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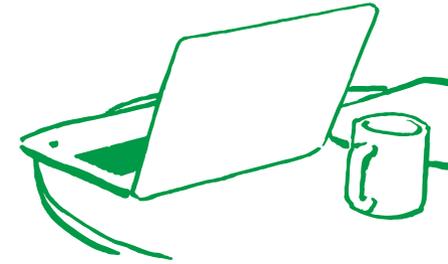
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**UNIVERSITY  
OF BERN**

# Summer School programs in Bern

A Unique Swiss Experience





## CONTENT

<b>University</b>	<b>4</b>
Top facilities for cutting-edge research	
<b>Courses and Teaching</b>	<b>6</b>
Academic excellence in small groups	
<b>Bern</b>	<b>10</b>
New meets old – a modern medieval city	
<b>Leisure</b>	<b>15</b>
Between Aare and Alps – active recreation	
<b>Practical Information</b>	<b>18</b>
Study in an intercultural environment	<b>3</b>



## UNIVERSITY

Before hoisting the US flag on the moon on July 21, 1969, Buzz Aldrin rolled out the Bernese solar sail, heralding the start of pioneering space research by the University of Bern. For the last 50 years Bern has played a leading role in space science, and is world class in climate sciences, international trade, fundamental physics, preventive medicine and sustainable development research, amongst other fields. It was here that Albert Einstein formulated his Theory of Relativity and the Russian philosopher Anna Tumarkin became the first female professor in Europe.

Today, the university has about 18000 students from all disciplines, studying and researching in venerable buildings and contemporary facilities, most within walking distance from the historic city center. The campus provides modern workspaces with top infrastructure. And a choice of on-site cafés offers plenty of places to eat and socialize.



Relax in front of the imposing main building



Exchange ideas and draw fresh inspiration

## COURSES AND TEACHING

The Summer School programs reflect the spirit of the University of Bern; interdisciplinary courses in small groups at top level. The latter can be taken quite literally, since some of the programs offer excursions to dizzying heights like the Jungfrauoch at 3571 meters' altitude. But first and foremost the Summer School stands for

academic excellence. Thanks to the highly motivated scientists who teach and research here, the University of Bern regularly features high up in international rankings. Those who attend the Summer School programs derive real benefit from having direct access to the latest research findings. The programs are taught in English and attract

students from around the world. Hence they not only provide participants with an insight into the University of Bern and life in Switzerland, but also offer them the opportunity for intercultural exchange.





*"This Summer School was unlike any other I've experienced previously. It was incredibly well-organized, informative and, most of all, enjoyable. There was so much to take away from the lectures and workshops that I can apply to my academic pursuits."*

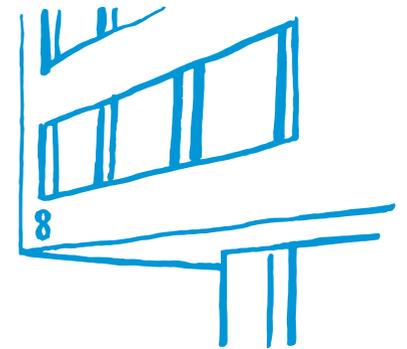
Ananth Shankar,  
participant from India,  
Bachelor Summer School  
Climate Change Research

Benefit from top facilities  
close to the city center



*"A Summer School is a rewarding experience as the informal setting, the small group of participants, and the joint meals allow for ample exchange and discussions among the participants and between the teachers and the participants. Summer Schools are great opportunities to brush up and increase technical skills or to broaden one's scientific knowledge."*

Prof. Olivia Romppainen-Martius,  
course instructor, University of Bern





sits majestically over Parliament Square, where a medley of dialects and languages give the city a truly international flair. And with acclaimed museums like the Museum of Art, the Paul Klee Center or the innovative Museum of Communication, there is plenty to see and discover. The Swiss capital, with a population of around 140 000, has immense

charm and its people are renowned for being relaxed and friendly. The city ranks top in terms of quality of life and safety, and its central location means it's an ideal starting point for visiting other parts of Switzerland and Europe: Zurich, Geneva, Milan and Paris are all just a short journey away.

