

Università  
della  
Svizzera  
italiana

Faculty  
of  
Biomedical  
Sciences

Plan of studies

2021/  
22

2021/22



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# **Plan of studies**

**2021/22**

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# Index

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<b>Preface</b>		7
<b>Academic calendar</b>		11
<b>The Faculty</b>	Introduction	15
	Executive bodies	16
	Faculty's governing bodies	17
	Rectorate, Administration and Services	20
	Association of medical students	24
<b>Master of Medicine</b>	Introduction	27
	Study curriculum	29
	General curriculum structure	32
	Study programme	33
	Transversal topics	34
	Clinical semesters weekly schedule	35
	Semester enrollment	36
	Examinations	37
	Leave of absence	39
	Mobility	40
	Italian language courses	42
	Virtual learning platforms	43

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## Preface

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Dear students

When we started working on the curriculum of the Master of Medicine some three years ago, the main (and at that time the only) driver behind our engine was the incredible and contagious enthusiasm each of us put in the project. We spent hours discussing how we wanted to shape the curriculum, considered several options and evaluated many models. However, once we decided on the final structure and worked intensely on it, we had to wait for the first students to start the studies, to find out if our model works and meets the justified expectation of students and colleagues.

As a rocket sent into space, we aimed at a planet without knowing if we would touch the ground. Well, we did touchdown on 14 September 2020 with the first 48 students, the pioneers who exposed themselves to the unpredictable challenge of a new Master in a new Faculty. All of us, dean's office, professors and students were eager to know, if we were on the right track and had reached the safe planet or if we were lost somewhere in space.

Now that the first year is over, we can confirm that the rocket has definitely landed on the right planet and that this new world is simply beautiful and extremely fertile. The most unpredictable period is behind us and we have no doubt to say that the Master of Medicine at USI has a great chance to meet your expectation and offer you a great journey into the fascinating world of modern medicine.

Giovanni Pedrazzini,  
Dean of the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences

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## Academic calendar

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<b>Autumn semester 2021–22</b>	Matriculation	30.06–20.09.2021
	Courses start	20.09.2021
	Holidays	
	All saints • 01.11.2021 Immaculate Conception • 08.12.2021	
	Courses end	24.12.2021
<b>Exam sessions</b>	Winter session	
	MC 1° sem • 08.02.2022	
	MC 3° sem • 10.02.2022	
	OSCE 1° sem • 11.02.2022	
	OSCE 3° sem • 14.02.2022	
<b>Spring semester 2022</b>	Courses start	21.02.2022
	Easter holidays	18–22.04.2022
	Dies academicus	07.05.2022
	Holidays	
	Saint Joseph's Day • 19.03.2022 Ascension Day • 26.05.2022 Whit Monday • 06.06.2022 Corpus Domini • 16.06.2022	
	Courses end	03.06.2022

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**Exam  
sessions**

Summer session

- MC 2° sem • 05.07.2022
- MC 4° sem • 07.07.2022
- OSCE 2° sem • 08.07.2022
- OSCE 4° sem • 11.07.2022

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Autumn session 2° sem	23.08.2022
Autumn session 4° sem	25.08.2022

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USI Faculty of Biomedical Sciences was established in 2014 with the aim of addressing an important national problem: the dearth of physicians trained in Switzerland. Hence, the Faculty offers a Master degree of Medicine, as well as some places for the Bachelor of Medicine in collaboration with other Universities.

Furthermore, the Faculty offers a Master in Cognitive Psychology in Health Communication, doctoral programmes, postgraduate education (MD, CAS, DAS, MAS) and programmes in the field of biomedical entrepreneurship.

The Faculty is headed by Dean Prof. Giovanni Pedrazzini MD.

## Executive bodies

### Faculty of Biomedical Sciences

Lugano East Campus  
 tel +41 58 666 49 00  
 e-mail [decanato.med@usi.ch](mailto:decanato.med@usi.ch)

#### Dean

Prof. Giovanni Pedrazzini  
 e-mail [decanato.med@usi.ch](mailto:decanato.med@usi.ch)

The Dean is available for meetings on request.

