Studying at USI Università della Svizzera italiana

Practical information
Table of Contents

**USI, a brief description**
USI Università della Svizzera italiana 4
Programmes offered at USI 5
USI in Numbers 6

**The University Campuses**
The Lugano Campus 8
The Mendrisio Campus 12

**Studying at USI**
Fees and Registration 15
Scholarships 16
Academic Calendar 19

**Student Services**
International Relations and Study-abroad Office 20
USI Career Service 21
USI Alumni 22
Start-up Promotion’s Centre 22
Accommodation Service 23
Psychological Counselling Service 24
Lugano Campus Computer Service 24
Copy Center 25
USI-SUPSI Sport Service 25
USI Student Associations 26

**Living in Ticino**
Switzerland and its Italian-speaking Region 27
Visa and Residence Permit 29
Insurances 31
Other useful Information 33
Emergency Phone Numbers 34
USI Links 35

**Useful contacts**
Lugano useful contacts 36
Map of Lugano 37
Map of the Lugano public transportation 38
Mendrisio useful contacts 40
Map of Mendrisio 41
Useful Links 42
USI Università della Svizzera italiana

USI, sometimes referred to as the University of Lugano, is one of the 12 certified public universities in Switzerland coordinated by swissuniversities. Established in 1996, USI has grown steadily and includes today five Faculties: Architecture, Economics, Communication Sciences, Informatics and Biomedical Sciences. USI currently counts also two affiliated entities, the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB, Bellinzona) and the Dalle Molle Institute for Artificial Intelligence (IDSIA, Manno).

Its small size, the direct interactions between students and Faculty, the seamless mix of different disciplines, the generous space and the state-of-the-art technical infrastructure make USI the ideal place to study and conduct research.

International
USI is a multilingual university with a strong international reach, with students hailing from over 100 different countries. This international attitude translates into a wide range of study programmes in English, thus opening USI to horizons that go beyond national borders: in addition to the Bachelor in Informatics, USI offers 15 graduate-level (Master) programmes in English.

Innovative
Study curricula at USI are consistently updated and improved, thanks to the close relationship between research and tuition. In addition, the diverse geographic and professional backgrounds of professors and lecturers, with their innovative perspectives, allow for an enriched classroom experience.

Interdisciplinary
The interdisciplinary approach allows students to broaden their horizons by taking courses offered in other USI Faculties and at partner universities, thus customizing their own education.

Connected
USI is well connected to the job market. Internships in companies and institutions in Switzerland and abroad are an essential component of students’ study curricula. Case studies, field projects and interaction between students and professionals enable our students to put their theoretical knowledge into practice.
Programmes offered at USI

USI’s Bachelor Degrees
www.bachelor.usi.ch
USI offers five Bachelor programmes: in Mendrisio Architecture (in Italian) and in Lugano Economics (in Italian), Communication Sciences (in Italian), Italian language, literature and culture (in Italian) and Informatics (in English). The Bachelor degrees are all full time and take 6 semesters to complete (corresponding to 180 ECTS credits). The Bachelor degree offers a basic and solid knowledge in each field of study through theory and practical exercise (case studies, laboratories, ateliers). USI’s Bachelor degrees give students the possibility of entering the job market or continue their studies with a Master degree.

USI’s Master Degrees
www.master.usi.ch
USI offers 20 Master programmes in Architecture, Economics, Communication Sciences and Informatics, of which 15 are held in English. Masters at USI are full time and usually take 3-4 semesters to complete (that correspond to 90-120 ETCS credits). The Master degrees provide high specialisation in both professional training and academic research.

Italian Courses
Intensive Italian courses are offered for free at the University in the weeks preceding the start of the academic year (www.italiancourse.usi.ch), and throughout the year. Italian courses are also provided by a number of language schools in Lugano, in particular the Istituto di lingua e cultura italiana, ILI (www.scuolaili.ch). Other language schools can be found through the website www4.ti.ch/decs/dfp/cpa/corsi-per-adulti (in Italian).

Other Language Courses offered at USI
Individual Faculties organise specific language courses for their Bachelor programmes. www.corsilingua.usi.ch
USI in Numbers

- 5 Faculties
- 47 Research institutes
- 5 Bachelor Degrees
- 20 Master Degrees
- 10 Doctoral Programmes
- 7 Executive Master

2964 Students from over 80 different countries of which:
- 2493 Bachelor and Master students
- 274 Doctoral students
- 197 Executive Master students

964 Staff members of which:
- 109 Professors
- 212 Adjunct professors
- 496 Assistants
- 147 Staff

**USI, Lugano:**
Faculty of Economics
Faculty of Communication Sciences
Faculty of Informatics

**USI, Mendrisio:**
Academy of Architecture

www.usi.ch
Campus Lugano
The Lugano Campus

Located on the outskirts of the city center, the campus is founded on the site of the former city hospital. Entirely restructured, today the main building accommodates the administrative and academic offices of the Faculties of Economics and Communication Sciences, some classrooms, computer rooms, a cafeteria, and the Auditorium. The grounds surrounding the main building include a number of functional and modern units, fully furnished with the latest technical equipment and infrastructure: the Library, the Aula Magna, the ‘Red Building’ with classrooms, the building of the Faculty of Informatics and the Technological Laboratory (LAB).

Lugano University Library
The library provides its services to all visitors interested in the subjects studied at the university. Most library collections are available on the shelf, including a wide range of periodical publications. Equally wide is the electronic document collection. Among the range of services provided by the library are the Interlibrary Loan and the Reference Office staff that offers advice and assistance. Individual study areas and computers are also available. The fourth floor provides individual study space for master students. The library is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 10pm, and Saturdays from 9am to 12.15pm. The opening hours are reduced in the summer. All information about the library may be found on the website en.bul.sbu.usi.ch.
Access, Study Areas, Computers, Wi-Fi and Photocopies
With an electronic ID card, USI students have access (24 hours/7 days a week) to the main building. Several computers with printers, study areas and open spaces are made available to students. A security guard patrols the campus buildings after office hours. Throughout the Lugano campus it is possible to connect to the internet via the wireless network. Students may use the photocopying machines located on the first floor of the Lugano campus library: to access them, a magnetic card is necessary, on sale from the main counter (CHF 20 for 150 copies; CHF 40 for 320 copies).