## BERN

A spectacular view of the Alps, a wide range of cultural and leisure activities, and an abundance of historical wealth: that's Bern. The medieval city center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with attractive arcades and fountains, is ideal for shopping or a leisurely stroll. The Federal Palace, seat of government and symbol of Swiss direct democracy,





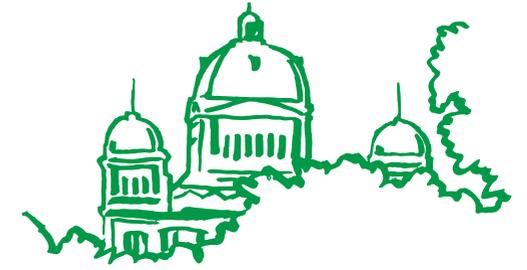
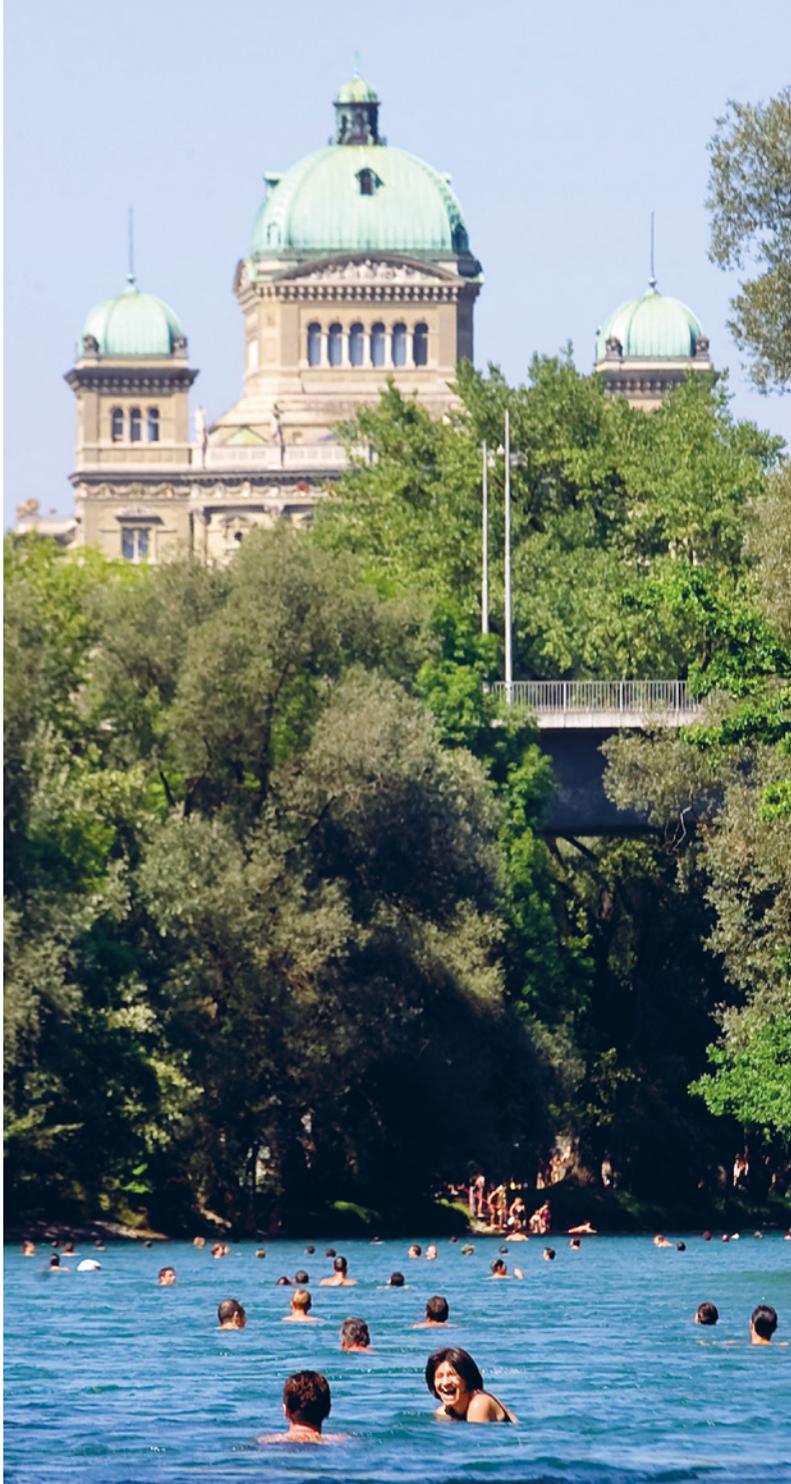
*“The program is an opportunity for practitioners to access a wealth of knowledge on cutting-edge trade policy and regulatory issues. The mix of academic rigor, creativity in research and practical reality checks that are factored into the program make it a mind opener.”*

