DISCOVER
Founded in 1969, Franklin University Switzerland is the only independent, private liberal arts university in Switzerland, stationed in the heart of Europe, Lugano. Combining the best of both American and Swiss education, we give students a transformative and fully international experience in a safe and supportive campus community. Through integrative study, research, immersion, and exposure to the world through travel, students gain new perspectives, and develop new horizons. Our alumni are highly successful, worldly, aware, and live around the world.

Franklin’s Kalestch Campus – featuring the main Reception, Grace Library, Nielsen Auditorium, Grotto Dining Hall, Holman Hall and conference room, senior class offices, and faculty and staff offices.
QUICK FACTS

Language of instruction is English

Franklin is dually accredited in both Switzerland and the United States *

We have a total of 49 faculty from all over the world, divided into full and part time **

We have a total of 346 students at Franklin this academic year**

Our student body represent 54 countries in the world **

Our average class size is of 16 students where student:faculty ratio is 91 **

We offer on campus housing to 93% of our student body **

75% of our students obtain a full-time employment within 6 months from graduating **

Franklin is approved by the Chinese ministry of education as an accredited foreign university *

* Franklin University Switzerland is accredited in the United States by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and its programs are accredited in Switzerland by the Swiss University Conference. The University has also been approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education as an accredited foreign university in China.

** Fall 2021 Census

WELCOME TO SWITZERLAND

Central, safe, clean, mountains, lakes, banking, technology, railroads – and, why not, chocolate and cheese – Switzerland offers an international experience like no other.

While it is known for a variety of reasons, what unites the country is a deeply rooted strength that comes from diversity.

At Franklin, that diversity is amplified with a community that comes together from all corners of the globe. Switzerland is internationally recognized as a center of excellence in education, research, and innovation and is ranked as one of the most sustainable and secure countries in the world. With not one, not two, but four native languages including French, German, Italian and Romansh, Switzerland offers you the opportunity to practice your language abilities or learn new ones. Ride the train through the German-speaking region of Switzerland, working on Italian homework while having a French-style croissant.

Go anywhere! Switzerland’s postcard-perfect geographical location paired with its incredibly precise public transportation system makes traveling to Europe’s most famous cities fast, easy and inexpensive.

Let us tell you our story – meet us.
No matter what you decide to study, you will be prepared for the career of your choosing. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

PROGRAM OF STUDY
Art History and Visual Culture
Economics and Finance
Environmental Sciences
Finance
International Management

CAREER
Fashion Journalist, Museum Curator, Economist, Policy Analyst, Ecologist, Sustainability Manager, Management Consultant, Financial Analyst, Researcher, Publisher

Franklin offers a highly innovative, internationally-focused liberal arts undergraduate curriculum. You can earn your Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in over 22 different majors while also pursuing various minors and academic interests. One key feature of our undergraduate program is its flexibility: most of our major curriculums offer you the possibility to partially design your own study plans. A thesis, internship or senior research project is an integral component of the undergraduate experience at Franklin. We place extraordinary value on enriching your learning experience by going on location. You can explore environmental issues in the Alps or travel to Renaissance Florence to study art history. At Franklin, this isn’t a rarity; it’s an everyday opportunity.
THINK OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

Since our founding, Academic Travel has been a core part of the Franklin educational experience. Every semester, all Franklin students have the opportunity to embark on an extended study visit to the areas they learn about in their courses. Whether you're studying the environmental impacts of tourism in Iceland or finance and culture in London, our Academic Travel courses bring your studies to a whole new level through first-hand interaction and cross-cultural exchanges in the places you visit, extending your learning experience well beyond the classroom, into the world.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

- Included in tuition fee*
- Faculty-designed, Faculty-led
- 10-day to two-week travel period every semester
- Credit-bearing (1 or 3 credits)
- Variety of international locations
- Non major-specific

