

Getting started...

Information booklet for starting your studies at Hochschule für Musik FHNW, Klassik, Jazz and
Schola Cantorum Basiliensis

Presented by:

Students representatives of the Musikhochschulen FHNW- Fachschaft Musik



students.fhnw
Fachschaft Musik

Preface

Dear student,

We, the student representatives of the Musikhochschulen FHNW, are happy to welcome you in our community. We congratulate you on all your passed exams and are looking forward to meeting you soon!

What is the student representative (Fachschaft Musik)?

We are a group of 10-15 motivated students coming from the classical, jazz and early music department. Our job is to communicate between students and directors. We solve problems, collect feedback, organize parties and other fun activities that help strengthening our community. We are here for you!

We have developed this booklet so that you can prepare for your new chapter in Basel.

First some info about the situation of our school:

On the Campus of Musik-Akademie Basel there are several schools, one of them a preparatory music school – this explains the many small children with mini-violins and recorders.

Also, you find our Hochschule für Musik –HSM for short – with the departments Klassik (classical music) and Jazz, and the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis School for Early Music –SCB for short. The Jazzcampus is located on the other side of the Rhein- our river. (Utengasse 15)

In case you have questions that are not answered in this booklet or you arrive in Basel and there are any problems – e.g. you could not find a place to live even after much searching – we have attached some important contacts on the last pages. You can find us under „Studierendenvertretung“ – don't hesitate to contact us!

Stay tuned for our events. Especially the “get together” at the beginning of the semester, that we organize for the new students and everyone who missed one another during holidays. See you there! Until then...

All the best,

your StuVe – Fachschaft Musik

President: Afra Hämmerli

contact: fachschaft.HSM@students.fhnw.ch

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1 Arriving in Basel

1.1 Looking for a place to live

On the internet free apartments and rooms are advertised on these pages:

University of Basel website: <https://markt.unibas.ch/category/wohnen-angebot>

Other pages: <http://www.wg-zimmer.ch>
<http://www.immoclick.ch>

To get an apartment/a room in a shared flat (in German a “WG,” short for Wohngemeinschaft) you have to react very quickly. Very often a meeting with the landlord/the property owner is required. For shared flats, you often have to introduce yourself to the other inhabitants in a selective meeting. If you can somehow manage to be in Basel a few days in May, June or July – when most apartments are changed – to look at different locations, this will increase your chances of getting a good place quite a bit. Maybe you can stay at a friend’s place for those few days? Or contact a future study colleague who is already living in Basel? Asking never hurts and usually there is a solution.

Here you can find more info to orient yourself in Basel.

<http://www.mybasel.ch>

<https://maps.google.ch/>

In Basel there is a free newspaper called „Baslerstab“ In the „Regional“ section there are advertisements for Basel-Stadt and Baselland (Basel city and Basel region). You can get this newspaper for example at Schlüsselberg 4, 4001 Basel.

Advertisements and flyers are also put up on notice boards:

- at the entrance of Musik-Akademie, next to the SCB notice board and in the cafeteria of the Musik-Akademie.
- in COOP- and Migros-markets
- in „Hirscheneck“ restaurant, Lindenberg 23, Basel
- in „Roter Engel“ cafe, Andreasplatz 15, Basel
- in „Kaserne“ (KaBAR) Klybeckstr. 1B, Basel

1.2 Temporary accommodation

Jugendherberge Basel, St. Alban-Kirchrain 10, Tel: 0041 61 272 05 72

YMCA Hostel Basel, Gempenstrasse 64, Tel: 0041 61 361 73 09

BaselBackPack, Dornacherstrasse 192, Tel: 0041 61 333 00 37

1.3 Scholarships

For HSM: contact person is Martina Pratsch: martina.pratsch@fhnw.ch

for Jazz it is Steff Rohrbach: steff.rohrbach@fhnw.ch

For SCB: contact person is Federico Sepúlveda federico.sepulveda@fhnw.ch

Scholarships can only be given in small amounts and only where absolutely necessary. Maybe you can find a foundation or a scholarship society in your country that can help you.

2 Right after arriving

2.1 Registration at the Amt für Bevölkerungsdienste und Migration

In order to not get in trouble with the law, you have to register at the Population Services and Migration office („Amt für Bevölkerungsdienste und Migration“) within 2 weeks after entering Switzerland.

