

Master degree

Good news for our students at the School of Design St.Gallen! We are excited to announce a collaboration between the School of Design St.Gallen and Leeds Arts University. Starting from September 2024, this partnership will enable students to pursue a 1-year Master's degree program in the UK.

The postgraduate courses, leading to a «Master of Arts» (MA) degree, are taught in English and offer excellent options such as «Creative Practice», «Graphic Design», or «Photography». This full-time program is dedicated to enhancing your design skills and bolstering your creative and cognitive abilities.

An exciting time awaits you in the «design country England» with bright prospects for the future and improved job opportunities, both domestically and internationally.

For your reference

Higher technical colleges have been supported by SERI, the State Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation, since 2005, including those specializing in design since 2010. There are a total of eight types of PET (Professional Education and Training) colleges. As of 2012, approximately 170 PET colleges offer around 400 courses throughout Switzerland. In terms of higher professional education qualifications, there are approximately 7000 HF diplomas awarded per year, with around 500 in the field of design.

<https://www.sbf.admin.ch/> / <http://www.odec.ch>

The environment

The European Higher Education Area (EHEA) was established through the Bologna Process in 1999. Important cornerstones are the three-tier study system (Bachelor, Master, and Doctorate), the ECTS credit point system, and the introduction of national qualification frameworks.

Classification of higher technical colleges

Since 2011, ISCED has given Bachelor's degrees with 180 ECTS points and HF training courses the same status.

ISCED Classification

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), a UNESCO classification system, enables national and international comparisons of education systems. In this framework, the HF degree is at level 6 out of a total of 8 levels, on par with a Bachelor's degree from a university or university of applied sciences. The ISCED was initially developed in the 1970s. As part of its revision in 2011, the tertiary level was extended to levels 6 to 8, thereby raising the Bachelor's and HF degrees from level 5 to level 6. The Swiss Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Education (EDK) offers a comprehensive overview of the Swiss education system and its subdivision into the individual ISCED levels. The ISCED classification is based on national classification systems and the duration of the training programs.

National qualification

- NQF (National Quality Framework) Standard levels by type of qualification **(8 levels)**
- Federal Vocational Certificate EBA: **3**
- Federal Certificate of Competence EFZ: **4**
- Federal certificate of proficiency: **5**
- Higher technical college diploma (HF)/Bachelor's degree/Federal Diploma: **6**
- Master's degree: **7**
- Doctorate: **8**



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Leeds Arts University, Blenheim Walk, Leeds LS2 9AQ
© Leeds Arts University Homepage

Seize the opportunity to pursue a Master's degree in the UK after earning your HF Diploma. For more information, visit Leeds Arts University. Jenny Oxley and her team are eager to provide further guidance. Here are some key details to get you started:

Leeds Arts University

This is possible at Leeds Arts University, UK
<https://www.leeds-art.ac.uk/>.

Jenny Oxley and her team from Leeds are happy to offer you more advice. Here are a few facts in advance:

Application

Registration starts in October for the following academic year. If you register before 1 July, you are guaranteed a place in student accommodation or with recommended landlords.

- Register online!
- Check exactly which program suits you best.
The Master's degree programs are self-directed, so you will need to provide your own topics.
- Upload your digital portfolio.
- Pay £ 5.000 as a deposit.
- Fill out a brief questionnaire with two questions to test your motivation and commitment.
 - Why did you choose the work in your portfolio?
 - Why did you choose this program?
- Complete another short survey to help you fill out your visa application correctly.

Structure

The postgraduate courses follow a trimester system:

- 1st Trimester: Mid-September to Mid-January
- 2nd Trimester: Mid-January to April
- 3rd Trimester: April to June
- Holidays: July, August, and September

The program commences with a one-week introduction, followed by an international working day, teaching sessions from April to July, assessments, and your final graduation show.

Cost / Fees

£ 18,000 p.a.

Visa

You need to organize the visa yourself. Plan enough time to apply. You should apply at least six months before the start of your program. The cost of a student visa is currently £ 348. The current costs on the university website or the ministry website apply.

A student visa for 1 academic year is valid for 1.5 years. If you want to stay longer and work in the UK, you can apply for a new visa during this time without having to provide proof of employment.

Work

While you're participating in the full-time program, you're allowed to work up to 20 hours a week. During the holidays, you're allowed to work 100% (full-time). The university offers a number of student jobs.

English Language Skills

You need an English language test score in the range of 5.5–6.5, depending on your chosen field of study. Preparation courses are also available at varying fees, tailored to your current proficiency level.

IELTS.ch <https://ielts.ch/about-ielts/ielts-test-types/ielts-academic/>

This test will provide you with a grade reflecting your English level.

Here you have the comparison with other providers:
[https://ielts.ch/about-ielts/ielts-test-types/ielts-academic/#iLightbox\[49bf81734647fd596eb\]/0](https://ielts.ch/about-ielts/ielts-test-types/ielts-academic/#iLightbox[49bf81734647fd596eb]/0)

The cost of the academic test is CHF 370 for paper-based and CHF 390 for computer-delivered.

Preparation courses are also offered for a fee. Here you can start exactly where your level is.

Good Luck!

Please stay in touch with us and let us know how you got on with your application and your stay.