#### Dean's office secretary

Claudia Wyss  
 e-mail [claudia.wyss@usi.ch](mailto:claudia.wyss@usi.ch)

#### Optional courses, Master's thesis, Elective term, PhD Programme

Lucie Bourban  
 e-mail [lucie.bourban@usi.ch](mailto:lucie.bourban@usi.ch)

#### Exams

Irene Menghini-Cagni  
 e-mail [irene.menghini.cagni@usi.ch](mailto:irene.menghini.cagni@usi.ch)

#### Logistics

Marco Bianchi  
 e-mail [marco.bianchi@usi.ch](mailto:marco.bianchi@usi.ch)

#### Program management

Monica Link  
[monica.link@usi.ch](mailto:monica.link@usi.ch)

#### Student affairs

Solange Cingari  
[solange.cingari@usi.ch](mailto:solange.cingari@usi.ch)

#### MPHC administration

Daniela Wirz  
[daniela.wirz@usi.ch](mailto:daniela.wirz@usi.ch)

## Faculty's governing bodies

The Faculty's governing bodies include: the Faculty Council, the Professors Council, and the Dean's Office.

### Faculty Council

The Faculty Council is composed of all tenured professors (full and associate), the assistant professors and adjunct professors of the Faculty and the affiliated institutes. Representatives of the intermediate and student body are also members.

### Full professors

Emiliano Albanese  
 Andrea Alimonti  
 Mario Bianchetti  
 Petr Cejka  
 Luca Gabutti  
 Andrea Gallina  
 Michele Ghielmini  
 Greta Guarda  
 Andrea De Gottardi  
 Silke Gillessen Sommer  
 Alain Kälin  
 Luca Mazzucchelli  
 Vittorio Limongelli  
 Pietro Edoardo Majno-Hurst  
 Andrea Papadia  
 Giovanni Pedrazzini  
 Davide Robbiani  
 Davide Rossi  
 Federica Sallusto  
 Giacomo Domenico Simonetti  
 Jean-Philippe Theurillat

### Adjunct and assistant professor

Angelo Auricchio  
 Enos Bernasconi  
 Francesco Bertoni  
 Andreas Bircher

Guido Bondolfi  
 Christian Candrian  
 Tiziano Cassina  
 Luca Ceriani  
 Alessandro Emanuele Ceschi  
 Johnny Deladoey  
 Filippo Del Grande  
 Stefanos Demertzis  
 Enrico Ferrari  
 Paolo Ferrari  
 Giuseppe Filardo  
 Guido Garavaglia  
 Roger Geiger  
 Claudio Gobbi  
 Yves Harder  
 Paul Bernhard Henrich  
 Giandomenica Iezzi  
 Mauro Manconi  
 Matteo Moretti  
 Adam Ognà  
 Olivia Pagani Santoro  
 Andreas Perren  
 Giuseppe Perale  
 Michael Reinert  
 Daniel Schmauss  
 Cristiana Sessa  
 Georg Stüssi  
 Giorgio Treglia  
 Pierpaolo Trimboli  
 Marco Valgimigli  
 Emanuela Valsangiacomo  
 Giuseppe Vassalli  
 Rolf Wyttenbach  
 Emanuele Zucca

**Privat  
Dozent**

Lucio Barile  
 Andrea Braga  
 Stefano Cafarotti  
 Gabriele Casso  
 Carlo Cereda  
 Giulio Conte  
 Sara De Dosso  
 Rosaria Del Giorno  
 Marco Delcogliano  
 Marcello Di Valentino  
 Paolo Erba  
 Valentina Forni Ognà  
 Salvatore Galati  
 Claudia Gamondi  
 Olivier Giannini  
 Thomas Giesen

Barbara Goeggel Simonetti  
 Davide La Regina  
 Mattia Lepori  
 Paolo Maino  
 Giorgia Melli  
 Paolo Paganetti  
 Emanuele Pravatà  
 Stefania Rizzo  
 Thomas Robert  
 Piercarlo Saletti  
 Andrea Saporito  
 Anastasios Stathis  
 Daniel Sürder  
 Benedetta Terziroli Beretta Piccoli  
 Stijn Vandenberghe  
 Federica Vanoni  
 Chiara Zecca

**Clinical  
lecturer**

Lisa Kottanattu  
 Dominique Kuhlen  
 Barbara Lucchini  
 Mario Mendoza Sagaon  
 Aleksandra Nobile  
 Francesca Romana Scopigni  
 Amalia Noemi Stefani-Glücksberg  
 Elisa Stoira  
 Susanne Anna Schlossbauer

Status as of 01.03.2021

<https://search.usi.ch/en/faculties/5/faculty-of-biomedical-sciences/people>

**Professors  
Council**

The Professors Council is made up of all tenured professors (full and associate) of the Faculty.

**Dean**

The current Dean is Prof. Giovanni Pedrazzini,  
 The current study Vice-Dean is Prof. Luca Gabutti  
 The current research Vice-Dean is Prof. Greta Guarda.