RECENT ACADEMIC TRAVELS

ITALY: Communication, Fashion, and the Formation of Taste
GERMANY: Documentary and Street Photography on Location
NORTH-EAST ITALY AND SLOVENIA: Freshwater Conservation
SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, ITALY: Intro to Entrepreneurship & Risk Taking
ITALY: Italian Tales of Courtship, Beauty, and Power
CZECH REPUBLIC: Prague on the Page – Alienation and Absurdity
MOROCCO: Listening to Morocco, Music between Tradition and Modernity
GUATEMALA: Politics and Society in Mesoamerica
BOTSWANA: Environmental Field Observations and Conservation Challenges

*Supplementary fees may apply for some longhaul destinations
PLANNING YOUR PATH AT FRANKLIN

1ST YEAR
- First-Year Seminar - including Academic Travel
- Get started on university core requirements - including language and writing courses
- Get involved by joining a campus club - or create one of your own

2ND YEAR
- Choose your major area of study
- Meet with your advisor to talk about professional pathway possibilities
- 5 courses per semester - including Academic Travel
- Help new students by becoming an Orientation Mentor

3RD YEAR*
- Start exploring career possibilities and summer internships
- 5 courses per semester - including Academic Travel
- Advance towards completion of your major - consider adding a minor/s
- Finish remaining core requirements

4TH YEAR
- Start work on and complete your Capstone project
- 5 courses per semester - including Academic Travel
- Write a senior Bachelor thesis
- Apply to internships, jobs and/or graduate school

*Students with advanced credit, coming from advanced curricular programs (e.g. IB, Matura, AP, Abitur), may graduate
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Franklin’s U.S.-inspired liberal arts approach allows you to earn a bachelor degree in 20 different majors. Our flexible academic plans allow you to work with your advisor to design your own academic pathway through combined majors, double majors and minors.

MAJORS
- Undergraduate students at Franklin can choose to follow one of 20 different major fields of study, spanning a wide range of disciplines.
- ■ Art History and Visual Culture
- ■ Communication and Media Studies
- ■ Comparative Library and Cultural Studies
- ■ Environmental Science
- ■ Environmental Studies
- ■ Fashion Studies
- ■ Finance
- ■ Foreign Studies
- ■ a History
- ■ International Economics
- ■ International Economics
- ■ Emphasis in Political Economy
- ■ International Management
- ■ International Marketing Management
- ■ International Relations
- ■ International Relations
- ■ Emphasis in Political Economy
- ■ International Studies
- ■ Political Science
- ■ Psychology
- ■ Social Justice and Sustainability
- ■ Visual Communication Arts

COMBINED MAJORS
- Students may also combine two of the following fields of study into a combined major.
- ■ Art History and Visual Culture
- ■ Communication and Media Studies
- ■ Comparative Library and Cultural Studies
- ■ Economics
- ■ Environmental Science
- ■ French Studies
- ■ History
- ■ Italian Studies
- ■ Management
- ■ Political Science
- ■ Psychology
- ■ Visual Communication Arts

MINORS
- In addition to a major field of study, students may select courses within one discipline to form a minor.
- ■ Applied Mathematics Minor
- ■ Art History and Visual Culture Minor
- ■ Communication and Media Studies Minor
- ■ Comparative Library and Cultural Studies Minor
- ■ Economics Minor
- ■ Environmental Science Minor
- ■ Film Studies Minor
- ■ French Minor
- ■ Gender Studies Minor
- ■ Germanic Studies Minor
- ■ History Minor
- ■ International Relations Minor
- ■ Italian Studies Minor
- ■ Legal Studies Minor
- ■ Management Minor
- ■ Marketing Minor
- ■ Political Science Minor
- ■ Preconsulting Studies Minor
- ■ Psychology Minor
- ■ Social Justice and Sustainability Minor
- ■ Studio Art Minor

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Franklin’s graduate programs are your first step toward the realization of your career dreams through real project work, executive mentoring, and coaching. You will work and learn side-by-side with executives from top global organizations and will have the opportunity to obtain certificates for a wide array of skill sets.