Address: Spiegelgasse 6, Basel for Canton Basel-Stadt (BS)
Parkstrasse 3, Frenkendorf for Canton Baselland (BL)

<http://www.bdm.bs.ch/Wohnen/An-Abmeldung-Umzug.html>

For registration bring your ID papers and your Aufenthaltsbewilligung (residence permit) etc. You may be asked for a „Studienbescheinigung“ (proof of study), which you can get from the Sekretariat of the HSM or SCB. Another thing: The registration will cost CHF 25, which are supposed to be paid at the Migration office.

2.2 Finding Swiss health insurance

It is obligatory in Switzerland to have health insurance! You will have to sign up at a health insurance company.

You can be exempted from the health insurance requirement if you have a similar insurance in a European country (European Health Insurance Card). Then contact the office for social service contributions at Grenzacherstrasse 62.

On <http://swisscare-intl.com> you can find information about an affordable insurance policy especially for foreign students.

<http://www.migesplus.ch> gives information on the Swiss Healthcare system in many languages.

Under certain circumstances there are premium reductions here:

<http://www.asb.bs.ch/leistungen/praemienverbilligung.htm>

2.3 Opening a Swiss bank account

If you receive scholarships from a Swiss organisation this can be relevant. Many students living here also find it practical to have a Swiss account.

Good conditions for students are offered here:

UBS: <http://www.ubs.com/ch/de/swissbank/privatkunden/young/overview.html>

PostFinance: <https://www.postfinance.ch/de/priv/prod/acc/edu/promo.html>

But there are many banks and many possibilities.

3 Better Living etc.

3.1 Internet access

This is a list of all internet cafés in Basel:

<http://www.worldofinternetcafes.de/Europe/Switzerland/Basel/>

If you are looking for internet access at home, you can get advice in „Mobile-Zone“ shops. These can be found in lots of places all over Basel (e.g. Barfüsserplatz, Rheingasse,...) This shop offers many possibilities with different providers (careful with contracts: Some of the very cheap ones run for a minimum of 2 years and are hard to get out of!)

As soon as you have your student ID you can use the internet of the Music Academy (fhnwpublic) or (eduroam). For this you will get your login data in the library. There also many PCs are at your disposal.

3.2 Finding/buying furniture

Sometimes nice used furniture can be found at the side of the street, with a „gratis“ – (=free) sign on it. But for that you need a bit of luck and you can't count on it. This is more for adding decoration to your home once you are here.

Cheap furniture can sometimes be found at flea markets:

-Every sunday on Petersplatz

find more markets: (<https://www.bs.ch/Portrait/maerkte.html>)

or in many of the second hand furniture shops in Basel (they are called „Brockenstuben“).
http://www.brockenhaus-verzeichnis.ch/BS,Basel_Stadt/

IKEA in Pratteln can be reached with public transport: Bus 80 from Aeschenplatz (Direction: Gruessen)

3.3 Swiss mobile number/SIM card

Cheap plans (prepaid) are M Budget Mobile and Coop Mobile.

<http://shop.m-budget.migros.ch/de/mobile-prepaid>

<http://www.coop.ch/pb/site/mobile/node/74323882/Lde/index.html>

Other plans (also contracts) can be found in the „Mobile-Zone“-shops all over Basel.

4 Arriving on the Campus of the Music Academy

4.1 Opening hours of the Music Academy

The normal opening hours are:
Mon – Sat 7:30am – 10pm.
Sun 10am – 6pm.

Student Administration Office Hochschule für Musik:
Mon-Thu 10-12 and 2-4pm; Fri 10-12
Office of the HSM department Jazz:
Mon-Thu 9-12 and 2-5pm; Fri 9-12
Office of the SCB
Mon-Fri 10.30 – 11.30 and 14.30-15.30

Jazzcampus: Always open with the (Jazz FHNW-Card)

On certain holidays and/or during breaks there are special opening hours. They are usually put up on entrance doors and info boards before.

4.2 Where can I practice?

At the HSM and SCB: Free rooms that are not booked can be used for practicing. Here you can book Rooms. (3 days in advance)
https://planer.mab-bs.ch/common/r2/r2_fs.php?dept=2&7
Use your FHNW login to book.

If you are studying Jazz you will find the practicing labs in building C. If you want to play in a bigger room you sign in the book at the administration.

For the SCB: (Click here to find ALL the information [FHNW INSIDE: SCB](#))

For all practicing the rule is: Take care of the schools' instruments and close windows and doors!

Teacher-Student agreement. There is the possibility to team up with a music teacher of the Musik-Akademie (regular music school). The teacher will give you the key to his/her room and you are allowed to practice there when the lessons are over.