## Rectorate, administration and services

### Rectorate

The Rectorate ensures the overall smooth functioning of the University and elaborates planning and development acts.

#### Rector

Prof. Boas Erez

#### Secretary General

Dr. Giovanni Zavaritt

#### Administrative Director

Cristina Largader

#### Adjunct Administrative Director

Antoine Turner

#### Pro-Rector for Internationalisation

Cesare Alippi

#### Pro-Rector for Education and Students' Experience

Prof. Lorenzo Cantoni

#### Pro-Rector for Research

Prof. Patrick Gagliardini

#### Pro-Rector for Innovation and Corporate relations

Prof. Luca Maria Gambardella

#### Pro-Rector for Research in the Humanities and Equal Opportunities

Prof. Sonja Hildebrand

## Administration and Services Lugano Campus

USI administration comprises of different services and it is under the Rectorate responsibility, and through the Rectorate, under the University Council.

### Alumni Service

office Main Building, Office 303  
tel + 41 58 666 46 06  
e-mail [alumni@usi.ch](mailto:alumni@usi.ch)  
web [www.usi.ch/en/alumni](http://www.usi.ch/en/alumni)

### Career Service

office Main Building, Office 303  
tel + 41 58 666 46 06  
e-mail [careerservice@usi.ch](mailto:careerservice@usi.ch)  
web [www.usi.ch/en/career](http://www.usi.ch/en/career)

### Copy Center Onys

office Main Building, Office 139  
tel + 41 58 666 45 86  
e-mail [copycenter@usi.ch](mailto:copycenter@usi.ch)

### Corporate identity

office Main Building, Office 212  
tel + 41 58 666 47 61  
e-mail [corporate-design@usi.ch](mailto:corporate-design@usi.ch)

### Development and Institutional Relations

office Main Building, 232  
tel + 41 58 666 49 27  
e-mail [maria.cristina.reinhart@usi.ch](mailto:maria.cristina.reinhart@usi.ch)

### eLearning Lab (eLab)

office Main Building, Offices 403-406  
tel + 41 58 666 47 60  
e-mail [info@elearninglab.org](mailto:info@elearninglab.org)  
web [www.elearninglab.org/en](http://www.elearninglab.org/en)

### Equal Opportunities Service

office Main Building, Office 235  
tel + 41 58 666 46 12  
e-mail [equality@usi.ch](mailto:equality@usi.ch)  
web [www.usi.ch/equality](http://www.usi.ch/equality)

### Financial Controlling Service

office Main Building, Office 221

### Front Office

office Main Building, Office 220  
tel + 41 58 666 40 00  
e-mail [info@usi.ch](mailto:info@usi.ch)

**Graphic design**

office Main Building, Office 210  
 tel + 41 58 666 44 56  
 e-mail [grafica@usi.ch](mailto:grafica@usi.ch)

**Housing**

office Main Building, Office 202  
 tel + 41 58 666 44 89  
 e-mail [alloggi@usi.ch](mailto:alloggi@usi.ch)  
 web [www.usi.ch/en/housing](http://www.usi.ch/en/housing)

**Human Resources**

office Main Building, Offices 233-234  
 e-mail [personale.lu@usi.ch](mailto:personale.lu@usi.ch)

**Institutional Communication Service**

office Main Building, Office 212  
 tel + 41 58 666 47 92  
 e-mail [press@usi.ch](mailto:press@usi.ch)

**L'ideatorio**

office Villa Saroli, Viale S. Francini 9  
 tel + 41 58 666 45 20  
 web [www.ideatorio.usi.ch](http://www.ideatorio.usi.ch)

**International Relations and Study Abroad Service**

office Main Building, Office 332  
 tel + 41 58 666 46 26  
 e-mail [relint@usi.ch](mailto:relint@usi.ch)  
 web [www.usi.ch/en/relint](http://www.usi.ch/en/relint)

**IT Service**

office Main Building, Office 164  
 tel + 41 58 666 46 10  
 e-mail [sistema.lu@usi.ch](mailto:sistema.lu@usi.ch)  
 web [www.usilu.net](http://www.usilu.net)

**Legal Service**

e-mail Main Building, Office 228  
 tel + 41 58 666 46 16  
 web [serviziogiuridico@usi.ch](mailto:serviziogiuridico@usi.ch)

**Library**

tel + 41 58 666 45 09  
 e-mail [library.lu@usi.ch](mailto:library.lu@usi.ch)  
 web [www.bul.sbu.usi.ch](http://www.bul.sbu.usi.ch)