Cafeteria
The cafeteria is situated in the main building and is open Monday to Friday from 7.45 till 5.30pm. It offers 3 choices of meals*:
Menu of the day at 11.00 CHF (student price)
Pasta dish at 7.50 CHF (student price)
Vegetarian dish at 10.00 CHF (student price)
*All menu prices are subject to change.
For the reduced student price, please show the student ID card. The cafeteria is closed during the Christmas holidays and the first two weeks in August.

The weekly menu can be found on the website www.usi.ch/en/meals_in_the_city. There are also many restaurants, bars and take-aways in the proximity of the university.
How to get to Campus

By Car
A2 Motorway: exit Lugano Nord, follow the direction “Lugano-Gandria” to the Vedeggio Cassarate Tunnel. Exit the tunnel and keep going straight till you reach a crossroad (the stadium is in front of you), turn left at the crossroad onto via alla Bozzoreda. Keep the right lane and turn right at the traffic light onto via Ciani. Keep going straight following the river Cassarate. The underground University parking lot is passed the second traffic light after the Glass Building (The Lab) on your right. If you need to reach the University entrance instead, keep going straight passed the parking lot entrance and turn second right onto via Fusoni. Turn second right onto Via Lambertenghi and keep going straight till the end of the road until you see the University main building in front of you.

By Train - bus
The Campus can be reached on foot or by bus from Lugano’s main train station (www.ffs.ch).
- by bus from the train station: go to the bus stop across the street from the train station and take the bus 6 direction Cornaredo and get off at Università (3 stops).
- by bus from downtown Lugano: to walk downtown, take the pedestrian bridge across the station and follow the path downhill. From Piazza Cioccaro head south until you reach Piazza Dante. Walk across the piazza and turn left onto Via Pretorio to reach the bus terminal. Take the Bus 5 direction Viganello and get off at Università (3 stops). To reach downtown by bus take the FuniBus (leaving from the station’s main entrance). Get off at Via Pelli and walk straight to the bus station. Take the Bus 5 direction Viganello end get off at Università.
- on foot (around 20-25 minutes): reach the city centre by taking the pedestrian bridge across the street from the train station and follow the road downhill, or take the funicular from inside the train station. From Piazza Cioccaro head south to Piazza Dante. Walk across the square and turn left onto Via Pretorio. Cross Via Pretorio to get to the bus terminal. Walk pass the bus terminal and keep heading straight onto Corso Pestalozzi until you reach a big underground parking and the entrance of the park Ciani. Turn left onto Via Lucchini and keep walking straight until you reach the University main building (Via Lucchini eventually becomes Via Lambertenghi).
For a detailed city map, please refer to page 37.

By Plane
Lugano’s airport is in located in the city of Agno about 6 Km (4 miles) from Lugano’s city centre. It offers direct-flight connections to most of the main Swiss cities and some European airports (www.lugano-airport.ch). The airports of Milano-Malpensa, Milano-Linate and Bergamo-Orio al Serio are locted within 60-100Km (40-60miles) from Lugano and connected by a shuttle bus (www.malpensaexpress.ch) or by train (Malpensa-Bellinzona, and Bellinzona-Lugano, see www.ffs.ch). The closest Swiss International Airport is Zurich-Kloten (3 hours train ride to Lugano).
The Mendrisio Campus

The campus was developed around two historical buildings. Villa Argentina, a neoclassical villa surrounded by a beautiful park, were the offices of the director and administration are located, and Palazzo Turconi, the former hospital now entirely renovated, for the design ateliers and a number of classrooms. Next to Palazzo Turconi is the Academy Library. Built fairly recently, Palazzo Canavée houses more classrooms, some ateliers, the office of the academic staff, and the exhibition gallery.

Academy University Library
Access to the library and its services are free. A photocopy machine and a few computers with internet access are available in the reading room. The research material, including a wide selection of periodicals, are displayed on open-shelves and are available for consultation and to take home. Among the range of services provided by the library, students can benefit from the Interlibrary Loan were books and newspaper articles not available can be borrowed from other Swiss and foreign libraries. The library is open Monday to Friday, from 9am to 8pm. and Saturday from 10am to 5pm. For more details, please visit the website: www.library.me.usi.ch

Laboratory for Replicas and Models
The Academy also has two laboratories (one in Palazzo Turconi, the other in the new Canavée building) where students can learn to operate the various technical ways for creating replicas or models of their design projects. In order to use these machines, students are requested to take a 2 hour introductory course.
Photography Laboratory
Another resource on the Mendrisio campus is the photography lab, which includes: the studio, where students can photograph architectural models, and a dark room where black and white pictures can be developed and printed.

Access, study Areas, Computers, Wi-Fi and Photocopies
Computer rooms may be accessed any time by using the ID electronic card. There are approximately 80 computers available for Internet and to consult on-line catalogues, for technical drawing, processing images and creating 3D models. Throughout the Mendrisio campus it is possible to connect to the internet via the wireless network. Students may use the photocopying machines located on the third floor of the Canavée building and in the campus library: to access them, a magnetic card is necessary, on sale from the main counter (CHF 20 for 150 copies; CHF 40 for 320 copies). In addition to the traditional black-and white and/or colour printers, the Academy has four plotters to print out architectural plans and drawings.

Snack Bar Accademia
There is a cafeteria-snackbar on the Mendrisio campus. Students also have a special reduced price at the Obivella restaurant of the “Beata Vergine” hospital (next to the library) and a few other restaurants in the proximity of the campus. For the special rate, students need to show their student ID card.
How to get to the Campus

By Car
Exit the A2 motorway at Mendrisio, and follow the signposts “Accademia”. There are only a few parking spaces available in the proximity of the campus. It is therefore advisable to use the multi-storey car park or the free parking spaces near the Exhibition Centre, “Mercato Coperto”.

By Train
The main train station of Mendrisio (www.sbb.ch/en) is only a few minutes’ walk from the Academy. A detailed map of Mendrisio is available on page 41.