M.S. IN INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION
- As part of the unique alliance that the University has created with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), students can now enroll in this new international, cross-cultural and intergenerational program. You will have the opportunity to collaborate directly with people from multiple backgrounds, work directly at the UN to help implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and apply systemic thinking to build organizational solutions.
- While the first part of the program takes place at Franklin, with courses designed to develop skills such as collaborative leadership and working across sectors, the second semester will be held at the UN in Geneva, where students will be taking e-learning courses developed by UNITAR and other UN organizations on climate change.

M.S. IN INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
- This new graduate program will challenge students to explore topics such as Big Data analytics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Digital Communication. During the fall term you will participate in a variety of workshops, seminars and courses, learning and practicing leadership and management in an intergenerational context alongside people of different ages, cultures and backgrounds.
- The spring term will challenge you to dive into a self-managed mode of learning with the support of a coach. The course of the program will include online courses and monthly visits to international companies active in the Digital Transformation space, such as Google and Deloitte, culminating in an experience that includes visits to Seoul, South Korea, to visit work with LG Electronics, Samsung and Hyundai.

M.A. IN RESPONSIBLE ARTS MANAGEMENT AND CULTURAL HERITAGE
- Created in partnership with the International Program in Arts Management (IPAM) at SDA Bocconi School of Management, this MA in Responsible Arts Management and Cultural Heritage is designed to provide both practical and theoretical preparation for change-makers, future leaders and the next generation of art professionals. Through a rigorous curriculum and multicultural experience, the program strives towards preparing leaders for today’s international arts and heritage environment.
SPECIAL PROGRAMS

THE THREE-YEAR BA / 3+1 PROGRAM
If you have advanced admissions standing (e.g. IB, AP, A-levels, Matura, etc.), you can graduate with a BA in three years instead of in four (typical of a U.S. bachelor program). We also offer a combined 3+1 BA/MS option. This is an advanced track towards completing both a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in four years. Thanks to the partnership with Emerson College in Boston, Massachusetts, students will also have the opportunity to complete a bachelor’s degree at Franklin and master’s degree at Emerson.

THE GLOBAL BA / FRANKLIN-EMERSON ASSOCIATE DEGREE
The partnership between Emerson College and Franklin University Switzerland, gives you the opportunity to pursue a Global Bachelor of Arts in International and Political Communication or a Global Bachelor of Arts in Business of Creative Enterprises. By completing one of these programs, you will earn both an associate’s degree from Franklin, and a bachelor’s degree from Emerson. Students enrolled in these programs will spend two years in Lugano, Switzerland, and two years in Boston, benefitting from the strengths and expertise of both schools.

ZURICH PROGRAM
This semester-long program, taught entirely in English, offers experiential learning and cultural immersion through classroom activities, fieldwork, lectures by local experts, hands-on engagement and research. The Core courses are taught in modules that each last one month. The program takes place in the city of Zurich (CH).

GAP YEAR PROGRAM
If you are looking for a flexible, international and custom-designed academic experience, but are not sure you want to commit to a full degree program – or if you simply want to take a year to learn and explore – you can study at Franklin for a semester or a full academic year, and start either fall or spring semester.
Recent high school graduates can participate in the Core Curriculum and first year program, take a variety of courses in one of our sixteen majors, and benefit from the Academic Travel program as well.

SUMMER PROGRAMS
Franklin’s undergraduate summer sessions offer you a rigorous, cross-cultural experience through courses taught in a vibrant, intellectual community. Our program consists of two 4-week intensive sessions that begin in early June and run through the end of July. Several summer Academic Travel programs also give you the opportunity to travel with your professor to a destination linked to an academic topic.