4.3 The FH-Card

The FH-Card is your student card and it is very practical: With it you can enter certain concerts and events for a reduced fee, you can borrow media from the IDS-libraries and you can identify yourself as a student of FHNW.

The card can be charged with money in the library and can be used for copying. Also, it opens you doors.

At the janitor's office ("Hauswart," to the left of the Cafeteria) you can activate your card so that you can use it as an entrance pass to the library. That way you can enter the library from 7:30am – 10pm and not only during the library open hours.

From 16 September you can pick up your FH-Card from the HSM, Jazz or SCB office. If your residence is in Switzerland, your FH-Card will be sent to you.

If you need it there is also the possibility to get an International Student Identity Card. This can be useful if you want to travel in certain countries for reduced prices (some countries also accept the FH-Card however). More info here: <http://www.isic.ch/idCH/index.jsp>

4.4 FHNW-login

From the beginning of the semester you can get your login data for FHNW in the library or administration (Jazz). With that you'll have access to the school PCs and you can use your FHNW email address. Students from SCB will receive a mail with their login data.

All FHNW student addresses are built like this: firstname.lastname@students.fhnw.ch

Please note that all emails from the school will be sent to this address only.

Directions on how to use the internet services of the Music Academy even when you are off campus (creating a VPN) are here:

http://www.musik-akademie.ch/bibliothek/docs/VPN_Einwahl_Stud.pdf

4.5 How to automatically forward your FHNW emails to your personal email address

1. Go to <http://www.fhnw.ch/services/ict/email/webmail>
2. Click on „Studierende“ in the text.
3. Log into your fhnw account: Domäne/Benutzername is „edu\firstname.lastname“ Password is the Code, which you got in your login data letter in the library.
4. Choose Optionen (upper right) and „Posteingangsregel erstellen“ (create inbox rule) Click on „Neu“ (new)
5. For „Gehen Sie folgendermaßen vor:“ (proceed this way) choose „Nachricht umleiten an...“ (forward message to...)
This now opens a very cryptic page on which you just enter your normal email address in the box next to „Empfänger, an“. (addressee, to)
Press „ok“ .
6. For „* Wenn die Nachricht eintrifft und Folgendes zutrifft:“ (if message comes in with the following conditions) choose: [Auf alle Nachrichten anwenden] (use on all messages)
7. Click „✓ Speichern“ (save)
8. If it says „Warnung“ (warning), click „Ja“ (yes). And done.

4.6 German courses

The school is currently trying to find cheap German courses, but for this a supportive organisation has to be found.

The SCB students have the possibility to go to german classes at the Basler University (find more info's in the "Studienverzeichnis")

Other possibilities for learning German in Basel:

Sprachcafe Basel

<http://www.klubschule.ch>

<http://www.academia-basel.ch/en/german.html>

<http://www.diq.ch/>

www.ggg-basel.ch/kurse

www.vhsbb.ch/s_home.aspx

<http://sprachzentrum.unibas.ch>

<http://www.ecap-fondazione.ch/joomla/index.php/en/ecap-basel>

Another way: Some students at the Music Academy are very interested in learning a certain language. Perhaps you can trade lessons in your language with a german lessons? Ask around!

5 Travelling in Switzerland

5.1 Tarifverbund Nordwestschweiz TNW (Regional public transport)

Infos for the distribution of ticket zones, prices and subscriptions:
www.tnw.ch. U-Abo (monthly/yearly subscription) might be interesting.

5.2 SBB (national public transport)

Infos on the Swiss railway here: <http://www.sbb.ch>

The Generalabonnement (GA) (yearly subscription) enables you to ride on all Swiss railways in (partly also boat traffic) without a ticket. It is very practical and very expensive.

The Halbtaxabo (half price card) enables you to travel in Switzerland by paying 50% for all tickets, including local transportation. If you are planning on taking train trips even occasionally, the Halbtax is definitely worth buying. For people under 25 years there is the additional option „seven25“ with the Halbtaxabo. This allows free train rides on many lines after 7pm.

Good to know: Tickets can be bought at a reduced price, when bought online a day before or earlier.

5.3 All about cars

Driver's license: You can convert your driver's license to a Swiss license within the first 12 months of your stay in Switzerland. This is done at the Motorfahrzeugkontrolle, Clarastrasse 38

Vignette (motorway tax sticker): Obligatory on Swiss highways and some fast roads. Valid December – January of 2 years later (14 months). Costs: 40 CHF.