By Plane
Lugano Airport, located in Agno (about 20 km from Mendrisio), offers direct-flight connections to the main Swiss and some European cities (www.lugano-airport.ch). Also, Milano-Malpensa Airport, some 50 km away, may be easily reached by shuttle bus. Timetables and other travel information at: www.starbus.info and www.sea-aeroportimilano.it. The closest Swiss airport with international connections is Zurich Kloten, three hours away by train (www.ffs.ch).
Studying at USI Università della Svizzera italiana

Fees

**Tuition Fee - Bachelor and Master**

Tuition fee is of CHF 4,000 per semester. For students with legal residence in Switzerland (including Campione d’Italia and Liechtenstein) at the time of obtaining the certificate of secondary school education (Maturità) the tuition fee is of CHF 2,000. The tuition fee is payable at the beginning of each term, by the deadline indicated on the invoice and is an essential condition for registering or renewing enrolment.

Registration

To complete the admission procedure the student must register by following the steps described in the admission letter. Enrolment must be renewed at the beginning of each semester. This is a condition for attending classes and taking examinations. To renew the enrolment the student needs to pay the semester fees and update the student ID card.

**Bachelor**

Students will report in person to the Dean’s Office, with the necessary documents:
- original of the Maturità diploma or equivalent
- receipt of payment of the tuition fees
- if transferring from another Swiss university, the ex-matriculation certificate (unless it was sent earlier, with the application file)

**Master**

Students will report in person to the Dean’s Office, with the necessary documents:
- original Bachelor degree certificate or equivalent diploma
- receipt of payment of the tuition fees
- certificate of ex-matriculation (for candidates who left their previous education from a Swiss university)
Scholarships Bachelor

For an up to date and complete list of available scholarships, please refer to the website: www.usi.ch/en/bachelor-borse_studio

1.1 Students with Residence in Ticino
Students having had resident status in Ticino for at least two years (for foreign students the required period of residence is five years) may seek financial assistance from either the Government or private foundations. Please contact the following office:
Ufficio borse di studio e sussidi
Residenza governativa
6501 Bellinzona
Tel. +41 91 814 34 32
www.ti.ch/aiutistudio

1.2. Students with Residence in other Swiss Cantons
Students whose regular residence is in one of the other Swiss cantons must in the first instance apply to the relevant office in that canton.

1.3. Bursaries for Swiss and Foreign Students
Swiss and foreign students registered at the Università della Svizzera italiana may submit an application for a bursary from the Leonardo Foundation. The application can be submitted, starting on September, with the appropriate form available on the website: www4.ti.ch/decs/sa/uast/cosa-facciamo/fondazioni

1.4. Private Foundations
Further information on financial aid provided by private foundations can be found on the following website:
www4.ti.ch/decs/sa/uast/cosa-facciamo/fondazioni

1.5 Harley-Davidson Club Ticino (H-DCT)
The Harley-Davidson Club Ticino offers 2 annual scholarships to Swiss students living in Ticino. Applications are to be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Comitato H-DCT, and handed in at the USI front desk by January 31st. More information at www.usi.ch/borse_studio.

1.6 SODESKA Foundation
The SODESKA Foundation offers 5 annual scholarships to Swiss students to support them in their academic studies at USI. Applications are to be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Fondazione SODESKA, and handed in at the USI front desk by January 31st. More information at www.usi.ch/borse_studio.
2. Academy of Architecture

2.1. For study grants awarded by the Università della Svizzera italiana, please visit the following link: www.bachelor.arc.usi.ch/en/tasse
2.2. For other scholarships offered by private foundations, please visit the following link: www.arc.usi.ch/en/l-accademia/borse-di-studio

3. Bachelor in Economics, Communication Sciences and Informatics, Institute for Italian Studies

Università della Svizzera italiana organises a contest for study grants aimed to Swiss and foreign students registering in the first year of a Bachelor degree. The merit based study grant covers the tuition fees for the first year and is renewable for two years. Call and application form are available at the following link: www.bachelor.usi.ch/borse-di-studio

Further information:
Faculties of Economics, Communication Sciences and Informatics: studygrants@usi.ch.
Academy of Architecture: fabiana.bernasconi@usi.ch.

Scholarships Master

For an up to date and complete list of available scholarships please refer to the website www.usi.ch/en/master-borse_studio

1.1 Students with residence in Ticino
Students having had resident status in Ticino for at least two years (for foreign students the required period of residence is five years) may seek financial assistance from either the Government or private foundations. Please contact the following office:
Ufficio borse di studio e sussidi
Residenza governativa
6501 Bellinzona
Tel. +41 91 814 34 32
www.ti.ch/aiutistudio

1.2. Students with residence in other Swiss Cantons
Students whose regular residence is in one of the other Swiss cantons in the first instance must apply to the relevant office in that canton.
1.3. Bursary for Swiss and Foreign Students
Swiss and foreign students registered at the Università della Svizzera italiana may submit an application for a bursary from the Leonardo Foundation. The application can be submitted, starting on September, with the appropriate form available on the website: www4.ti.ch/decs/sa/uast/cosa-facciamo/fondazioni

1.4. Private Foundations
Further information on financial aid provided by private foundations can be found on the following website (in Italian): www4.ti.ch/decs/sa/uast/cosa-facciamo/fondazioni

1.5 Harley-Davidson Club Ticino (H-DCT)
The Harley-Davidson Club Ticino offers 2 annual scholarships to Swiss students living in Ticino. Applications are to be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Comitato H-DCT, and handed in at the USI front desk by January 31st. More information at www.usi.ch/borse_studio.

1.6 SODESKA Foundation
The SODESKA Foundation offers 5 annual scholarships to Swiss students to support them in their academic studies at USI. Applications are to be submitted in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Fondazione SODESKA, and handed in at the USI front desk by January 31st. More information at www.usi.ch/borse_studio.

2. Academy of Architecture
For all study grants awarded by the Università della Svizzera italiana or by private foundations, please visit the following link: www.arc.usi.ch/en/l-accademia/borse-di-studio

3. Masters in Economics, Communication Sciences and Informatics
The Foundation for the Lugano Faculties of USI will award 60 one-off study grants of the amount of 4’000 CHF each. The merit based grants are given to students admitted to the first year of a USI Master programme.
Call and application form are available at the following link: www.master.usi.ch/en/tuition

4. Master in Italian Language, Literature and Culture
4.1. Università della Svizzera italiana organises a contest for 5 study grants for students admitted to the first year of the Master of Arts in Italian language, literature and culture. Call and application form are available at the following link: www.mlci.usi.ch/en/borse-studio
4.2. The Zeno Karl Schindler Foundation supports, encourages and develops top research in the fields of engineering and environmental sciences as well as of all medieval disciplines including medieval studies. For more information, please visit: www.zenokarlschindler-foundation.ch
5. Master in Informatics
Università della Svizzera italiana organises a contest for 5 bursaries for the first year Bachelor or Master students of the Faculty of Informatics.
Call and application form are available at the following link: www.master.usi.ch/en/tuition

Further information:
**Faculties of Economics, Communication Sciences and Informatics:** studygrants@usi.ch.
**Academy of Architecture:** fabiana.bernasconi@usi.ch.