HONORS PROGRAM
Comprised of targeted tutorials and an interdisciplinary seminar series, Franklin’s Honors Program offers talented and highly motivated students the opportunity to acquire advanced research skills and pursue cross-disciplinary research while working closely with faculty and other classmates.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS
Partner institutions include all CCIS member institutions, along with a number of universities:
- ASSIST, Seoul School of Integrated Sciences and Technologies (for Executive Education)
- Chapman University
- College of Charleston
- Denison University (GLCA)
- Emerson College (GLCA)
- Franklin University Switzerland
- George Mason University
- Fachi Hochschule Gesundheit (Collaborative Research Agreements)
- Hanyang College (GLCA)
- Lasell College
- Maryland University
- RECEPTIO Research Centre for European Philological Tradition (Collaborative Research Agreements)
- Southern Methodist University
- Southern Methodist University
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research (for Executive Education)
- Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele
- University of Miami
- University of Southern California
- University of Texas at Dallas
- Virginia Tech
ACADEMIC RESOURCES

The path you take toward your degree and your career may not always be direct and certainly will provide challenges along the way. Our academic support areas provide you with information and guidance as you develop your interests, build the skills necessary for academic success and progress toward a satisfying career.

FRANKLIN LIBRARIES

The David R. Grace Library and the Fowler Learning Commons currently hold a collection of approximately 36,000 volumes, a small collection of print periodical titles, and a variety of multimedia materials.

THE WRITING AND LEARNING CENTER (WLC)

Franklin’s Writing and Learning Center provides one-stop academic support to the Franklin community at large. The WLC facilitates learning, language and writing opportunities across, up and beyond the curriculum with a non-directive and holistic approach to academic support. You will have full access to the center’s tutoring services, leadership and publishing opportunities.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Franklin University Switzerland is committed to providing reasonable accommodations in its programs to students who have documented disabilities, including learning disabilities. We foster success by coordinating accommodations and by organizing additional academic support. As a small community of learners, we can offer individual support on many levels, with both qualified staff and trained student mentors and tutors.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

During your first days on campus you will connect with an academic advisor who will guide you through your course options and help you create a study program that fits your interests and career aspirations. You will meet with your advisor each semester until you finish at Franklin.

Take advantage of resources: Learn more about our wide range of services available for members of the Franklin Community. Check them out on our website.
CAREER PREPARATION

CAREER SERVICES

Through its Career Services Office, Franklin offers programs, resources, strategies, and services to help students prepare for their next step after university. The office walks them through all the stages of the career exploration and planning process including:

- Personal individual advising and counseling
- Resume/CV writing and refinement
- Internship and employment searching skills
- Graduate school applications
- Workshops and events aiming at developing
  - professional skills

FRANKLIN FUTURE 5.0 SOPHOMORE AND JUNIOR EXPERIENCE

The Franklin Futures 5.0 is a hands-on program designed to help students gain experience and develop foundational skills that will help them plan and prepare for the challenges and adventures of a post-Franklin environment.

ALUMNI SUPPORT AND OPPORTUNITIES

Through online platforms, such as Evisors, Career Services makes a point of connecting current Franklin students with Alumni and parents, with whom they can discuss career paths, share advice, sharpen their professional skills.

CAREER MENTORING PROGRAM

Many Franklin alumni and parents volunteer to act as Career Mentors and are happy to provide students with support and guidance as they prepare for their careers. With a Career Mentor, students can explore their career goals, gain an insider’s perspective on a specific industry/organization, seek helpful suggestions for resume and cover letter writing, discuss the necessary skills for successful job interviews and more.

FRANKLIN CAREER NAVIGATOR

Accessible to all students at all times, the Career Navigator is our very own online encyclopedia of resources and information that students looking to prepare their professional future would need. From resume guidelines, or online internship search engines, to opportunities of the Alumni Council, Career Services provides many tools that can support students in their intercultural employability.
From Argentina to Australia and everywhere in between, Franklin alumni can be found in more than 100 countries around the world. A Franklin education prepares you for an international career in a way that no other university does. Complementing our core curriculum with careers-focused courses, guest lectures and co-curricular activities helps you thrive in the professional world.

