisciplinary issues

Research proposal and colloquium

The research proposal helps you to formulate your own research activities (research questions) clearly and to present the initial findings of your thesis. After the colloquium, the supervisor and co-supervisor will decide whether to accept or reject the research proposal for the thesis, or to return it for revision.

Ph.D. Programme in Law (DLS)

Coursework phase

Three courses from the fields of fundamentals, methods, or interdisciplinary issues

Research phase
Contextual Studies

No seminars
(optional participation in courses)

Research phase

During the research phase, you will not have to attend any seminars because we want you to focus on the writing of your thesis. In order to foster your ability to present your research projects and your research findings, to face a critical discussion of them and to integrate possible criticism into your work, the Centre for Didactics in Higher Education (HDZ) offers training, workshops and lectures. In addition, a didactic module enables you to take part in tutorials and attend training courses at the Centre for Didactics in Higher Education (HDZ). This is also intended to enable you to effect the practical implementation of scientific ideas.

Student profile

Our Ph.D. Programme in Law is aimed at graduates of legal Master's programmes who would like to reinforce their legal training with regard to legal problems with economic or other interdisciplinary backgrounds.

Practice and science

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Law (Ph.D. HSG) awarded by the University of St.Gallen is acknowledged both in legal practice (law offices, courts of justice, companies) and in the scientific community. As a rule, a Ph.D. thesis written at the HSG is of both practical and theoretical relevance. At the Law School of the University of St.Gallen, there is no contradiction between theory and practice.

Programme language

The DLS can be studied in German and in English.



Sabrina Weiss
B.A. HSG 2014, M.A. HSG 2017,
PhD in Law HSG 2022, Lawyer,
MME

«Embarking on my doctorate journey has been an enriching and transformative experience. Throughout my studies, I have had the opportunity to engage in intensive research, critical analysis, and scholarly discourse, to shed light on the unique dynamics of corporate governance structures in Swiss law firms. The interdisciplinary nature of my research has allowed me to draw on insights from related fields, enhancing my analysis and providing a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. Beyond law, my doctorate has given me a deep understanding of empirical research and the complexities of law firm organisational structures, enabling me to think in a networked way. Another special aspect of doctoral studies at HSG is the doctoral students' association DocNet, which combines professional interdisciplinary exchange with a social atmosphere.»

Contact



For any questions regarding the content and structure of the DLS

dls@unisg.ch

Ph.D. Programme in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (DOK)

The Ph.D. Programme in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (DOK) has a strong interdisciplinary and international orientation. Its curriculum systematically integrates the core and contextual subjects taught at the University of St.Gallen (HSG). Many of today`s problems can only be understood from an interdisciplinary perspective: economic problems have cultural roots while cultural ones have economic causes. To use tools from more than one discipline is hence central to pursuing Ph.D. studies in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory at the HSG.



Letícia Vargas Bento.
Ph.D. Academic Programme Manager,
Leading House for Latin Amerika.
Research topic: Impact Investing in
Brazil

“The Ph.D. Programme in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory offers me outstanding conditions for developing my research. The programme develops a strong understanding of social science theories and broadens participants` knowledge of applicable methods. Professors are excellent while coursework provides stringent guidance and a firm basis for doing research. The richly faceted issues and questions being explored within the DOK Programme ensure in-depth discussion among an amazingly diverse and exciting group of researchers from across the world. I am delighted that I decided to pursue this Ph.D. degree.”

We will only be able to deal effectively with the present and future challenges of our daily and professional lives if we seriously account for a particular society or organisation. The DOK systematically applies theories from across the humanities and social sciences in order to reflect on and interpret social and organisational challenges, and to develop innovative and feasible solutions for the future. The programme aims to initiate and extend understanding of the relations between society and culture on the one hand, and between organisations and institutions as important subsystems of society and culture on the other.

Courses and colloquia

The DOK Programme offers a small selection of demanding, work-intensive courses. We provide Ph.D. candidates with a unique opportunity to engage in interdisciplinary thinking and research through encounters with academic worlds other than their own. DOK courses are designed to promote in-depth research in the area of Organisation and Culture.

The DOK offers two colloquia in which students discuss their own and their fellow students` research with DOK faculty.

The programme requires students to be highly self-motivated and to engage with the research activities of DOK faculty. The programme`s interdisciplinary and highly reflexive approach to

studying organisational and cultural phenomena ensures that graduates gain experience relevant to pursuing careers in enterprises, NGOs or public administration.

Career opportunities

Graduating from the DOK Programme opens up a wide range of career opportunities in industry, public administration and academia. Students are able to specialise and thus tailor the programme to their personal interests.