Academic Calendar 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester 2016-2017</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams fall session:</td>
<td>29.8-16.9.2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams winter session:</td>
<td>16.1-4.2.2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring Semester 2017</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching begins:</td>
<td>20.2.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter holidays:</td>
<td>14-21.4.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching ends:</td>
<td>2.6.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams summer session:</td>
<td>12.6-1.7.2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams autumn session:</td>
<td>4-16.9.2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The academic calendar might be subject to change.
To consult the current academic calendar, please refer to: www.usi.ch/en/calendario
International Relations and Study-abroad Office

This service is responsible for coordinating USI’s participation in the following student exchange programmes:

- **Swiss Mobility Programme**
  Enables USI students to spend one or two semesters in another Swiss university and for students of other Swiss universities to study for one or two semesters in one of the Faculties at the University of Lugano.

- **Swiss-European Programme**
  Enables USI students to spend one or two semesters in another European university, with full validation of the study credits (ECTS) and for students from other European partner universities to study at USI. So far USI has signed more than 70 exchange agreements with European universities.

- **International Exchange Programme**
  Enables USI students to spend one semester in one of the International partner universities with which a bilateral agreement has been signed and students from the partner universities to study at USI. So far USI has 6 international bilateral exchange agreements.

- **Other programmes**
  Eurocampus, freemover programme.

Students interested in taking part in one of these programmes should address their enquiries directly to the International Relations and Study-abroad Office.

Students enrolled in the Faculties of Economics, Communication Sciences, Informatics: International Relations and Study-abroad Office
Arianna Imberti Dosi, Head of service
via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 202, CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 666 4626, fax +41 58 666 4647
relint@usi.ch, www.relint.usi.ch/en

Students enrolled in the Faculty of Architecture:
Fabiana Bernasconi
Largo Bernasconi 2, Office V 0.05, CH-6850 Mendrisio
tel. +41 58 666 5854, fax +41 58 666 5868
relint.arc@usi.ch
USI Career Service

The Career Service promotes contact with various professional domains and helps students with the smooth and successful transition from university to the working world. Some of the services offered are:

- **Data base offers**
  The Career Service maintains a data base, accessible with a password, with internships and work opportunities for students and graduates. A newsletter with the latest offers is published on a weekly basis.

- **On-campus Meetings**
  Meetings held on-campus with key Swiss and international professionals in the working world, who will present their businesses and possible work opportunities and career prospects. Also available are career guidance and meetings on various professional fields and methods of finding resources and contacts.

- **Internships coordination**
  The Career Service offers support for carrying out (research, application, documentation) the internship, in Switzerland and abroad, and manages and coordinates the recognition process of the curricular internship.

- **Scholarships for placement**
  To promote students’ mobility for placement purpose the Career Service coordinates the Swiss European Mobility Program (SEMP) Scholarships and the Career Service for International Placement Scholarships.

- **Personal Consulting Meetings**
  Upon request, the Career Service provides a personalised consulting meeting on professional advice towards entering the working world (reviewing the CV, letter of motivation and finding resources and contacts, etc.).

- **‘USI&Careers’ Guide and CV Book**
  The Career Service publishes an annual guide “USI&Careers” with information on approximately 80 companies that collaborate with USI and who are potentially interested in offering internships or jobs to USI students and graduates. It also creates a CV Book online, which contains the curriculum of all students enrolled in a two-year Master’s programmer at USI.

- **USI Career Forum and Long Night of Careers**
  The two main events on campus dedicated to careers and the encounter between young graduates, undergraduates and more than 60 professional companies, domestic and international, which participate and that are always looking for professionals to be included in their contexts.

USI Career Service
via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 303, CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 666 4606, careerservice@usi.ch, www.careerservice.usi.ch/en
USI Alumni

The Alumni Relations Service maintains contacts between the University and its graduates. The service aims to consolidate a network linking USI graduates to each other, to the academic staff and to current students; to promote contacts between USI graduates and the working world.

USI Alumni keeps the alumni informed on USI news (events, conferences, post-graduate training, research, etc) and alumni community (Career Success Stories) through a newsletter, the website and dedicated mailings. USI Alumni also manages the Alumni database containing information and personal profiles of over 6500 former students. Finally, the Service carries out surveys on graduates’ professional career.

USI Alumni
via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 303, CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 666 4606, alumni@usi.ch, www.alumni.usi.ch

Start-up Promotion’s Centre

Centred on innovation and competition, today’s professional environments rewards creative and competent professionals who are able to generate work and wealth. For these reasons, the Foundation for the Lugano Faculties of USI has created the Start-up Promotion Centre: a service that helps USI and SUPSI graduates develop innovative ideas into commercially viable enterprises. The Start-up Promotion’s Centre assesses the feasibility of proposed ideas and projects, supporting their development and realisation. USI and SUPSI graduates planning to start up a business can also request access to the “Company Accelerator”, located near the USI campus in Lugano and operated by the Start-up Promotion Centre. The Accelerator provides suitably equipped spaces, infrastructure and common services: prospective entrepreneurs are thus enabled to develop their business projects in a favourable environment.

Start-up Promotion’s Centre
via C. Maderno 24, CH-6900 Lugano
info@cpstartup.ch, www.cpstartup.ch

Alcide Barberis, coordinator; Umberto Bondi, contact person at USI; Alessandro Cavadini, contact person at SUPSI; Tran Que Dung, contact person for the Company Accelerator.
Accommodation Service

This is a service provided by the University to help students in their search for a place to stay. The Office cannot guarantee full success at all times, but provides free one-to-one advice and information on what is available.