According to a recent alumni survey, three out of four Franklin graduates find full-time employment within 6 months of graduating, and 95% within a year. Just under a third of Franklin graduates also progress to director or manager status within three years from graduating. The versatility of Franklin graduates enables them to find employment in a wide variety of sectors. Over a third of Franklin graduates go on to Master’s or Ph.D programs in globally renowned universities.
“Whether it’s speaking Italian in the city center, meeting friends from all over the world, or just taking in the sights of Lugano, Lugano has been a wonderful learning experience.”

JORDAN BICKER, ’19 MALS
B.A. CLASS OF ’16
P.O. BOX 1177
UNITED STATES
B.A. HISTORY, COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES
M.S. INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT

“Franklin students distinguish themselves as leaders in a diverse community of innovators and problem-solvers. Franklinians are risk-takers, team players, students who not only walk the road less traveled but also pause to show others a new way.”

DR. FABIO FERRARI
ITALY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MODERN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

“Franklin has given me the right international and open-minded approach that will help me gain more from future studies.”

LARA OLGIATI, ’18
SWITZERLAND
B.A. CLASS OF ’15
B.A. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

“The fact that it’s such an international community is what makes a cultural awareness and a cultural respect. People are genuinely nice, you can approach anyone and it’s okay. It’s one of the best things in the world.”

VARADIZ MOHLELE, CLASS OF ’18
ZIMBABWE
PSYCHOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

“Franklin’s professors have been excellent and share a lot of work related experience on what they teach. They are very approachable and their doors are always open. Franklin professors are here to help.”

JOSE HERRERA, A.Y./BA
AFF: CLASS OF ’14
UNITED STATES
B.A. CLASS OF ’17
EL SALVADOR
INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT

“The professors here are excellent and share a lot of work related experience on what they teach. They are very approachable and their doors are always open. Franklin professors are here to help.”

SUNAILI AGAOSRE, CLASS OF ’17
B.A. CLASS OF ’15
COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES

“Compared to other places, Franklin has a strong community among its faculty, staff, and students. As an educator, being able to teach small classes and have students’ progress over their entire lives is very exciting. As a student being able to work closely with an excellent group of faculty, staff, and students was hard to find.”

DR. BRIAN HALE
PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-HARRISON

“The small class sizes make it easier to interact on a more personal level with the professor. We got to know almost every student in the lab, but what’s out there in the real world.”

CLARENCE YUAN, CLASS OF ’16
UNITED STATES
INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT B.S.
EMERALD MARKETING

“The diversity of students at Franklin helps create an intellectually stimulating environment in the classroom. In addition, Academic Travel offers students a unique and an effective way to solidify their educational foundation through experience.”

DR. POULOMI DASGUPTA
INDIA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE
PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY
LIVING AT FRANKLIN

Living on campus in one of the eight residences is an integral part of the Franklin experience. It not only enriches your connection to your peers, but it also plays a vital role in your academic involvement.

There are eight residence halls at Franklin, and each one has a trained Resident Assistant. Resident Assistants are part of the Office of Student Life, and work to ensure that your living experience at Franklin is as optimal as possible and that you live in a safe and enriching space.

The University requires all new incoming students who are not residing with their parents or legal guardians to live in a university residence – each semester, about 80% of our students live on-campus.

Living in the residence halls provides your first taste of independence. You have the opportunity to cook for yourself, as most rooms have kitchenettes or a common kitchen for the whole residence. You can pick from several housing arrangements: triple, double and single rooms, and suite-style apartments. The majority of the rooms have a private bathroom – students will share a bathroom with a maximum of three more students.

Your space will become your home each time you return from a long day of classes, travels, or even a trip to the grocery store. Whether you’re closer to campus or closer to downtown Lugano, you’ll know what it’s like to live on your own in this eclectic, cross-cultural city.