Jean-Sébastien Roure, participant from France,  
World Trade Institute Summer Academy



*“Because this program was interdisciplinary, there was so much to learn in addition to the scientific aspect of climate change. The political and economic aspects are valuable pieces of knowledge, which I might have never encountered in my studies at university.”*

Arisa Barcinas,  
participant from Hawaii,  
Bachelor Summer School  
Climate Change Research



## LEISURE

Apart from challenging intellectual stimulation, the Summer School programs offer lots of opportunity for joint activities outside the classroom. Be it a barbecue, a Swiss-style aperitif, a hike, a city tour or various sporting activities, there is something for everyone. Bern has a wide choice of recreational activities for winding down after a hard day's work. One of the most popular among the Bernese is a swim in the Aare; the river is a veritable magnet

in summer, bringing together people from all walks of life. At weekends, the city center is transformed into an open-air stage, with music festivals, parties and other cultural events. And when the nights become shorter, the numerous bars, cafés and clubs compete for the patronage of the revelers.

Take a swim in the Aare – a summer must!



*"I had the opportunity to participate in the MeBoP Summer School course and it was an outstanding experience! At the scientific level, I had the chance to meet and to discuss with great experts. I have learned many cutting-edge approaches. When I came back to my country, I have developed a new thematic in my Laboratory studying the cutaneous leishmaniasis among refugees in Lebanon. This project has had an important impact on the national and international level and has opened the door to new collaborations. During this well-organized Summer School, I had the pleasure to meet new*



Find answers to challenging questions

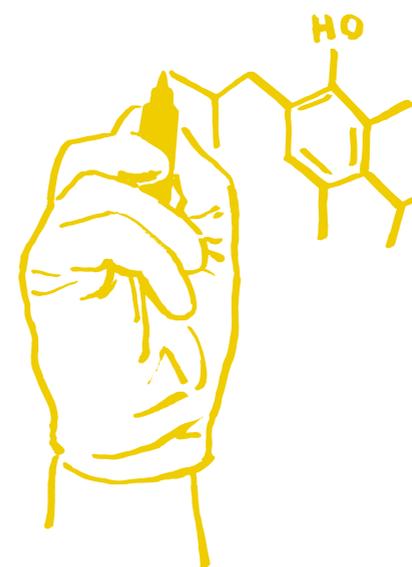
*friends and colleagues from all the Middle Eastern countries and to visit the wonderful city of Bern. Don't miss out on the chance to join a Summer School course in Bern!"*

Dima El Safadi, participant,  
Middle Eastern Biology of  
Parasitism Summer School,  
Lebanon



*"Without a doubt the aspect of the program that exceeded my expectations was the quality of the friendships that I made. Our group was an excellent blend of international students and Swiss nationals."*

Leopoldo Navarrete, participant  
from Mexico, Bachelor Summer  
School Climate Change Research





## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Accommodation

Various hostels and guesthouses offer students inexpensive rooms with cooking facilities. These provide the best opportunity for meeting Swiss and international Summer School participants.

And, who knows, some of these shared experiences may even develop into lifelong friendships.

### Getting to Bern

The city of Bern has excellent travel connections. You can reach the city by road, rail or air.

Bern airport is 10 kilometers from the city center. The airports of Zurich and Basel are just over one hour away by train, while Geneva airport is a two-hour train ride. Direct trains depart

every 30 minutes. There are also regular direct-train connections to all major Swiss towns and Europe's most important cities.

### Application

Admission requirements and fees vary between programs. You can find further information on the University of Bern Summer Schools at

[www.unibe.ch/summerschools](http://www.unibe.ch/summerschools)



Study against a magnificent backdrop



[www.unibe.ch/summerschools](http://www.unibe.ch/summerschools)

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Switzerland

[www.master.unibe.ch/eng](http://www.master.unibe.ch/eng)  
[www.doctorate.unibe.ch](http://www.doctorate.unibe.ch)

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