If you have your own car, you can find infos for registration here: <http://www.mfk.bs.ch>

Parking system in Switzerland:

Parking spaces with white lines, no parking meter: no parking limits.

Parking spaces with blue lines: 90 minutes parking limit, with parking disk.

Parking space with yellow lines: parking allowed between 22 – 7.

More info: <http://www.parkleitsystem-basel.ch>

6 Concert opportunities

6.1 „Die Mugge“ (HSM)

Die Mugge („The gig“) is the concert agency of the students of HSM Basel, at the moment run by Deborah Tolksdorf. It is a student agency that passes on job offers at diverse events to music students. All inquiries that reach HSM are handled by Mugge, which also advises event organizers and finds suitable musicians for the job.

Students who wish to be picked for such events need to contact Deborah Tolksdorf to sign up.

Kontakt: konzertvermittlunghsm@mab-bs.ch

6.2 „MiMiKo“

On Wednesday lunchtimes between 12:15 – 12:45 there are usually concerts in the Elisabethenkirche (near Theater Basel). These concerts are a good platform for students to introduce a concert program to a wider audience.

More Info: <http://www.mimiko.ch>

contact: Dieter Zimmer

6.3 HSM – giving concerts at the school

Die HSM offers its students the possibility to sign up for open „performance hours“ (Vortragsstunden), i.e. concerts that are not run by the class of a specific teacher, where maybe there is not enough time for the presentation of longer works. These concerts are organised by Barbara Rufer, barbara.rufer@mab-bs.ch; main building 2nd floor.

6.4 SCB – lunchtime concerts

SCB offers its students the possibility to play concerts at lunchtime. Write a mail to birgit.knab@fhnw.ch
You have to send the repertoire at least 2 weeks in advance to Brigit Knab.

7 Free time

7.1 Unisport

You can participate for free in the Unisport program offered by the University of Basel.

Find out more about the many activities here:

<http://www.unisport.unibas.ch>

7.2 Lunch with student prices

Maybe the Music Academy Cafeteria is a bit expensive. Other student cafeterias with price reductions are:

-Cantina e9, Eulerstrasse 9

-Ristorante Borromeo, Byfangweg 6

-Unimensa, Bernoullistrasse 16

7.3 Colourkey

With Colourkey you have free entrance into all of Basel's museums and the zoo for only 30 CHF a year. You also get price reductions in other institutions – like the swimming pools.

Careful: This is a special deal for people below age 25.

<http://www.colourkey.ch/home.html>

8 Erasmus

If you study at a university or college in Europe and you are interested in a one-semester stay at another school with Erasmus program, you first have to contact the Erasmus office of your own school. From there organisation continues.

The Erasmus office of the Musikhochschulen is run by: Martina Pratsch

martina.pratsch@fhnw.ch

Application deadline: 31 January

9 Useful contacts

9.1 Hochschule für Musik

All names and contacts can be found in the Studienverzeichnis pp 23-26.

Studierendenadministration: klassik.hsm@fhnw.ch

Studierendenadministration Schola: scb.hsm@fhnw.ch

Studierendenadministration Jazz: jazz.hsm@fhnw.ch

Student representatives – Fachschaft Musik

President: Afra Hämmerli

Klassik

Olivia Zaugg

Lara Bevilacqua

Vahé Hakhverdian

Katrin Friedrich

Adrian King

Schola:

Noemi Müller

Anian Waas

Leo Brunet

Fiona Lee

Amy Farnell (Contact: new students)

Jazz:

Samara Bülbül

Afra Hämmerli

Isabella Leitherer

9.2 More useful contacts

Library	Markus Erni	markus.erni@mab-bs.ch
Instruments and Borrowing instruments	Kathrin Menzel	kathrin.menzel@fhnw.ch
PC-Support	Jan Geschke, Eddy Dekan	Mon-Fri 13:30-14:30 Room 7-115/7-116
Scholarship info SCB	Federico Sepúlveda	federico.sepulveda@fhnw.ch
Scholarship info HSM	Martina Pratsch	martina.pratsch@fhnw.ch
Erasmus	Martina Pratsch	martina.pratsch@fhnw.ch
Student representative	Fachschaft Musik	fachschaft.HSM@students.fhnw.ch
Student representative's persident	Afra Hämmerli	afra.haemmerli@students.fhnw.ch
Student representative SCB Contact	Amy Farnell	amy.farnell@students.fhnw.ch