The Accommodation Service can assist you in several ways:
- It runs a database with regularly updated vacancy adverts
- It provides language assistance whenever applicants encounter difficulties in their contacts with agents or landlords
- It provides basic information on tenancy laws and general guidelines on housing, procedures, etc.

Two Facebook page have been set up to enable students to contact others in order to form groups to share houses or flats or for those already in an apartment looking for a flatmate. www.facebook.com/usialloggi, www.facebook.com/usialloggimendrisio

Erasmus or mobility students seeking accommodation for the duration of their study semester in Lugano are invited to contact the service by e-mail, for one-to-one advice: patrizia.bianchi@usi.ch.

Campus Lugano – Patrizia Bianchi
office hours: Mon-Thus 10.00-12.00, Tue by appointment, Wed-Frid 10.00-12.00 / 14.00-16.00
Accommodation Service, via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 202, CH-6900 Lugano
tel.: +41 58 666 44 89, alloggi@usi.ch, www.accommodation.usi.ch

Campus Mendrisio – Christiane Schröder
Casa dell’Accademia, office hours: 10.00-12.00 / 13.30-15.30 hrs,

Christiane Schröder, tel.: +41 58 666 58 59, christiane.schroeder@usi.ch
Accommodation service, office hours: 13.30-18.00, alloggi.me@usi.ch

Estimated average Monthly Budget
Single room/flat sharing /studio CHF 450/800
Food and other household items CHF 450
Public transportation CHF 60/150
Books and study material CHF 150
Leisure and travel CHF 150
Health insurance, if needed CHF 160/280
**Psychological Counselling Service**

USI offers a counseling service in cooperation with the ATP, the association of psychologists in Ticino, to help students reach professionals in the field of psychology. Counseling is a way of asking for help when facing personal trouble or distress. Emotional distress may come in different forms and degrees, from a short term to a more complicated and long-lasting discomfort. When a disorder or a problem interferes with one’s daily routine affecting relationships, family, the workplace or school, seeking assistance from a qualified psychologist is certainly an option.

For further information: [www.usi.ch/consulenza_psicologica](http://www.usi.ch/consulenza_psicologica)

Counseling **is not a free of charge service; supplemental health insurance** will cover the fees for Cantonal appointed qualified psychotherapists. **USI will however cover the fees for the first session.**

**Lugano campus Computer Service**

The Lugano Computer Service manages the information system of the entire Lugano campus. In particular, its tasks include:

- Management of all computer equipment;
- Management of the local area network connecting campus buildings, and of the wireless network on campus;
- Management of email, the file server, intranet, and other services;
- Management of audio-video infrastructures;
- Consulting services to faculty members in the educational field;
- Consulting services to administrative personnel for organizational/administrative purposes;
- Selection of suppliers for technical and informatics equipment.

Help Desk Informatics
via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 164, CH-6900 Lugano
tel.: +41 58 666 46 10
**Copy Center**

The Copy Center is available to students of the Lugano Campus for:
- Color prints;
- Poster prints (or large sizes);
- Theses printing and binding;
- Business cards prints;
- Lecture handouts;

Copy Center
via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 121, CH-6900 Lugano
Tel. +41 (0) 58 666 4586, copycenter@usi.ch

**USI-SUPSI Sport Service**

This service raises awareness of the physical and social importance of sport in modern life. USI/SUPSI Sport activities enable all members of the USI and SUPSI community to take part in their favourite sports. Following are a few examples of activities offered:
- individual activities at special rates (e.g.: entry tickets to swimming pools, reduced day tickets for ski slopes)
- regular weekly activities during the academic year (soccer, basketball, volleyball, aerobics, jazz dance, martial arts, etc.)
- other events (winter ski weekends, adventure weekends, etc.)
- university championships: Swiss, European, Universiades.

The sports service also coordinates the SPORT elite Programme at Università della Svizzera italiana. The programme offers to elite athletes the chance to get involved in one of USI’s academic programmes (Bachelor or Master) and organise their schedule in a flexible manner, in order to combine their sporting career with the academic one. Further information on: [www.usi.ch/sportelite](http://www.usi.ch/sportelite).

USI/SUPSI Servizio sport
USI, via Giuseppe Buffi 13, Office 135, CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 666 4797, fax +41 58 666 4647
sport@usi.ch, [www.sport.usi.ch](http://www.sport.usi.ch)
USI Student Associations

Within the University, several student associations have been founded with the objective of enriching the range of educational and recreational possibilities during their study time:
- AIESEC
- Organizzazione Studenti Accademia (OSA)
- DebaTable - USI Debating Club
- EESTEC
- ESN Lugano
- Il Letterificio
- Lugano Finance Club
- L’Unione Studentesca Ticinese (L’USTi)
- L’universo
- Student Events Association
- Student Point
- United students
- USI Coro
- USI Game and Entertainment Club (USI GEC)
- USI MUN (Model United Nations)

For additional information on the Student Associations, please consult the website: www.usi.ch/en/associazioni_studentesche
Switzerland and its Italian-speaking Region

Switzerland

Thanks to its location (landlocked by France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Austria and Italy), Switzerland has traditionally been and will continue to be at the crossroads of major international trade routes. From Switzerland you can reach many major European cities in two hours or less.

With its population of 385,000, Zurich is the business hub of Switzerland and one of its three main financial centres. Bern (131,000 inhabitants) is the political capital; Basel (190,000 inhabitants) is home to renowned pharmaceutical and chemical companies; and Geneva (191,000 inhabitants) is the headquarters of numerous international organizations including several UN agencies.

With its small population (7.8 million people), Switzerland has four national languages: 65% of the population speak Swiss German, a strong dialect of German; 22% speak French; 12% Italian, and 1% Romantsch, a minority language spoken only in Canton Grisons.

The Swiss Confederation is based on a federal system. Its present form was established by the 1848 Constitution. An historically evolved federal structure gives each of its 26 Cantons a considerable degree of political freedom and administrative independence. While Switzerland is not a member of the European Union (EU) it is economically and culturally integrated with it. In 2002, Switzerland became a member of the United Nations.