**Property and Facilities Service**

office Main Building, Office 169  
 e-mail [logistica.lu@usi.ch](mailto:logistica.lu@usi.ch)

**Psychological Counselling Service**

e-mail [info@psicologi-ticino.ch](mailto:info@psicologi-ticino.ch)  
 web [www.psicologi-ticino.ch](http://www.psicologi-ticino.ch)

**Quality Assurance Service**

office Main Building, Office 227  
 tel + 41 58 666 41 99  
 e-mail [quality@usi.ch](mailto:quality@usi.ch)

**Research and Transfer Service**

office Main Building, Office 228  
 tel + 41 58 666 46 14  
 e-mail [servizio.ricerca@usi.ch](mailto:servizio.ricerca@usi.ch)  
 web [www.ticinoricerca.ch](http://www.ticinoricerca.ch)

**Security Service**

office Main Building, Office 169  
 tel + 41 58 666 47 30  
 e-mail [sicurezza@usi.ch](mailto:sicurezza@usi.ch)

**Sport Service**

office Lugano East Campus  
 tel + 41 58 666 47 97  
 e-mail [sport@usi.ch](mailto:sport@usi.ch)  
 web [www.sport.usi.ch](http://www.sport.usi.ch)

**Startup Promotion Center (CP StartUp)**

office Lugano East Campus  
 tel + 41 58 666 41 64  
 e-mail [startup@usi.ch](mailto:startup@usi.ch)  
 web [www.startup.usi.ch](http://www.startup.usi.ch)

**Study Advisory and Promotion Service**

office Main Building, Office 303 (Level 3)  
 tel + 41 58 666 47 95  
 web [www.usi.ch/it/contattaci](http://www.usi.ch/it/contattaci)

**Web Service**

office Main Building, Office 210  
 tel + 41 58 666 45 15  
 e-mail [web@usi.ch](mailto:web@usi.ch)

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**Student  
associations**

Several student associations have been created within the University. The main objectives are to improve relations between students and the institution and to enrich the range of educational and recreational offer during school. The associations are concerned mainly with the collection of didactic material, organisation of parties and meetings, cultural and sporting events, and networking among University students and the business world.  
[www.desk.usi.ch/en/list-acknowledged-student-associations](http://www.desk.usi.ch/en/list-acknowledged-student-associations)

More information:

[www.usi.ch/en/administration-and-services](http://www.usi.ch/en/administration-and-services)

**Association  
of medical  
students**

The first students of the Master of Medicine founded in 2020 a medical student association called SMUSI - Studenti di Medicina dell'USI.

For further information please contact: [smusi@usi.ch](mailto:smusi@usi.ch).

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**Master of Medicine**

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The USI Master of Medicine is a 6-semester graduate-level study program of medical training for undergraduate students. The study curriculum of the Master combines the most modern teaching methods and trends available today with the strong model of the Swiss academic tradition. It offers an innovative, attractive, and motivating education, including extensive clinical practice, discussion of clinical cases and practical exercises in small groups, enabling close dialogue with professors and lecturers.

The language of tuition of the Master of Medicine is English. Italian will also be used during the clinical practice.

**First to fourth semester:  
clinical training**

During the first four semesters, clinical training takes place, whereby each of the four semesters contains three modules of four weeks each, plus two special weeks.

For the modules, the students are divided into three groups (approx. 18 to 24 students). The groups rotate every four weeks, through three modules. For clinical discussions and practical cases, each group is divided into three small groups of six to eight students. During the two days of clinical activity, the student-teacher ratio is even smaller, namely two to one, whenever possible. At the end of each semester, there will be an exam session.

## First Semester

- Circulation (heart and vessels)
- Children and adolescents
- Homeostasis (respiration, hemodynamics, fluids and electrolytes)
- Immune disorders (immunology, rheumatology, dermatology)
- Two special weeks: general introduction

## Second Semester

- Children and adolescents
- Women (gynecology and obstetrics)
- Circulating cells and signaling (hematology and endocrinology)
- Two special weeks: bench to bedside

## Third semester

- Abdominal organs (liver, kidney, intestine)
- Skelton (orthopedics, traumatology)
- Critical care (anesthesiology, intensive care, emergency)
- Two special weeks: training at a pediatric practice

## Fourth Semester

- Nervous system (neurology, neurosurgery)
- Personality and cognition (psychiatry, medical psychology)
- Head and neck organs (ORL, ophthalmology)
- Two special weeks: training at a family doctor practice