The University also offers several meal plan options for dining in our two facilities: The Grotto and the North Campus Dining Hall, both serving a large variety of healthy, tasty, and fresh food options, with different menus of the day, as well as additional options to order from.
STUDENT LIFE

Studying is at the forefront of attending Franklin, but student life – including a variety of activities, events, trips, and programs – enriches one’s entire experience. As a member of the Franklin community, you become part of an international culture with its own traditions and characteristics – but without borders or limits. Franklin students are a unique community: membership is only attainable by fully engaging in it.

At Franklin, you are spoilt for choice: wide array of co-curricular activities, sports activities, student-run organizations or Franklin traditions and events. You can also benefit from an international campus community, support and guidance from a tight-knit community of faculty and staff, as well as exposure to the vibrant, safe Swiss city of Lugano.
Swiss Alps. Glacial lakes. Mediterranean climate. Italian flavor. An international population. This is the city we call home: Lugano, Switzerland.

Surrounded by mountains and situated on its namesake lake, one of the spectacular lakes linking Switzerland and Italy, Lugano is the ideal home base for the Franklin experience: a jumping-off point for an immersive exploration of the world and its people. The city is the cultural, recreational, financial and commercial hub of Switzerland’s southernmost, Italian-speaking canton of Ticino — the ideal melting pot of European culture combined with the traits of a small town. It is fun, sophisticated and safe, with dozens of outdoor activities around Lake Lugano, including 40 of Europe’s best mountain bike routes.
Whether you seek a full degree or a semester or summer abroad, Franklin gives you a new perspective and a better understanding of other cultures. Our programs provide cross-cultural perspectives and affect the direction and meaning of your university experience, life and career.

A Franklin education produces competent and critical thinkers that can navigate international settings.

UNDERGRADUATE
Franklin offers an internationally-focused interdisciplinary curriculum leading to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree. You can choose from 22 different majors and also work with your advisor to design your own academic pathway through double or combined majors and minors. Combined with our set of core requirements and Academic Travel courses, you will graduate with a foundation on which to build further understanding, establish a career and rise to leadership.

THE THREE-YEAR BA
Save time by completing your bachelor's degree in three years, like other European universities, instead of four years typically expected at American universities. The three-year BA at Franklin is designed for motivated students who study full time over three academic years including summers.

3+1 BA-MS OPTION
Leverage the advantage you gain in earning your Bachelor's degree in three years by spending your fourth year in Graduate Studies at Franklin. The one-year Master of Science in International Management prepares you to be a responsible global leader in your organization or your own business. Our graduate programs offer three exciting tracks and you can pick from:

– M.S. in International Management with emphasis in Responsible Management and Climate Action, organized in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR);
– M.S. in International Management with emphasis in Digital Transformation, allowing you to work directly with international tech giants like LG Electronics, Samsung and Hyundai;
– MA in Responsible Arts Management and Cultural Heritage is designed to provide both a practical and theoretical preparation for change-makers, future leaders and the next generation of art professionals.

ZURICH PROGRAM
This semester-long program, taught entirely in English, offers experiential learning and cultural immersion through classroom activities, fieldwork, lectures by local experts, hands-on engagement and research. The core courses are taught in modules that each last one month. The program takes place in the city of Zurich (CH).

HONORS PROGRAM
Comprising of targeted tutorials and an interdisciplinary seminar series, Franklin’s Honors Program targets and highly motivated students the opportunity to acquire advanced research skills and pursue cross-disciplinary research while working closely with faculty and other classmates. These courses require a dedicated investment of intellect and imagination.

SUMMER PROGRAMS
Franklin combines rigorous academic programs with exciting experiential learning, and the summer sessions are no exception. Whether you already study at university or you are a high school student, summer is the perfect time to join Franklin, as guest lecturers and Franklin faculty come together to offer a diverse array of courses focusing on highly relevant global issues.

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS
A Franklin education prepares you for an international career that knows no bounds. Our graduates continue to notable careers in the private, public and non-profit sectors, or proceed to graduate education in prestigious institutions. Our alumni network is truly global—no matter where you are in the world, you can connect with a Franklin alumnus.
DISCOVER. LEARN. KNOW.