The Italian-speaking Region of Switzerland

That part of the Swiss Confederation which lies entirely south of the Alps is known as “Svizzera italiana”, Switzerland’s Italian-speaking region. It comprises the whole of Canton Ticino and four valleys of Canton Grisons (namely Mesolcina, Calanca, Bregaglia and Poschiavo) for a total population of just over 330,000. Lugano, with its population of more than 58,000, is the largest city of the Cantone and the third financial centre in Switzerland. Bellinzona with its three beautiful castels is the capital. Other towns worth mentioning are: Locarno, Mendrisio and Chiasso which is next to the Italian border.

Italophone Switzerland blends cultural components that are typically Italian with a tradition of politics and administration that is unmistakably Swiss. Ticino has experienced a great expansion in tourism, and has fully integrated its role as a rail and road axis between North and South.

Ticino’s climate is temperate with mild winters and hot summers. With the San Gottardo’s Glacier lying only a few miles distance from the blossoming shores of Parco Ciani, the region’s unique natural contrasts are well known throughout Europe, and make this region one of the most flourishing of Switzerland.
Lugano
Lugano is a town (60,000 inhabitants, a total of 140,000 people in the agglomeration) in the south of Switzerland, in the Italian-speaking canton of Ticino. The city lies on Lake Lugano and is the 9th largest city of Switzerland by population. The town’s thriving economy provides an estimated 38,000 jobs, over a third of which are occupied by cross-border commuters. Business, tourism and finance constitute the backbone of the local economy. The city is Switzerland’s third largest banking centre after Zurich and Geneva.
Lugano is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Switzerland. Both Lake Lugano and the surrounding mountains provide a wide variety of outdoor activities. Lugano is, also, home to a number of historic buildings and museums. For a city map, please refer to page 37.

Mendrisio
Mendrisio is a municipality in the canton of Ticino in Switzerland. Mendrisio is known in Italian as il magnifico borgo (the magnificent town) due to its numerous elegant historical buildings. For two decades the town has had a pioneering role in promoting electric cars. The city’s surroundings are the main wine-growing regions in Canton Ticino.
The Mendrisiotto and Lower Ceresio is a small triangular shaped region which borders on Italy to the south and is a short distance from Lugano, Lake Maggiore, Como and Varese. With the development in communications, this small region at the gateway to Switzerland has become an important point of commercial and tourist transit.
Throughout the year several festivals and events take place in the area. Some have fairly ancient roots and refer to religious feasts, others are relatively recent, but they have been able to cut out their own role and acquire a place in local cultural life. Musical events like Festate, Estival Jazz or popular festivals like the Palio of Mendrisio, the Wine and Chestnut Festivals are also sure to interest the visitor.
For a city map, please refer to page 41.
Visa and Residence Permit

Administrative steps to be taken by foreign students
In order to reside in Switzerland, all foreign students must apply for a student residence permit (see point B) and register with the town Population office (see point C). Students from non EU/EFTA countries must also apply for a student visa prior to entering Switzerland (see point A). Commuters from across the border in Italy, please refer to point D.

A) Visa
Students from EU / EFTA countries do not need a visa to enter Switzerland. Students from non EU / EFTA countries **must request a student visa** from the Swiss embassy or consulate in their home country **before entering Switzerland.** All the necessary forms are available at the Swiss embassies and consulates. To start this process, candidates must be in possession of a letter of admission from the Università della Svizzera italiana. It is recommended that students from non EU / EFTA countries apply for admission as early as possible. Students will receive their visa to enter Switzerland only at the end of the process.

Please note that a tourist visa is only valid for three months and cannot be exchanged into a residence permit after arrival in Switzerland. Students need to apply for the student visa on their own and in due time. The visa procedure may take between one to four months, depending on the residence country.

For more information on entry visas for students from non EU/EFTA countries, please refer to the federal office for migration, the representatives of Switzerland abroad or the cantonal authorities.

B) Student Residence Permit
To obtain the student residence permit, all foreign students are required to register through the regional foreign office in the city of residence.

The students must submit in person their application to the regional foreign office with the following documents: application form ([www.ti.ch/popolazione](http://www.ti.ch/popolazione)), a copy of passport or identity card, two passport photos, enrolment confirmation letter issued from the Faculty Dean’s office at the moment of registration, apartment contract lease and certificate from the Judicial Records Register (granted within the last 3 months) issued by the competent authorities of the Country of origin of the applicant.
The student is authorised to reside in Switzerland whilst waiting for the permit. The residence permit is valid throughout the study period, but has to be renewed every year with the confirmation of enrolment from the university. At the end of the studies, students will be asked to leave the country. Relatives and friends are welcomed to Switzerland under tourist conditions.

Please note that the residence permit for study purposes does not grant students automatic entitlement to paid employment. Therefore, international students regularly registered in an academic degree programme at a university in Switzerland need to obtain a specific authorisation from the competent offices before they start working. The maximum permitted workload is 15 hours per week. No such authorisation, however, will be issued in the first 6 months of a student’s stay.

C) Registration with the town Population office
All students must register with the town Population office within 8 days of arrival in Switzerland.

Regional Foreign Office Lugano
Via Serafino Balestra 31-33
CH-6900 Lugano
Tel. +41 91 814 55 00
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday:
9.00-11.45 / 14.00-16.00

Regional Foreign Office Mendrisio
Via Pollini 29
CH-6850 Mendrisio
Tel. +41 91 814 55 00
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday:
9.00-11.45 / 14.00-16.00

Population Office in Lugano
Puntocittà
Via della Posta
CH-6900 Lugano
Tel. +41 58 866 60 00
E-mail puntocitta@lugano.ch
Opening Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:
7.30-12.00/13.30-17.00
Tuesday, Thursday:
7.30-18.00 non stop

Population Office in Mendrisio
Town hall
Via Municipio 13
CH-6850 Mendrisio
Tel. +41 58 688 34 00
Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday:
10.00-12.00 / 14.00-16.00
Thursday:
10.00-12.00 / 16.00-18.00
D) Commuters from across the Border
Students that live in Italy close to the Swiss-Italian border and commute every day do not need to apply for a permit for commuters.