Careers in industry

The DOK offers broad, interdisciplinary training in general management. It enhances the career opportunities in particular of those graduates who will later enter professional environments requiring an in-depth understanding of culture. Such spheres include international settings (global management), as well as non-profit organisations, public organisations, social ventures, NGOs, creative industries, health organisations, etc.

Academic careers

The DOK Programme provides systematic engagement with theories from within the humanities and social sciences. Particular emphasis is placed on the potential of these theories for analysing problems in management theory. The programme also offers in-depth training in qualitative, context-sensitive and hands-on

research methods. We consider it crucial to understand research itself as a cultural practice, one in which epistemological, conceptual and methodological issues need to be seen as inseparable.

Programme language

The main language of the programme is German. However, the DOK can also be studied in English.



Contact



For any questions regarding the content and structure of the DOK
dok@unisg.ch

Ph.D. Programme in Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (DOK)

Coursework phase	Research phase Contextual Studies
5 courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– integration course «Introduction to doctoral studies at the DOK»– basic courses (thesis design)– specialist courses (faculty research topics) 2 integration courses for students with no background in economics	2 colloquia Individual participation in conferences and external colloquia Publishing activities



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Global School in
Empirical Research
Methods

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The Behavioral Lab
of the University of
St.Gallen

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Career support



GSERM

Global School in Empirical Research Methods

The GSERM Global School in Empirical Research Methods, founded at the University of St.Gallen in 2013, is an integrated programme teaching qualitative and quantitative methods for Ph.D. students, postdocs and professionals from all over the world. GSERM offers an attractive course-based learning atmosphere with a focus on different aspects of empirical research. Participants can choose from different courses offered as block seminars by internationally renowned lecturers. These courses are each worth 4 ECTS credits. We offer about 30 different Ph.D. courses on various levels of quantitative and qualitative topics over a period of 3½ weeks in June. To give our students a more rounded experience in Switzerland, an attractive social and sports programme is included. Due to the great success of GSERM in the last few years, GSERM offers its courses at different destinations.

Contact



Dr. Hans-Joachim Knopf
GSERM Executive Director



University of St.Gallen (HSG)
Tellstrasse 2
CH-9000 St.Gallen
+41 71 224 31 07
gserm@unisg.ch

gserm.org



Behavioral Lab at the University of St.Gallen

Along with a diverse infrastructure, we provide researchers with comprehensive support and advice to ensure that the projects run efficiently.



The Behavioral Lab is a key resource for scholars at the University of St.Gallen seeking to conduct experimental research in a range of disciplines, including economics, finance, management, humanities and social sciences, law, and computer science. Located at Tellstrasse 2, our lab is equipped with the latest technology to support research in both traditional laboratory settings and online.

Our support for you

Our team will support you throughout the research process, from project planning to publication. If you would like to find out more about how we can advise and support you with your research, please contact us by email. We are also happy to arrange a lab tour and show you our resources. Access to the lab and its resources is provided at no cost for projects involving at least one researcher affiliated with the University of St.Gallen.

Experimental research

Experiments have become an essential part of research in many disciplines, and the call for experiment-based research has spread among top journals. Experimental methods offer several unique qualities that are vital for research. For instance, they can provide evidence of causality (the gold standard of science) and eliminate external factors. In addition, they are easily replicated, which increases the reliability of your research.

The Behavioral Lab at the University of St.Gallen offers an ideal setting for investigating research questions using multiple experimental approaches. At the Behavioral Lab, we are committed to continuously developing our resources and capabilities to meet the changing requirements and needs of researchers.

Technological resources

We aim to foster a rigorous academic environment that upholds the highest standards of research integrity.

The lab offers a variety of technological resources:

- A PC lab with 20 fully-equipped workstations.
- AR/VR setups for immersive research environments.
- A research station for neurophysiological experiments.
- Comprehensive tools and sensors for eye-tracking, facial expression analysis, galvanic skin response (GSR), electrocardiograms (ECG), and electroencephalograms (EEG).

Educational opportunities and research Seminars

In addition to individual research support, the lab organizes Ph.D. courses and research seminars designed to foster academic discussions and to enhance researchers' methodological skills.

Participant pool

The lab enables access to an extensive pool of student participants, ensuring a broad and diverse sample for studies. This resource is managed efficiently through our online platform, facilitating the organization and recruitment of participants. Currently our student panel consists of more than 2000 members. The lab will also be available to help you set up your research study in online platforms such as Prolific, bringing researchers and international online participants together.

Contact and further information

For detailed information about the Behavioral Lab, including access and utilization, please reach out to us at behaviorlab@unisg.ch. We are committed to supporting your research endeavors and invite you to discover the resources available at our lab.

Contact



Behavioral Lab (BL-HSG)
Tellstrasse 2
CH-9000 St.Gallen
behaviorlab@unisg.ch





Linked up with the world

Approx. 28,000 members and 180 alumni clubs on all continents make HSG Alumni a leading and influential alumni organisation. Through our alumni networks, contact among alumni is cultivated, encouraged and extended.

