2026–2027

HEC LAUSANNE FACT SHEET

Unil.

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ASSOCIATION OF MBAS ACCREDITED

QTEM

HEC Lausanne, the Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Lausanne (UNIL)

HEC Lausanne is a globally recognized research faculty with a strong international reputation for academic excellence. Located just 10 minutes from downtown Lausanne, the UNIL campus offers outstanding sports, cultural, and leisure facilities in a spacious, green setting on the shores of Lake Geneva, Lac Léman in French, with the Alps as a stunning backdrop.

Lausanne, known as the Olympic Capital, is home to the International Olympic Committee and numerous international sports federations. This vibrant, French-speaking city is just 60 km from Geneva International Airport and is easily accessible by train.

NOMINATION AND REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

	Nomination deadline for coordinators	Online application deadline for students
Autumn semester 2026		
Faculty Agreements, QTEM Overseas	March 15, 2026	May 15, 2026
SEMP Agreements, QTEM Europe	April 30, 2026	May 15, 2026
Spring semester 2027		
Faculty Agreements, QTEM Overseas	September 30, 2026	October 31, 2026
SEMP Agreements, QTEM Europe	October 15, 2026	October 31, 2026

All exchange students must be nominated by our partner universities through the online nomination form sent by hec.incoming@unil.ch. After the nomination deadline, students will receive registration and application instructions from SASME (Social Affairs and Student Mobility Office) within two to three weeks.

Erasmus code: CH LAUSANN01

HEC Lausanne
Université de Lausanne
International Relations Office
Quartier de Chamberonne
Internef 256 and 256.1
1015 Lausanne
Switzerland

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

A semester at UNIL lasts 14 weeks of classes.

- Autumn semester (exam session included): Mid-September to early February
- Spring semester (exam session included): Mid-February to early July

Check out our detailed academic calendar here !

	Autumn semester	Spring semester
Welcome Day	September 10, 2026	February 19, 2027
First day of classes	September 14, 2026	February 22, 2027
Break	-	March 26, 2027 to April 2, 2027
Last day of classes	December 18, 2026	June 4, 2027
Exam session	January 15, 2027 to February 6, 2027	June 14, 2027 to July 10, 2027
Retake session	August 23, 2027 to September 11, 2027	August 23, 2027 to September 11, 2027

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES

Arrival

Exchange students must arrive a few days before the start of the semester in order to become familiar with their new environment and attend the Welcome Day organised by the university (mandatory).

Departure

Departure must be after the exam session is completed. The exact dates are posted during the semester. It is recommended that students do not book return flight/train tickets before then.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Languages of instruction

Bachelor's level courses are offered in French and English. Exchange students can choose to take courses in one of these languages or a combination of both. At the Master's level, courses are mainly taught in English.

Language requirements

No language test is required. However, a minimum level of B2 according to the CEFR is expected in French and/or English, depending on the language of instruction of the course attended by the student.

Course workload

The full workload is 30 ECTS per semester. Exchange students are requested to take a minimum of 15 ECTS credits and a maximum of 36 ECTS credits per semester at UNIL. Courses at HEC Lausanne are either 3 or 6 ECTS credits.

1 ECTS is equivalent to 25-30 study hours.

Transcripts of records

An official transcript is sent by e-mail to the exchange coordinator of the home university about ten days after the end of each exam session. Exchange students can also view their results on MyUNIL as soon as they are officially published.

Grading System

The grading system goes from 0 to 6, where 6 is the highest and 4 is the pass grade.

UNIL grades (0 - 6 scale)	Definition
6	Excellent
5.5	Very good
5	Good
4.5	Satisfactory
4	Pass
1 - 3.5	Fail
0	Unjustified absence at the exam, plagiarism, cheating or attemp to cheat

COURSE SELECTION

HEC Courses

Bachelor exchange students may choose courses in the 2nd and/or 3rd year of the Bachelor's programs (undergraduate). They must have completed at least two semesters of studies in economics and/or management before their exchange.

To attend Master courses (graduate), exchange students must have obtained a Bachelor's degree or have validated a minimum of 180 ECTS credits in management and/or economics. Proof may be requested. 2nd and 3rd year Bachelor courses are also open to Master's level exchange students.

Some courses may have prerequisites, require the approval of the Professor, or be limited in the number of available places for educational reasons and require prior registration.

Restrictions

Bachelor: 1st year courses (Module 1), Module 3.2 (Practical Experience), Volunteer Experience (EB) and Professional Field Experience (EPT) are not open to exchange students.

Master: The Master in Accounting, Control, and Finance (MScCCF) and the Master in Sustainable Management & Technology (SMT) are not open to exchange students.

List of courses for exchange students

Please consult our website for the lists of courses open to exchange students.

Course registration

Exchange students must register for courses within the first 4 weeks of the semester. Registration automatically entails registration for the corresponding assessments.

Exchange students must take their exams during the official exam sessions, under the same conditions as regular students.

Three exam sessions are organized: two regular sessions and one retake session.

Courses in other UNIL faculties and EPFL

Exchange students who are registered at HEC Lausanne have the option of taking a few courses offered in other UNIL faculties and at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). **Participation in these courses is subject to prior approval from the relevant faculty/department.** However, the majority of courses must be taken at HEC Lausanne, the main faculty of registration.

Exchange students should consult our website for incoming exchange students for the registration procedure.

