



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of Political Science

Studying in Lucerne: Close Interactions – Wide Connections



THE ACADEMIC PROFILE OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



Academic Profile

Teaching

Our teaching is characterized by the provision of solid foundations in theory and methods, by intensive interactions among students and lecturers in small courses, and by the fact that we are able to attract many external lecturers from renowned universities in Switzerland and abroad:

- Excellent learning environment: Small classes, personal atmosphere, high quality infrastructure
- Research-oriented teaching
- Many political science courses are taught in English; writing essays and term papers in English in all courses (optional)
- Student-centered learning: Students co-design their curriculum according to their interests; large freedom in choosing courses
- Wide network of renowned external lecturers (see last page)

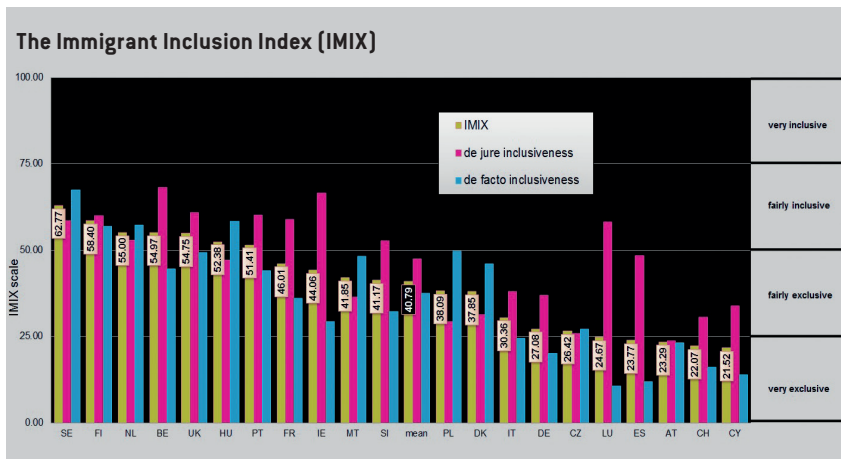
No Education without Participation

At the Department of Political Science students enjoy the opportunity to propose their preferred external lecturers who will be invited if they receive enough votes.



Research Fields

- Theories of Democracy
- Citizenship and Migration
- Citizens and International Trade Agreements
- International Environmental, Energy and Climate Policies
- Political Communication and the Internet
- Elections, Voting Behavior and Party Politics in Comparative Perspective
- Swiss Politics and Comparative Federalism
- Policy Analysis and Evaluation



The IMIX combines normative democratic theory with the methods of concept and index formation. It is a result of research-oriented teaching and has been co-developed by students and the lecturer. More information can be found at: www.unilu.ch/imix.

Research Methods

Political Science in Lucerne is characterized by a broad spectrum of complementing methods which are offered in collaboration with colleagues from economics, sociology and health sciences:

- Quantitative methods based on advanced statistical techniques and experimental designs
- Qualitative methods based on within-case analysis and interpretation
- Normative reasoning and policy evaluations

Master Programmes

MASTER OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

- a strong international orientation (personnel and thematic)
- research-based

Exemplary courses:

- History of International Relations
- Political Behaviour and Communication
- Configurational Thinking and the Study of Politics
- The Politics of Diversity. A Comparative View

WORLD SOCIETY AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

- interdisciplinary approach in a remarkable range of study fields (political science, sociology, ethnology, history, law)
- large freedom in choosing courses

Exemplary courses:

- Democracy and Globalization
- International Political Economy
- International Political Sociology
- International Politics of Climate Change

Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) (planned for fall semester 2018)

- unique study programme in Switzerland
- balanced and well-founded education in the three disciplines

Exemplary courses:

- Equality, Inequality, Justice. Problems of Contemporary Political Philosophy
- Global Financial Regulation

Religion, Economics and Politics

- Joint Degree Master (University of Lucerne, University of Basel, University of Zurich)
- transdisciplinary aspects of religion

Exemplary course:

- The Function of Religion in Conflicts

Cultural Studies (Major Political Science)

- interpretative approach to political phenomena
- offers the linkage between social science and arts

Exemplary course:

- Theories of Discrimination

External Lecturers (previous years)

Lecturers from Around the World

- John Erik Fossum, University of Oslo
- Tina Freyburg, University of St. Gallen
- Robert E. Goodin, Australian National University
- Xavier Guillaume, University of Groningen
- David Held, Durham University
- Adrienne Héritier, European University Institute, Florence
- Hans-Martin Jaeger, Carleton University, Ottawa
- Julian Junk, Goethe University / Peace Research Institute, Frankfurt am Main
- Isabell Lorey, University of Kassel
- Jane J. Mansbridge, Harvard University
- Karolina Milewicz, University College Oxford
- Herfried Münkler, Humboldt-University, Berlin
- Thomas Rixen, University of Bamberg / WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- Stéphan Sberro Picard, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México
- Philippe C. Schmitter, European University Institute, Florence
- Markus Siewert, Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main
- Branislav L. Slantchev, University of California, San Diego
- Edina Szöcsik, University of Berne
- Michael Zürn, WZB Berlin Social Science Center / Free University Berlin

Lecturers from Neighboring Swiss Universities/Institutions

- Wolf Linder, University of Berne
- Patrick Emmenegger, University of St. Gallen
- Dirk Lehmkuhl, University of St. Gallen
- Katrin Meyer, University of Basel
- Doreen Spörer-Wagner, NCCR Democracy, Zurich
- Thomas Winzen, ETH Zurich
- Thomas Milic, Centre for Democracy Studies, Aarau
- Jean-Thomas Arrighi de Casanova, NCCR The Migration-Mobility Nexus, Neuchâtel

Practitioners

- Christoph Spenlé, Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Stefan Rieder, Interface, Policy Consulting, Lucerne
- Maurus Achermann, Service Civil International
- Philippe Koch, umverkehR, association for sustainable mobility
- Tobias Schulz, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow, and Landscape Research
- Nico van der Heiden, Verband Schweizerischer Assistenz- und Oberärztinnen und -ärzte

«Studying in Lucerne provided me with all I need for pursuing a PhD. I could develop my own specific research profile while experiencing an exceptional support of professors and lecturers thanks to the smallness of the University of Lucerne.»

Samuel Schmid, BA and MA in Lucerne, currently PhD researcher at the European University Institute in Florence

«I could pursue my personal interests throughout my studies due to the great flexibility in creating the curriculum. It is the key reason why I would choose the master's course in Political Science at the University of Lucerne again.»

Hannah Fasnacht, MA in Lucerne, currently Political Communication Consultant, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

«I appreciated the opportunity to discuss current national and international topics by the interdisciplinary master's course World Society and Global Governance. The methodological knowledge I gained through my studies enhanced my interlinked and practically oriented thinking.»

Julia Imfeld, MA in Lucerne, currently Research Associate, The Swiss Cities Association

To learn more about our courses, visit our homepage: Commented course catalogues for the current and the past semesters (www.unilu.ch/polcourses), up-to-date electronic catalogue for the current semester (<http://vv.unilu.ch>).

Information

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