<b>Clinical activity</b>	During the first four semesters of the Master, two days a week are dedicated to clinical training with pre-defined student shifts in clinical institutions (EOC hospitals, private clinics, and other partners). The aim is to have a ratio of two students per each tutor, to give to students the opportunity to interact closely with the patients and benefit the most from the bedside teaching. Furthermore, during clinical training, students will apply the theoretical knowledge acquired in the classroom on campus and experience what the daily practice in the ward is like.
<b>Transversal topics</b>	Other clinical subjects are taught transversely over the first four semesters and are included in the relevant modules. A comprehensive curriculum is thus created with this well-conceived matrix of disciplinary modules and transversal topics, which combines and networks knowledge and skills from different disciplines.
<b>Clinical semesters weekly schedule</b>	A typical week during a clinical semester consists of 60% on-campus teaching and 40% in the clinic. During the days on campus, module-related lectures, case discussions and practical exercises take place in small groups. The other two days the students are in clinical facilities. The intensive bedside teaching allows students to immerse into real clinical activities. Through the close supervision of one tutor for every two students, everyday hospital life is experienced at first hand and students learn what the medical profession entails. Each week ends with an hour of assessment, to review the weekly topics, to do a Q&A session, or to give and receive feedback.
<b>Optional courses</b>	<p>Optional courses allow the students to personalize their curriculum by choosing specific subjects of their interest. Each optional course is held on Monday afternoon in small groups of 5-10 students and lasts 6 weeks (6 x 2h), or 3 weeks (3 x 4h). Students are required to attend a total of four optional courses per year.</p> <p>The optional courses for the academic year 2021-22 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Airways Management Techniques;</li> <li>• Clinical Toxicology;</li> <li>• Bandages, casts and braces and wound treatment;</li> <li>• Basic principles of ATLS and polytrauma management at ER;</li> <li>• Point of care ultrasound POCUS;</li> <li>• From full consciousness to cerebral death;</li> <li>• Pediatric emergency room;</li> <li>• The human immune system and cancer;</li> <li>• Clinical, surgical and radiological anatomy of neck, chest and abdomen;</li> <li>• Practical laboratory hematology;</li> <li>• Autoimmune diseases in neurology;</li> <li>• Cardiovascular risk assessment in children and young adults;</li> <li>• Sleep medicine;</li> <li>• Signs, symptoms and approach to the cancer patient and his care givers;</li> </ul>

### Fifth semester - Elective term

During this time, students are required to engage for 6 months in full-time internships at different clinics of their own choice. At the clinics, students will be employed as medical candidates (CandMed) and will work under the strict supervision of assistant physicians.

Students are responsible for the organization of their own internship and must submit the program of their Elective term to the Dean's office by 15 July of the fourth semester. After completion of the clinical internship, students must hand in their signed certificates by 30 March of the sixth semester. Further details may be found in the Directives for the Elective Term available on the Faculty website.

### Sixth semester

#### Master thesis

Writing a Master thesis is mandatory for all medical students and is a prerequisite for the admission to the Federal exam. The Master thesis is an individual, scientific document, in which students prove their ability to use methodological tools to analyze and investigate a topic related to clinical medicine, biomedicine, computational science or human sciences. Students can either choose a topic from a list of more than 100 proposals or define their thesis topic together with their thesis director. Once the topic is defined, students need to fill in the "Master thesis agreement" and submit it into the Dean's office by e-mail. The required documents are available on the Faculty website. The first four weeks of the sixth semester are for the completion of the Master thesis.

#### Complementary subjects

During the sixth semester, complementary subjects will be scheduled to give students the opportunity to go into further detail of specific topics (e.g. forensic medicine, sport medicine, DAK Dienstärztkurs, etc.).

#### Repetition and preparation

At the end of the last semester, repetition classes take place to ensure that students are duly prepared for the Federal exam.

- Machine learning for medical students;
- E-Health: a new dimension to modern medical practice;
- Did you say blood in the brain?;
- Approach to children and adults with genetic disease in the age of new technologies;
- Imaging-based Cardiac anatomy.