For more information on residence permits, visas and to download the required forms please refer to the following websites:
Switzerland’s administration web portal: www.ch.ch
Information on permits on the University website: www.usi.ch/en/foreign_students_visa_permits

Insurances

Health and accident Insurance
Every person domiciled/resident in Switzerland is required to have a health and accident insurance within three months of entry into Switzerland. Compulsory health insurance covers the costs of the medical care in case of illness or accident. Upon registration at the regional foreign office students will receive two official letters requesting to outtake a health insurance by a specific date. If the terms are not met, an insurer will be assigned automatically at the discretion of the respective authorities. The compulsory health insurance benefits are the same for all insurers. Students are free to choose their own insurance company. Monthly premiums vary between CHF 200 and CHF 450 depending on age, place of residence and premium. It is recommended to compare offers before signing an insurance contract. Some insurance companies offer special packages for foreign students.

In some circumstances, one can be exempted from having a Swiss health insurance. This is particularly true for holders of the European Health Insurance Card and for non EU people insured by private companies recognized by the Swiss authorities. More information on cases for which an exemption can be claimed are available at: www.usi.ch/healthinsurance.

In case of an accident or health problem, the student that has been exempted from the Swiss insurance, will be required to pay the expenses directly (cash or credit card). Reimbursement - with the necessary deductions - may be requested by sending a copy of the invoice and the European Health Insurance Card to the following address: Istituzione Comune LAMal, KVG, Gibelinstrasse 25, CH- 4502 Solothurn, Information: www.kvg.org

Students who maintain residence in their home country - such as Italian students living close to the border who return home every evening - must request information on the regulations in their country. These students can receive emergency treatment
in Switzerland, but will need to return to their home country for further treatment, if unable to cover the costs.

Foreign students applying for a reduction on the compulsory health insurance policy fees, according to the legislation concerning foreign people, must be aware that, by doing so, they automatically show that they lack the financial means sufficient to support themselves in Switzerland during their studies, and therefore their permit B or L may be revoked or negated by the cantonal responsible authority.

With the aim to avoid such problem USI has agreed through CAST Consulenza Assicurativa Ticino SA a collective insurance policy for illness and accidents with Groupe Mutuel, a particularly convenient policy named “Academic Care”, valid only for extra EU students who are not 35 years old yet.

Extra EU students admitted to one of USI’s study programmes who are willing to subscribe Academic Care, will receive further information about the admission procedure via email at the beginning of the semester. Academic care monthly fee is 90 CHF and will be paid in two semestral installments.

Further information are available on www.usi.ch/academic-care
Vlasta Re, academic.care@usi.ch

Third-party liability Insurance (RC)
The liability insurance is optional but highly recommended. This insurance protects people against unwilling damage caused to third parties, for example damages caused during sports activities, whilst renting an apartment or as a pet owner.
Other information on health, accident and third-party liability insurance are available on: www.ch.ch
www3.ti.ch/DSS/sw/struttura/dss/ias/Assicurazionemalattia.htm (in Italian)
Other useful information

Telephone
Most public telephones no longer accept coins. Prepaid phone cards (called ‘taxcard’) may be purchased at post offices, newsagents, stationery shops and in some supermarkets and cafés. For international calls, international prepaid phone cards are recommended.
To call Ticino from abroad, you must dial 0041 91 and then the phone number. In Switzerland there is a broad range of mobile phone operators. Information on rates, subscriptions and prepaid cards may be obtained from the appropriate shops throughout Ticino and from post offices. Generally, prepaid cards and contracts can be used with all standard GSM mobile phones of 900/1800 Mhz.

Shops
The main supermarkets are open Monday to Friday from 8.30 to 19.00 hrs. and Thursdays from 8.30 to 21.00 hrs. and Saturday from 8.30 to 17.00 hrs. (in the summer until 18.00 hrs.). Smaller shops usually stay open until 18.30 hrs. (including Thursday) and close on Saturday at 17.00 hrs. In Mendrisio, the outlet store ‘Foxtown’, is open Monday to Sunday from 11.00 to 19.00hrs.

Banking
To open a personal bank account in Switzerland, students will need to show a valid passport or identity card and a certificate issued by the appropriate Faculty confirming their admission to study at USI. Some banks may ask for more documents. It is advisable to open a student account, which generally offers a series of advantages.
Banks are open Monday to Friday from 09.00 till 16.30 hrs. Closed on Saturdays.

Post Office
Post offices now provide a variety of products and facilities: stamps, stationery, money transfers from abroad (international money orders are handled only by the main post offices) and other products. In addition, the Post Office offers the “PostFinance account” as an alternative to a bank account. To open an account at the Post Office, students need to show proof of identity, their residence permit and a certificate confirming the registration at USI. For more information: www.postfinance.ch

Rail
Students can purchase a “Swiss Half-Price Card” from a Swiss Railway ticket office (www.sbb.ch/en) that entitles them to a 50% reduction on all train fares in Switzerland. Swiss Rail also offers season tickets at special rates for commuters, i.e. people who live just across the border in Italy and travel in Switzerland every day. Other train passes are available that entitle the holder to travel for free after 7.00 pm (www.binario7.ch).
Buses
The buses guarantee efficient mobility in the city of Lugano and the surrounding villages. Other villages in the surrounding regions may be reached by the yellow coaches (autopostale) or by the Lugano public transportation network (Autolinee Regionali Luganesi). A detailed map of Lugano’s public transportation (TPL) is available on page 38. For further information, please visit: www.lugano.ch/en/lugano-pratica/mobilita/bus
In Mendrisio, the no. 1 bus and a yellow coach provide regular connections between the Academy and the cities of Chiasso and Como.
Information on bus passes is available on the website www.arcobaleno.ch.

Cars
The minimum driving age in Switzerland is 18. A foreign driving licence is valid in Switzerland for one year. If the duration of stay is more than 12 months, then a Swiss driving licence is necessary. During the first 12 months an automatic exchange for a Swiss driving licence can be requested from the vehicle registration office in Camorino. If the Swiss driving licence is not requested within 12 months, the person has to retake the driving licence exam in Switzerland.
For more information www.ti.ch/circolazione (in Italian)

Bicycle
Bicycles at reasonable prices may be purchased from:
Soccorso Operaio Svizzero SOS, Atelier RI-cicletta, Via Zurigo 17, CH-6900 Lugano.