Career support

Career & Corporate Services (CSC)

The Career & Corporate Services of the University of St.Gallen is the central contact point for our students with regard to their entry into professional life. The coaches and career advisors of the CSC team have extensive know-how of various industries and fields. Their aim is to support our students in their career planning and in the realisation of their career steps according to individual requirements. For this purpose, the CSC offers individual consultations and workshops about various topics, such as the professional drafting of application documents, interview training and personal stock-taking and decision-making. The CSC also supports international students in their entry into professional life in the Swiss labour market and provides them with information about particular features of Swiss labour law and culture.

The career and event platform my.hsgcareer.ch/en provides our students with a job database offering internships, traineeships and regular jobs. In addition, they can input their profiles on the platform and thus directly introduce themselves to potential employers or register for events. Besides the various workshops, this also includes the HSG Talents, the HSG Banking Days and the HSG Career Days.

my.hsgcareer.ch/en

HSG Talents

HSG Talents is the flagship career event organized by the Career and Corporate Services. For over ten years, it has connected more than 100 national and international companies with over 2,000 students annually. Across three dynamic weeks, students have the opportunity to advance their individual career planning, while participating companies can present themselves at the "Company Insight" event, offer "Workshops", conduct "Interviews", and engage with students more deeply in innovative formats such as "Escape Room" or "Lego Serious Play". The pinnacle of HSG Talents is the career fair held in the OLMA Halls, where students can directly meet and interact with industry leaders. Corporate representatives provide an insight into their work and answer questions about their companies. These events aren't just gatherings—they're the launchpad for our students' stellar careers.

hsgtalents.ch/en

Mentoring

In the Mentoring Programme, an experienced person (mentor) helps a younger person (mentee) in his/her further development and extension of professional competencies. Thus, mentoring is an objective, but also a personal relationship between two people who are in regular contact with each other over a period of 1.5 years. The mentor is guiding through personal challenges of academia, research, and personal growth. Many mentors are HSG alumni who have successfully completed their Ph.D. journey and are eager to share their experiences and post-Ph.D. paths on a voluntary basis. They are dedicated to understanding your unique aspirations and helping you achieve them.

coaching-mentoring.unisg.ch

Early Career Programme

Our extra-curricular training and services are designed to support Ph.D. students on their way towards their doctoral degree. The Early Career Programme offers training, workshops, and other resources. Topics addressed are, amongst others, how to make your writing a success, how to negotiate effectively, how to overcome procrastination, how to create professional-looking science videos or how to present your research at conferences.

We also invite Ph.D. students to join our supervised Ph.D. writing group that runs every week during the semester.

We also offer individual counselling and support through mentoring relationships.

For further information please refer to our webpage or contact us via e-mail.

Contact

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[HSG - Uni SG - Early Career Programme](#)

Grants Office

Drawing on our extensive experience in providing advice and tailored insights into the range of funding instruments available, we are here to support you in advancing your research projects and academic career. In this regard, we are pleased to share information about HSG's internal funds and serve as an interface with the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and Innosuisse as well as with European and international funding organisations. Ph.D. students (and Postdocs) will find HSG internal and SNSF research fellowships of particular interest. We assist researchers in third-party fundraising throughout the entire life cycle of grants. Additionally, our tools provide you with information about relevant funding opportunities that can foster your personal career in research: take a deeper look at the «HSG Funding Finder» (funding.unisg.ch/en) and subscribe to our Grants Office Newsletter (unisg.ch/en/newsletter-gosg).

We are contact point for

- instruments regarding your academic career: HSG Mobi.Doc Fellowships for doctoral students, HSG Great Minds Postdoctoral Fellowships, SNSF Mobility Grants, SNSF Ambizione, SNSF Starting Grants, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), ERC Starting Grants, etc.
- instruments for your project: Green Box, Stepping Stone and Health Forward from Basic Research Funds (GFF) by the HSG Research Committee, BRIDGE Proof of Concept, SNSF Project Funding, Innosuisse, Horizon Europe and other European funding programmes, federal governmental re-search, foundations, etc.
- the dissemination of your research results: SNSF Scientific Exchanges, SNSF Open Access Support, SAGW Funds for Travel expenses, publication contributions of the Publication Fund, Congress Sub-sidies and Funds for Scientific Events.

Contact



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2024: The information in this
publication is correct as of July 2024,
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curricula, or any other matter
announced in this publication
without further notice.

Editorial office: Marketing,
University of St.Gallen
Realisation: MetaDesign AG
Layout and printing: Niedermann AG
Photos: Dominik Reichen,
Julien Sarkar, Daniel Ammann,
University of St.Gallen

From insight
to impact.