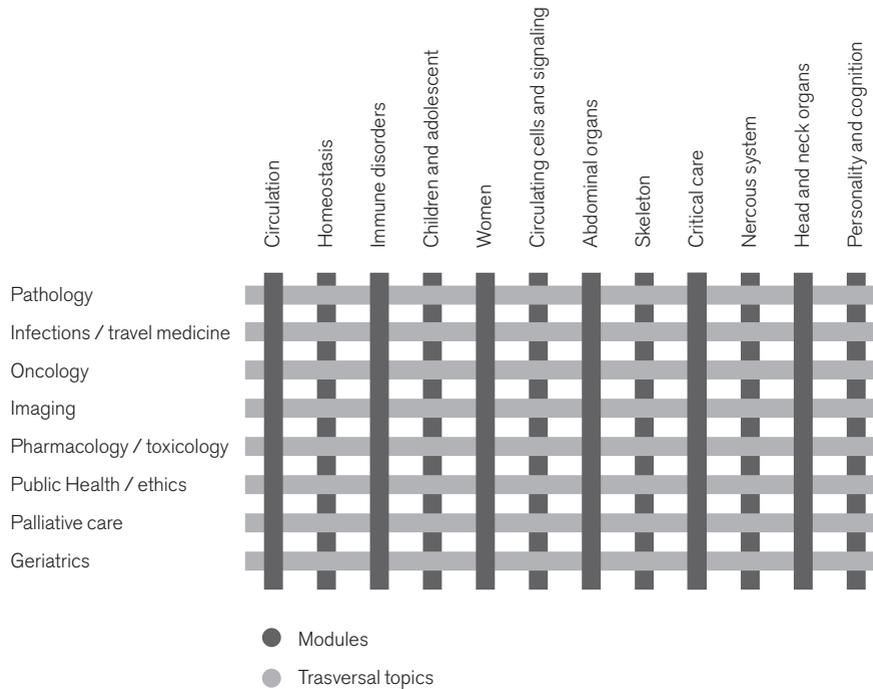
## General curriculum structure

<b>First semester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulation (heart and vessels)</li> <li>• Homeostasis (respiration, hemodynamics, fluids and electrolytes)</li> <li>• Immune disorders (immunology, rheumatology, dermatology)</li> <li>• Two special weeks: general introduction</li> </ul>
<b>Second semester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and adolescents</li> <li>• Women (gynecology and obstetrics)</li> <li>• Circulating cells and signaling (hematology and endocrinology)</li> <li>• Two special weeks: bench to bedside</li> </ul>
<b>Third semester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abdominal organs (liver, kidney, intestine)</li> <li>• Skelton (orthopedics, traumatology)</li> <li>• Critical care (anesthesiology, intensive care, emergency)</li> <li>• Two special weeks: training at a pediatric practice</li> </ul>
<b>Fourth semester</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nervous system (neurology, neurosurgery)</li> <li>• Personality and cognition (psychiatry, medical psychology)</li> <li>• Head and neck organs (ORL, ophthalmology)</li> <li>• Two special weeks: training at a family doctor practice</li> </ul>
<b>Fifth semester</b>	Elective term
<b>Sixth semester</b>	Master thesis, repetition and training for federal exam

## Study programme

Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
<b>First semester</b>															
Group A	General introduction	Circulation			Homeostasis			Immune disorders			Exams				
Group B		Immune disorders			Circulation			Homeostasis							
Group C		Homeostasis			Immune disorders			Circulation							
<b>Second semester</b>															
Group A	Children and adolescents			Women			Bench to bedside	Circulating cells and signaling			Exams				
Group B	Circulating cells and signaling			Children and adolescents				Women							
Group C	Women			Circulating cells and signaling				Children and adolescents							
<b>Third semester</b>															
Group A	Pediatric practice	Critical care				Pediatrics	Skeleton		Abdominal organs			Exams			
Group B	Abdominal organs			Pediatric practice	Critical care			Pediatrics	Skeleton						
Group C	Pediatrics	Skeleton		Abdominal organs			Pediatric practice	Critical care							
<b>Fourth semester</b>															
Group A	Family doctor practice	Nervous system			Head and neck organs			Personality and cognition			Exams				
Group B	Personality and cognition			Family doctor practice	Nervous system			Head and neck organs							
Group C	Head and neck organs			Personality and cognition			Family doctor practice	Nervous system							
<b>Fifth semester</b>															
Elective term (6 months)															
<b>Sixth semester</b>															
Master thesis					Complementary subjects, repetition and preparation					Exams					

## Transversal topics



## Clinical semesters Typical weekly schedule

### First year

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30 –10.15	Theoretical lessons Transversal themes (all)	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)	Theoretical lessons (3 groups)	Theoretical lessons (3 groups)
10.30 –12.15	Theoretical lessons Multidisciplinary (all)			Discussion of clinical cases or practical exercises (in groups of 6-8)	Discussion of clinical cases or practical exercises (in groups of 6-8)
12.30 –13.15					Assessment and feedback (3 groups)
13.30 –15.15	Optional subjects	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)	Own case portfolio preparation	Individual study	Individual study
15.30 –17.15	Optional subjects				