French as a Foreign Language Courses

The School of French as a Foreign Language (EFLE) offers courses for non-French-speaking students. They are free and can be taken throughout the semester in parallel with courses at HEC Lausanne.

Intensive French courses (le FIL de l'EFLE) are also available before the start of each semester.

Other Foreign Language Courses

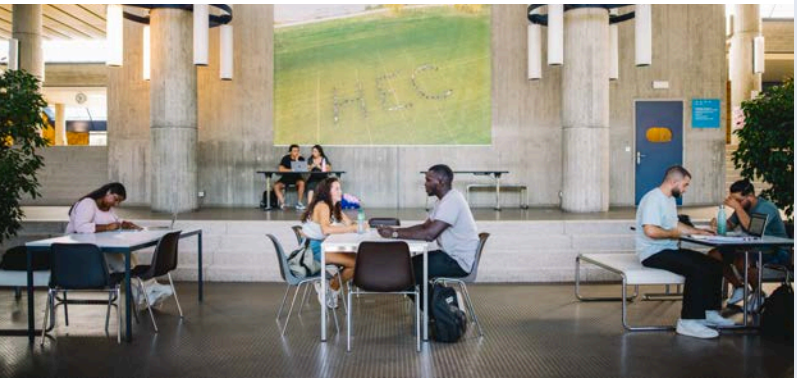
The University Language Centre (Centre de langues - CDL) also offers free courses in a variety of languages: German, English, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, Italian, Russian and Swiss German.

Assessment methods

Courses at HEC Lausanne have a variety of assessment methods. These can be oral or written examinations (some courses have midterms as well), individual or group papers, essays, case studies, in-class presentations and other forms of coursework. All of these count towards the final grade.

At the end of each semester, an exam session is scheduled:

- Winter exam session: from mid-January to early February
- Summer exam session: from mid-June to early July
- Retake exam session: from Mid-August to early September



About UNIL

- 7 faculties
- 200 research units
- 390 partner universities
- 17'000 students
- 125 nationalities
- 80 sheep on campus
- 2 km2 campus area
- 120 sports activities

About HEC Lausanne

2 bilingual Bachelor's programs in French and English:

- Economics
- Management

7 Master's programs:

- Accounting, Control, and Finance
- Actuarial Science
- Economics
- Finance
- Information Systems and Digital Innovation
- Management
- Law and Economics

Master's programs in collaboration with other faculties:

- Legal Issues, Crime and Security of Information Technologies
- Sustainable Management & Technology (SMT)

QTEM Program

Life in Lausanne

Living costs

The average budget for a student to live in Lausanne is around CHF 2'100 per month. This amount includes food, personal effects, housing, health and accident insurance, book, and school supplies. Here is a breakdown of the costs:

Type of expenses	Average cost
Rent(excluding charges)	CHF 700 - 900.-
Maintenance and food	CHF 850 - 900.-
Public transport	CHF 55.-
Administrative costs	CHF 20.-
Health and accident insurance	CHF 80.-
Leisure activities	CHF 200.-

Accommodation

UNIL works closely with the Fondation Maisons pour Etudiants Lausanne (FMEL), which welcomes more than 3'500 students at 14 sites, mainly within the Lausanne urban area.
As far as possible, UNIL tries to secure accommodation for a part of the exchange students in an FMEL hall of residence. However, since FMEL has a limited number of places available, UNIL unfortunately cannot provide accommodation for all exchange students.
If UNIL has not been able to secure accommodation through FMEL, UNIL and EPFL run a joint accommodation database reserved exclusively for their students. Advertisements are published by individuals who want to let their accommodation or are looking for another tenant to share with.

Health Insurance

Health and accident insurance is mandatory in Switzerland. Therefore, exchange students must have an insurance coverage that complies with Swiss regulations.
If a foreign health and accident insurance does not offer the minimum coverage required by Swiss law, exchange students will have to contract a Swiss health and accident insurance for international students.
European students can benefit from the minimum coverage required by Swiss law if they have a European Health Insurance Card.

More information can be found here.

Residence permits

Depending on their nationality, exchange students may need a visa and/or a residence permit to study in Switzerland. SASME can assist exchange students in applying for the residence permit, but it is the student's own responsibility to take care of visa matters as early as possible.

General information for exchange students

We strongly recommend that exchange students consult the document "Guide for Exchange Students" on the University of Lausanne website (for accommodation, health insurance, residence permit, etc.).

Student services and facilities

UNIL + EPFL sports center

University libraries

IT Services

Support and assistance (e.g. disabilities)

ESN UNIL (Erasmus Student Network)

HEC Career Center

Comité HEC Lausanne

HEC Mobility Office

Ms Madeleine LINARD
Executive Director for International Relations & Doctoral School
madeleine.linard@unil.ch
+41 21 692 33 07

Ms Isabelle SCHMID
Exchange Program Manager & QTEM Program
isabelle.schmid@unil.ch
+41 21 692 36 85

Ms Inès ROSATI
Incoming Students Assistant
hec.incoming@unil.ch
+41 21 692 33 08

Ms Jessica FASTRÉ
Outgoing Students Advisor Europe & Switzerland & Short-term Mobility
hec.outgoing@unil.ch
+41 21 692 33 11

Ms Jessica ULLOA
Outgoing Students Advisor Overseas
hec.outgoing@unil.ch
+41 21 692 33 39