The FHWN Academy of Art and Design (HGK) at Dreispitz in Basel offers a creative environment for education, research, continuing education, outreach as well as services in the fields of art and design.

In various BA, MA, PhD programmes students are given the freedom they need to grow as individuals, at the same time they develop an awareness of pressing societal issues and the challenges of peaceful coexistence. HGK sees itself inextricably linked with the values of civil society and addresses the issues this entails.

The students are taught manual and technical skills by means of experimental approaches. Open-ended and process-guided methods in design and art research provide the foundation for socially relevant and reflexive action along with an understanding of historical and current discourses. In this context, the topics of digitisation, diversity and sustainability play a key role.

HGK is equipped with a professional infrastructure including workshops, multi-functional performance spaces, 24/7 accessible studio facilities, a media library, and highly specialized photography, video, and sound studios, thus providing the roughly 1,000 students, teachers, and staff excellent conditions for their learning, teaching, and research activities.

“TANK”, HGK’s exhibition space, presents projects that have been developed specifically for the site by both artists and students. And with CIVIC, a physical and digital discourse and exhibition space, HGK is creating a social infrastructure for and with students, researchers, employees and the public.

HGK is located close next to one of the most valuable cultural institutions and creative enterprises such as the SG Basel School of Design, the HEK (House of Electronic Arts Basel), the studios of the international scholarship programme Atelier Mondial, the ImpactHub Basel, the archives of the architectural practice Herzog & de Meuron, along with the adjacent exhibition venues Kunsthalle Baselland and Schaulager.

As a leading city of culture, Basel offers an exceedingly rich, high-quality, and internationally renowned range of cultural events and institutions. The prolifere museum landscape, the art and design fairs, a young creative scene, the proximity to Germany and France, the Basel art education tradition, the many local and international networks along with the wide-ranging and inspiring study programmes, and the projects in research and innovation make HGK a singular place to study.

University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland Academy of Art and Design

STUDYING AT THE FHWN ACADEMY OF ART AND DESIGN BASEL/DREISPITZ

BA PROGRAMMES

Art and Design: Education, Practice, Research

The degree programme focuses on art practice, education, and research. Students are encouraged to engage with historical and theoretical contexts, as well as to develop their own critical and future-oriented projects. The Design Culture Lab offers students access to the latest technology, and industries are involved in the programme development. Students and industry partners each year

CoCreate is the university-wide teaching programme encompassing HGK’s bachelor’s degree programmes. In roughly 140 courses offered each year, students work collaboratively, interdisciplinary and experientially on projects. Students and researchers involved in the development of new teaching formats and teaching transfer work. HGK art and design make what is to be made and invented. To CoCreate - as a teaching, interdisciplinary, and research competition - the methodological and hands-on skills required in creative, problem-focused design work. The thematic focus is on sustainability, climate change, and the projects in research and innovation make HGK a singular place to study.

MA PROGRAMMES

Art and Design: Education, Practice, Research

The MA programme offers opportunities for students to engage in design processes and projects that are conceptually and socially relevant. Students are given the opportunity to apply computer-based visualization techniques and to consolidate and advance their scientific, artistic, and pedagogical skills. The MA programme is designed to allow students to develop their own research projects and to apply their skills in the fields of art, design, and education.

CoCreate relies on open-ended, interdisciplinary and experimental methods.

HGK’s critical stance towards social change and trends is a key concept to guide them in a desirable direction.

PHD PROGRAMME

CoDesign: The PhD programme is designed to allow students to develop their own research projects and to apply their skills in the fields of art, design, and education. The thematic focus is on sustainability, climate change, and the projects in research and innovation make HGK a singular place to study.

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