### Second year

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30 –10.15	Theoretical lessons Transversal themes (all)	Theoretical lessons (3 groups)	Theoretical lessons (3 groups)	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)
10.30 –12.15	Theoretical lessons Multidisciplinary (all)	Discussion of clinical cases or practical exercises (in groups of 6-8)	Discussion of clinical cases or practical exercises (in groups of 6-8)		
12.30 –13.15			Assessment and feedback (3 groups)		
13.30 –15.15	Optional subjects	Individual study	Individual study	Clinical activity at hospital (2:1 students with a senior)	Own case portfolio preparation
15.30 –17.15	Optional subjects				

**Semester enrollment renewal**

Enrolled students of the Master of Medicine will receive, near the end of each semester, an e-mail asking to confirm their willingness to pursue their studies in the following semester. After this confirmation, the semester tuition fee invoice is issued. Following the receipt of the payment, students will be able to download their enrollment certificate. More information under: [www.desk.usi.ch/en/certificates](http://www.desk.usi.ch/en/certificates)

**Fees and scholarships****Fees**

Tuition fee for all students enrolled in a Bachelor or a Master at USI is CHF 4'000 per semester. Tuition for applicants whose residence was in Switzerland or Liechtenstein at the time of obtaining the high school diploma (Matura) is CHF 2'000 per semester. The only exception is the Elective Term, for which the tuition fee is reduced to CHF 500 for all students. Fees must be paid before the beginning of each semester, as per the deadline on the invoice.

**Scholarship**

The IBSA Foundation for Scientific Research firmly believes that faith in the future can be obtained by building solid foundations through education and specialized research. Therefore, every year the IBSA Foundation for Scientific Research offers scholarships to USI students in medicine. More information about the regulation of the IBSA scholarships and on how to apply can be found on the Faculty website [www.biomed.usi.ch/en/study/study-medicine/fees-and-scholarships](http://www.biomed.usi.ch/en/study/study-medicine/fees-and-scholarships).

Students take examinations at the conclusion of semester 1-4 and 6.

The examinations will focus on the main topics studied during each semester. They will be structured to simulate the Federal exam in medicine.

**Multiple-choice written exams**

1. The multiple-choice written examination (MC) is a test in which the knowledge and skills acquired during the prior semester are evaluated.
2. The exam takes place at the end of the semester.
3. For the transition to the following year, the average of the two semester MC exams is applied.
4. A maximum of two exam retakes per year are permitted. A third failure leads to exclusion from medical studies at any Swiss university.

**The Objective Clinical Structured Examination (OSCE)**

1. The OSCE is a practical test that evaluates the clinical capabilities of students.
2. At the end of the first four semesters, an OSCE of four stations takes place, whilst at the end of the 6. semester, the OSCE consists of 12 stations to simulate the Federal examination.
3. Each station will involve the active participation of actors simulating a designated clinical case.
4. The assessment criteria of the OSCE are disclosed to the students.
5. The OSCE of the first and second semester are formative.
6. For the transition to the fifth semester, the sum of the two OSCE of the third and fourth semester applies.

**Evaluation**

1. Assessments of written examinations are numerical. On a scale of 1 to 10 with increments of 0.5, where 10 is the highest and 6 the minimum pass mark.
2. Assessments for OSCE are pass/fail.
3. The written examination assessed with a grade less than 6 may be repeated a maximum of two times.

## Exam enrollment

4. The failed OSCE may not be repeated but calls for the repetition of the year.
5. The ECTS credits are acquired when the relevant examination is passed.

1. A student who is duly enrolled in the Faculty and who has paid the tuition fees may register for the exams.
2. The registration must be done online.
3. If a candidate has registered for, been admitted to or taken an exam without being entitled to it, the exam will be considered null and is void by the secretariat at the time of registration of the grade.

### Re-take exams

The repetition session of the MC exam is organized for repeaters or students who had to interrupt the ordinary exam for valid reasons and takes place in August. The OSCE cannot be repeated.

### Federal exam

The Federal exam in medicine takes place upon completion of the 3-year Master of Medicine program and only once the student has obtained the Master's degree. It includes two separate exams:

- MC Exam, divided in two parts taking place on two separate days;
- Clinical skills exam, following the principles of an OSCE.

## Leave of absence

In the event of maternity, compulsory military or community service, severe illness or other circumstances, which, in the opinion of the Dean, represent significant obstacle for the proper conduct of studies, the student may be granted a leave of absence that, as a rule, may not exceed two semesters. Any exception is subject to the authorization of the Dean.

