



## Admission to Doctoral Studies

The study regulations of the University of Basel (13 November 2019) as well as the doctoral degree regulations of the Faculty of Theology (22 May 2023) serve as the basis of this information sheet.

### General information:

1. The admission to the doctoral studies requires in general
  - a **recognized master's degree** from a **higher education institution recognized by the University of Basel** (for more details see point 8)
  - a **very good master's graduation grade** (usually at least 5.0 on the Swiss grading scale)

Admission to doctoral studies may require **additional coursework** if a degree fulfils the requirements of the respective doctoral degree regulations (see the "Promotionsordnung") only partially.

2. Degrees from university continuing education (e.g., Master of Advanced Studies) do not permit admission to doctoral studies.
3. The Faculty of Theology awards either a Dr. theol. or a Ph.D, depending on study prerequisites. The admission to doctoral studies can require **additional courses** if a degree fulfils the requirements of the respective doctoral degree regulations only partially.
4. Applicants should **discuss** their **subject and research project** with a responsible supervisor of the Faculty of Theology prior to their application for admission to doctoral studies. Usually this entails the drafting of a research idea and a project outline referring to the discipline as well as the supervisor.
5. The admission process starts with a written [application to the Student Services of the University of Basel](#) within the stipulated time period (before deadline).
6. The tuition fees for doctoral students are **CHF 350 per semester**.
7. The Faculty of Theology does **not award direct grants**.
8. A foreign higher education institution is recognized by the University of Basel:
  - if its recognition is settled in an agreement with the Swiss Confederation or the University of Basel
  - if it is **state-approved or accredited** in the respective education system and has the **right to award doctorates**, i.e., the right to offer doctorates and to confer the corresponding title. See also the information portal on foreign educational qualifications (anabin): [http://anabin.kmk.org/no\\_cache/filter/institutionen.html](http://anabin.kmk.org/no_cache/filter/institutionen.html)

### Details on admission to doctoral studies at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Basel:

1. The admission to doctoral studies with a Dr. theol. degree requires a Master of Theology in Theology or a Master of Theology in Semitic Philology from the Faculty of Theology of Basel.



2. The admission to doctoral studies with a PhD degree requires one of the following degrees:
  - Master of Arts of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences from the University of Basel with the extra-faculty subject Theology, Jewish Studies or Religious Studies as a major or minor
  - Master of Theology of the Faculty of Theology from the University of Basel
  - Master of Arts in Interreligious Studies of the Faculty of Theology from the University of Basel
  - Master of Arts in Religion-Economy-Politics (Centre for Religion-Economics-Politics) from the Universities of Basel, Lucerne and Zurich.
3. Other degrees from a higher education institution recognized by the University of Basel can be acknowledged as entirely or partially equivalent by the Faculty's Doctoral Committee, if necessary with the requirement to obtain additional credits.
4. In accordance with points 1, 2, and 3, the degree's average grade has to be at least 5.0 (Swiss grading scale of 1-6, 6 = highest grade / 4 = pass / 1-3 = fail). Review (and, if necessary, conversion) of grades from prior degree programs is carried out by the office of Student Services at the time of registration in a doctoral program. The equivalency of degrees that show neither an average grade nor other proof of academic achievement recognized as equivalent will be examined by the Faculty's Doctoral Committee.
5. Applicants who have an average grade of less than 5.0 may be admitted upon request of the prospective supervisor to the Faculty's Doctoral Committee. This requires that an excellent qualifying work (e.g., Master's thesis) be submitted to the Faculty's Doctoral Committee. In this case, admission might require obtaining missing and/or additional credits.

**Review of applications by the Doctoral Committee takes place only after submission of the application for doctoral studies to the University of Basel's office of Student Services.**

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Application-Admission/Application/Doctoral-Studies.html>

Funding:

The Faculty of Theology does not offer doctorate grants or comparable financial support. However, various other funding options are available, see:

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Advice/Funding/PhD-Financing.html>

Further links:

General information about a doctorate at the University of Basel:

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/University/Administration-Services/Vice-President-s-Office-for-Education/Academic-Programs/Graduate-Center.html>

Admission to a doctorate at the University of Basel:

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Application-Admission/Admission/Admission-to-Doctoral-Studies.html>

Application for a doctorate at the University of Basel:

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Application-Admission/Application/Doctoral-Studies.html>



Funding:

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Advice/Funding/PhD-Financing.html>

Recognized or accredited Swiss higher education institutions:

<https://www.swissuniversities.ch/en/topics/studying/accredited-swiss-higher-education-institutions-1>

Study regulations of the University of Basel (13 November 2019):

<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Student-Regulations.html>

Doctoral degree regulations of the Faculty of Theology of Basel (22 May 2023)

[https://www.unibas.ch/dam/jcr:efab3d27-0079-450f-881a-dc0caf98e87b/446\\_160\\_02.pdf](https://www.unibas.ch/dam/jcr:efab3d27-0079-450f-881a-dc0caf98e87b/446_160_02.pdf)