Musicology and History of Opera

Degree conferred
Master of Arts in Historical Sciences: Musicology and History of Opera

Languages of study
Study in two languages, in French and German

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Ph.D.

This study programme is designed as the continuation of a bachelor programme in Musicology. Teaching focuses primarily on classical western music from the Middle Ages to the present and is based on the latest methods of the discipline. Some parts of the programme are devoted specifically to its history, methods and trends.

Profile of the study programme

This master programme provides detailed insights into a variety of subjects. It is highly interdisciplinary, studying the relationships between music and the codes of other forms of expression and its role in complex systems such as opera and cinema. It fosters the career-oriented acquisition of oral and written analytical strategies in musicology, culminating in a master thesis that enables students to successfully conduct personal research on an original subject.

This master programme offers a choice of two modules, one aimed at training students for a career in research and culture (with the possibility of an internship), and the other at the specific requirements of teaching in a baccalaureate school.

Students are also encouraged to become involved in the research and outreach activities organised by the Department: symposiums, conferences, commented concerts and operas, film club, etc.

Learning outcomes and career openings
The list below provides some insights into possible careers:

- Teaching: Baccalaureate schools; Hautes Écoles de Musique (higher musical education institutions), subject: music history;
- Journalism and cultural mediation (radio; press; television; Internet; musical and cultural institutions);
- Management and conservation of musical and audiovisual sources (music archives; music libraries and music collections of general libraries; music collections of historical museums; specialised museums, sound archives; Répertoire International des Sources Musicales);
- Organisation and administration in the cultural sector (concert societies; orchestras; festivals; music promotion bodies, e.g. SUISA or ProHelvetia);
- Music and musicological publishing (music publishers; musicological reviews, digital humanities, recording labels);
- Careers in music or the performing arts (in addition to studies at a Haute École de Musique);
- Research and academic careers (Swiss National Science Foundation; universities; Hautes Écoles de Musique; international institutions).

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen or in a specialisation programme, 3 to 4 semesters

Curriculum

https://studies.unifr.ch/go/p *(French)*
https://studies.unifr.ch/go/q *(German)*

Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a bachelor's degree.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university are admitted to a master's degree programme without any preconditions if they have earned 60 or 90 ECTS credits – depending on the chosen master's degree programme – within the corresponding discipline. However, additional requirements can be required. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss or a foreign university, provided that the bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, who do not fulfil this condition can be admitted to a master's degree programme with preconditions (which must be successfully completed before starting the master's degree programme) and/or additional requirements (which can be completed during the master's degree programme). The preconditions and/or additional requirements may not exceed 60 ECTS credits in total. The same applies to holders of a bachelor's degree awarded by a Swiss university of applied sciences, according to existing agreements.

The respective conditions of admission for each master's degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

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