



Studying without Borders  
Thurgau University of Teacher  
Education, Switzerland



*Lehre*  
*Weiterbildung*  
*Forschung*

**Information for International Students and Partners**

# Welcome to PHTG

The Thurgau University of Teacher Education (PHTG) is an open, multi-cultural university providing high quality pre-service and in-service teacher education and engaging in educational research. Our location in the heart of Europe and our commitment to internationalisation allow for a unique study experience without borders.

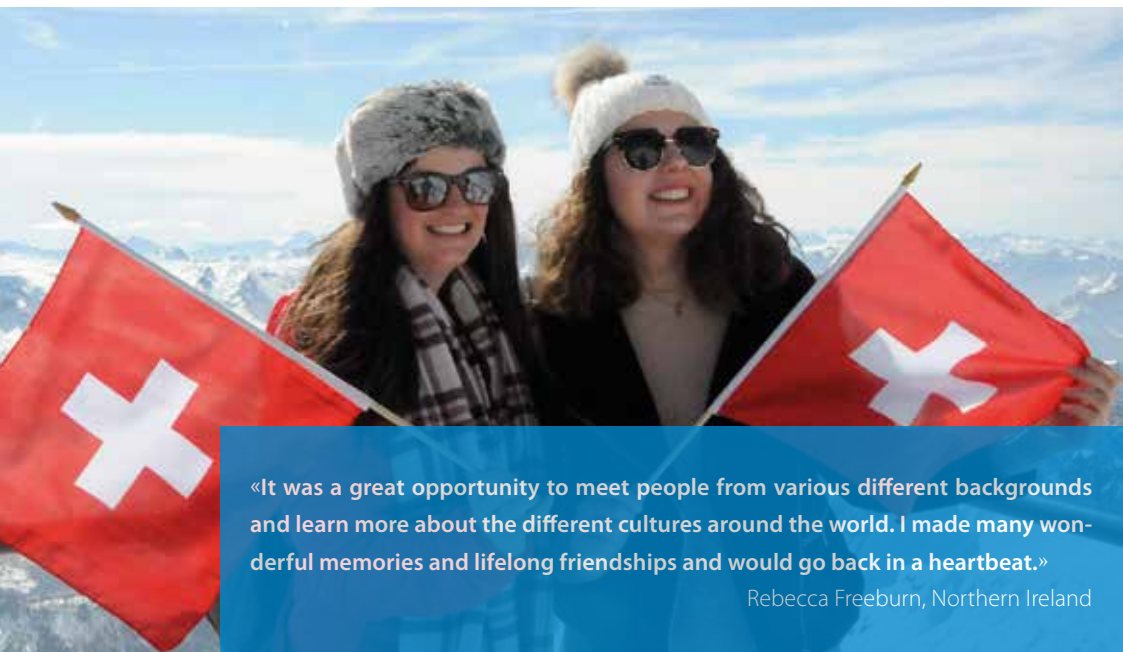
## **A modern campus in an attractive, central location**

With around 800 students we are a small community with a friendly atmosphere. Our students and lecturers offer a warm welcome to visiting exchange students and staff who can count on tailor-made programmes and everybody's helpfulness.

The new and purpose-built PHTG Campus is fully equipped with modern facilities, such as a library providing students and staff with a quiet environment for research and study and a New Media Centre offering the latest audio-visual equipment. Other facilities are specialist to the subjects we offer and include science labs, art studios, athletic fields and gyms as well as fully equipped design & technology, handicrafts and music rooms. All teaching rooms are equipped with advanced media technology and e-learning is facilitated where possible.



**PHTG is located in Kreuzlingen, a border town in the north-east corner of Switzerland and only an hour from Zurich, Switzerland's biggest city. Due to its central and unique location on the shores of Lake Constance Kreuzlingen is an attractive, yet by Swiss standards very affordable town.**



«It was a great opportunity to meet people from various different backgrounds and learn more about the different cultures around the world. I made many wonderful memories and lifelong friendships and would go back in a heartbeat.»

Rebecca Freeburn, Northern Ireland

## Study Programmes

All study programmes at PHTG are research-based and include extended teaching practice periods.

Our credit system is based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) and student workload is expressed in terms of ECTS credits. In ECTS, 30 credits represent one semester of full-time study.

### Bachelor programmes

In three years of full-time study students are trained in pre-primary (Kindergarten) or primary school education (grades 1 to 6). The degree awarded by PHTG to successful candidates is the Bachelor of Arts in Pre-Primary/Primary Education. Courses concentrate not only on teaching skills and practical training but also on many individual subjects (including music, arts & crafts and foreign languages).

### Master programmes

PHTG further offers two Master Programmes for teaching at secondary school level.

The MA course «**Sekundarstufe I**» qualifies students to teach 3 to 4 subjects in lower secondary schools (grades 7 to 9).

The MA course «**Sekundarstufe II**» enables students who have previously completed a degree programme at a Master's level to gain a teaching qualification and includes modules in education and methodology whilst offering practical training. Successful students are awarded the degree of Master of Advanced Studies in Secondary and Higher Education and are qualified to teach their subjects at a post-16 level (grades 9 to 12).

Another Master Programme, the «**MA in Early Childhood**», is designed for students wishing to become experts in the field of early childhood education.

# Cross-border Collaboration

PHTG is only a few minutes away from the Swiss-German border and therefore has been able to establish a unique collaboration with the neighbouring University of Konstanz in Germany (officially classed as one of Germany's «Universities of Excellence»).

## **Our unique partnership with the University of Konstanz**

All of PHTG's Master degrees are offered in cooperation with this university where students acquire their in-depth academic knowledge related to their chosen subject areas. Furthermore, selected lectures and (language) courses taught at the University of Konstanz can be attended by all PHTG students who also have access to the university's impressive library and sports facilities.

## **Studying without borders at our Binational School of Education**

The establishment of a Binational School of Education (BiSE) by PHTG and the University of Konstanz has taken this mutually beneficial collaboration to yet another level.

BiSE was founded as part of an initiative to promote innovative education for school teachers by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. As a cross-university teaching and research initiative it will further strengthen the professionalisation of teacher education and support the development of research in the field of specialised didactics: [bise.uni-konstanz.de](http://bise.uni-konstanz.de)



### **Other Partners and International Programmes**

Study and teaching abroad opportunities are numerous and well-embedded in all of PHTG's study programmes thanks to our many links to other European universities and colleges. We further support the mobility of students, lecturers and researchers through individual co-operations outside the European Union, as we fully recognise the importance of being part of a global network and exchanging ideas about (teacher) education and internationalisation.



## Five Reasons to do an Exchange at PHTG

1. A range of courses taught in English is available for exchange students with little or no knowledge of German.
2. Exchange students attend our practice and research-oriented courses together with regular PHTG students to ensure a culturally mixed classroom environment.
3. Tailor-made school placements and German language courses form an integral part of an exchange semester at PHTG.
4. Exchange students may complement their study programme at PHTG with courses offered by the German University of Konstanz and thus get to study in two countries during their semester abroad.
5. PHTG provides exchange students with affordable accommodation in fully furnished and centrally located student apartments as well as a bicycle.

## Further Information

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