

Université de Genève

Switzerland

> infosheet for students

2026-2027



1. Academic calendar

Fall Semester	September 14, 2026 to February 12, 2027 >exams January to February in person only
Spring Semester	February 22 to June 25, 2027 (Science June 30) >exams May to June in person only
Orientation	September 11 / February 19

2. Student registration with the University of Geneva (please contact your home International Office to know more about their deadline)

Registration Deadline	April 10	September 10
Documents to be uploaded	- motivation letter - official transcripts - photo - passport copy - proof of French or English level – except if it is the language of instruction of the current studies - study plan	
Special needs	List of special needs that can be accommodated by the University of Geneva: www.unige.ch/sse/en/besoins-particuliers Special needs must be announced at the time of the nomination.	

3. Acceptance letter

Sent by email directly to students <i>*if their application file is complete</i>	May 30 *	October 30 *
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More information

Study plan

Students should use our [course catalogue](#) published every summer. Applicants must base their course selection on courses from the previous year and adjust later if necessary.

Study plans are approved by our academic advisors before the semester starts. If needed, students will be able to **adjust it slightly** once in Geneva, **but it can not be completely changed. In addition, it will not be possible to change the main faculty.**

Main academic restrictions

- Bachelor level students are not allowed to take courses at Master's level.
- Courses may be chosen from two different Faculties/Institutes at the most.
 - Geneva School of Economics and Management,
Faculty of Law,
English Literature/English Linguistics

>students must be registered (**major**) in this field in their home University

Please refer to our website for Faculty [general and particular restrictions](#)

Recommended language skills

The main language of instruction is [French](#); however, a wide range of courses are given in [English](#).

Requested level for both: **B2**

Exceptions/French level: - **C1** for students in French and English Literature

- **A2** or more for our Ecole de langue et de civilisation françaises (see hereunder)

For courses taken in French and/or in English, students are requested to provide either:

- an official test
- an official letter from a professor attesting their level

If students take French and English courses, they must provide a test or attestation **for both languages**.

We provide access to a French test (cost CHF 10.-). The link is sent to students along with registration instructions.

Improving French skills

Before the exchange: [Intensive French courses](#) are available during the summer and winter holidays, with special rates for exchange students. The link is provided to nominated students along with online registration instructions.

During the exchange: [2 free French support courses per week](#) are available during each semester (3 ECTS each). Once registered, participation is mandatory.

Our "Ecole de langue et de civilisation françaises" offers intensive French language course modules – French level B1 is requested for the [Année propédeutique](#) / A2 for the [Année d'immersion](#) (linguistic and cultural courses).

Grading system

	ECTS Scale	UNIGE Grading Scale
Excellent	A	6.00, 5.75, 5.50, 5.25
Very good	B	5.00, 4.75
Good	C	4.50
Satisfactory	D	4.25
Pass	E	4.00
Fail	F	< 4.00

Visa and Residence Permit

Non-EU citizens may require a visa and must contact the nearest Swiss embassy **3 months before entering Switzerland** in order to inquire about the visa procedure.

Visa request for students over 30 is subject to a specific approval. Visa allowance is not guaranteed.

The visa will allow entry into Switzerland. Students will also need to request a **mandatory** residence permit from the Geneva Migration Office (OCPM) upon their arrival in Geneva.

Housing

From this year, the biggest student residence the [Cité Universitaire de Genève](#) will renovate one of her building, with the consequence of a decrease in available rooms. We recommended your University to send us their nomination as soon as possible, as rooms are allocated on a first-come first-served basis. **On your side, please register as soon as you get our information email.**

Students over 34 can not apply for a room at the Cité Universitaire. Please contact our office for more information.

Cost of living in Geneva

The average [cost of living](#) for a student in Geneva is approximately CHF 2,000 per month.

Students will have to prove financial capacity (statement of account and assets), both for visa and residence permit requests.

Insurance

[Health insurance](#) is mandatory in Switzerland (accident and health). Students may request recognition of their private insurance or subscribe to a Swiss student insurance policy upon arrival in Switzerland (from CHF 64.- per month).

Transcripts

A transcript will be issued about 6 weeks after the assessment period has finished at our institution. Students are required to indicate their International Office postal address before the end of the exchange so that Partner Universities can get the official transcripts directly (through their student portal or the student office).

Code of ethics and professional conduct

www.unige.ch/ethique/charter/

Contacts

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[**www.unige.ch/geneva**](http://www.unige.ch/geneva)