The student on a leave maintains his or her enrollment by paying a reduced tuition fee of CHF 100 per semester (as per the *USI regulations for admission and enrollment*) and retains the benefits connected with student status, but is excluded from attending any classes or any other degree related activity.

As a rule, in this case students do not have the right to take exams. The student on a leave of absence in the autumn semester is suspended from the following winter examination session. Students on leave in the spring semester are suspended from the following summer sessions.

During maternity, military or community service or severe illness leave, it is possible to take the exams of courses that have already been attended. (see *Study Regulations, Art.30*). For any of these absences, a Leave Request Application Form must be submitted, in original, to the Dean's Office.

USI allows students to spend a period of study at another university or academic institution, preferably in a different linguistic area, with the aim of fostering and broadening cultural, scientific and linguistic perspectives and, of course, increasing the student's personal skills. For both incoming and outgoing mobility, the available programs are Swiss Mobility and SEMP. Due to the complex Master of Medicine study plan structure, mobility programs outside Europe, as well as any other study abroad programs, are not applicable.

### Swiss Mobility

Students have the possibility to spend a period of study at another Swiss university. A framework agreement signed by all Swiss universities guarantees full mutual acknowledgement of study semesters and curricula, as well as validation of credits obtained from related course assessment work and examinations.

#### Swiss-European Mobility Program (SEMP)

Within the framework of the SEMP, it is possible to study in one of the European partner universities on a temporary basis. SEMP does not include any requests of mobility in which the destination is the student's country of residence at the time of the studies at USI. The list of partner universities for Swiss mobility e SEMP is available at the USI International Relations and Study Abroad Service webpage [www.usi.ch/en/university/info/relint/exchange/partner-universities](http://www.usi.ch/en/university/info/relint/exchange/partner-universities).

The full text of the Academic Mobility Regulations for the Master of Medicine is available at the Faculty website [www.biomed.usi.ch/en/practical-information/regulations-and-forms](http://www.biomed.usi.ch/en/practical-information/regulations-and-forms)

### Outgoing Mobility

For outgoing mobility programs, stays are limited to the duration of one semester during the second, third, fourth or sixth semester. Students who involve in a mobility program during the second, third or fourth semester have to ensure the achievement of 30 ECTS during the semester of mobility. Students on mobility during the sixth semester must return in time (month of June) to take the final

exams of the Master of Medicine at USI. These exams are mandatory for obtaining the final Master's degree. In addition, the Master thesis must be handed in by the defined deadlines (end of May, sixth semester). The student has to guarantee the achievement of the remaining 15 ECTS during the mobility stay of the sixth semester.

The mobility application form must be submitted to the USI International Relations and Study Abroad Service by 23 February for mobility programs starting in autumn and by 25 September for starting in spring.

For more information, please refer to the Mobility service Relint website [www.usi.ch/en/university/info/relint/exchange/students](http://www.usi.ch/en/university/info/relint/exchange/students).

USI offers intensive Italian language courses taking place before the beginning of the autumn and spring semester as well as regular Italian language courses during each semester. All non-Italian speaking students are invited to participate, free of charge.

For more information, please refer to [www.italiancourse.usi.ch](http://www.italiancourse.usi.ch).

### **USILuNet**

USILuNet is the portal where the student can access a series of online services such as exams management, job offers, webmail, iCorsi platform, print summary, FAQ on how to configure devices, etc. Each student has a personal USILuNet page: [www.usilu.net](http://www.usilu.net).

### **iCorsi**

iCorsi3 is the e-learning platform of USI. The platform enables students to download or consult teaching materials, take examinations online using the Safe Exam Browser program and has many more features. To access the platform, please use your personal NetID: [www.icorsi.ch](http://www.icorsi.ch).

### **Exams**

Exam registration and consultation [www.esami.lu.usi.ch](http://www.esami.lu.usi.ch)

### **University Library Lugano**

The USI Lugano campus library holds a wide collection of paper and electronic books, as well as periodicals in all areas of study, providing individual study spaces and photocopying services: <https://it.bul.sbu.usi.ch>.

### **AMBOSS**

AMBOSS provides global access to a holistic platform for medical students to study and prepare for medical exams: [www.amboss.com](http://www.amboss.com). Students will receive a license for the English AMBOSS platform at the beginning of their Master studies.

### **Checkpoint**

Checkpoint is a platform following PROFILES, for documentation and monitoring of the acquisition of clinical skills. Students will use this platform for the evaluation of clinical practice and during their elective term.

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Plan of studies

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**2021/22**

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