USI offers, through the student ID card, an annual free subscription regiopass for the bike sharing service. Details on the website www.sosta.usi.ch

Information on USI’s student discounts: www.usi.ch/en/promozioni

Emergency Phone Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+41 58 666 47 30</th>
<th>USI Security</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>144</td>
<td>Ambulance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Fire service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140</td>
<td>Road breakdown service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>Urgent cases of intoxication (French, German, English)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1414</td>
<td>Rega: Helicopter rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>091 800 18 28</td>
<td>Doctors and pharmacy on duty (nights and weekends)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143</td>
<td>Crisis helpline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1811</td>
<td>Directory enquiries (national and international)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>Road traffic service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
USI Link

USI
Università della Svizzera italiana (University of Lugano)  www.usi.ch/en
Bachelor  www.bachelor.usi.ch
Master  www.master.usi.ch

Scholarships
Bachelor and Master  www.usi.ch/borse_studio

Bachelor and Master Time Tables
Architecture  www.arc.usi.ch/en/courses
Economics  www.eco.usi.ch/en/orario_corsi
Informatics  www.inf.usi.ch/orario_corsi

Study at USI
CRUS (for entry requirements)  www.swissuniversities.ch/organizzazione
Registration Bachelor  www.usi.ch/en/immatricolazione
Registration Master  www.usi.ch/en/master-immatricolazione
Language courses  www.corsilingua.usi.ch
Study policy Architecture  www.arc.usi.ch/aam_regolamenti.htm (in Italian)
Study policy Economics  www.eco.usi.ch/en/regolamenti_tutti
Study policy Informatics  www.inf.usi.ch/regolamenti_tutti

Housing
www.alloggi.usi.ch

Graduate Student Services
Alumni Relations Service  www.alumni.usi.ch/en

Student Life
Calendar of USI events  www.usi.ch/en/event
USI community events  www.usi.ch/highlights_usi_community
Student Associations  www.usi.ch/en/associazioni_studentsche
Cafeteria menu  www.usi.ch/en/meals_in_the_city
USI student discounts  www.usi.ch/promozioni
Bike sharing  www.sosta.usi.ch
Lugano useful Contacts

Lugano Town Hall
Piazza Riforma
CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 866 71 11
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
7.30-12.00 hrs. and 13.30-17.00 hrs.
www.lugano.ch

Population Office in Lugano
Puntocittà
Via della Posta
6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 866 60 00
E-mail puntocitta@lugano.ch
Opening Hours: Monday, Wednesday,
Friday: 7.30-12.00/13.30-17.00 Tuesday,
Thursday: 7.30-18.00 non stop

Foreign Registration Office
Ufficio regionale degli stranieri
via Serafino Balestra 31-33
CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 91 814 55 00
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
9.00-11.45 hrs. and 14.00-16.00 hrs.
www.ti.ch/stranieri

General Italian Consolate
via Ferruccio Pelli 16
CH-6901 Lugano
tel. +41 91 913 30 50
Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday
and Friday 8.30 to 13.10 hrs.
Tuesday and Thursday
14.30 to 17.30 hrs.
www.conslugano.esteri.it

Regional Hospital Lugano: “Civico”
via Tesserete 46
CH-66900 Lugano
tel. +41 91 811 61 11

Regional Hospital Lugano: “Italiano”
via Capelli
CH-6962 Viganello/Lugano
tel. +41 91 811 61 11

Youth and Events Department
Villa Carmine
Via Trevano 55
CH-6900 Lugano
tel. +41 58 866 74 40
eventi@lugano.ch
Opening hours:
Monday to Friday
8.00-12.00 hrs. and 13.30-17.30 hrs.

Lugano Cantonal Library
Viale Carlo Cattaneo 6
CH-6901 Lugano
reception tel. +41 91 815 46 11
loan tel. +41 91 815 46 31
bclu-segr.sbt@ti.ch
bclu-infoprestito.sbt@ti.ch (for loans)
Opening hours:
Monday 13.00 to18.30 hrs.
Tuesday to Friday 09.00 to 18.30 hrs.,
Saturday 09.00 to 16.00 hrs.
From 12.00 to 13.00 the loan service is
not available (Saturday from 11.30 to
13.30 hrs.) In July and August the library
is closed on Saturday.

Post Office Lugano 1
(Main Post Office)
via della Posta
CH-6900 Lugano
tel. 0848 888 888
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 7.30
to 19.00 hrs. Saturday 8.00 to 16.00 hrs.
www.post.ch/en
Useful contacts

Map of Lugano

1. The Lugano Campus
2. Cantonal library
3. Town hall
4. Main train station (FFS)
5. Main post office
6. Foreign registration office (Ufficio regionale degli stranieri)
7. Hospital Lugano: “Ospedale Italiano”
8. Hospital Lugano: “Ospedale Civico”
9. Youth and Events Department, via Trevano 55
10. Agorateca (renting DVD and books)
11. The Convention Center (Palazzo dei Congressi)
12. General Italian Consulate (Consolato Generale d’Italia)
13. Puntocittà
Map of the Lugano Public Transportation
Map of Lugano

TPL Bus Stop

1 “Università” Bus stop
Mendrisio useful Contacts

**Mendrisio Town Hall**
via Municipio 13  
CH-6850 Mendrisio  
tel. +41 58 688 31 31  
Opening hours:  
Mo./Tue./Wed./Fr.  
10:00-12:00/14:00-16:00 hrs.  
Thu. 10:00-12:00 / 16:00-18:00 hrs.  
www.mendrisio.ch

**Foreign Registration Office**
“Ufficio regionale degli stranieri”  
via Pollini 29  
CH-6850 Mendrisio  
tel. +41 91 814 55 00  
Opening hours:  
Monday to Friday:  
9.00 to 11.45 hrs.  
and 14.00 to 16.00 hrs.

**Regional Hospital “Beata Vergine”**
via Turconì 23  
CH-6850 Mendrisio  
tel. +41 91 811 31 11

**Mendrisio Cantonal Library and High School Library**
Via Agostino Maspoli  
6850 Mendrisio  
Segreteria tel. +41 91 815 94 78  
bcme-segr.sbt@ti.ch  
bcme-prest.sbt@ti.ch (for loans)  
Opening hours:  
Monday to Friday:  
12.00 to 19.00 hrs.  
Saturday:  
09.00 to 12.00 hrs.  
During the school holidays, opening hours are reduced to 14.00 to 18.00, Saturday closed. Closed for three weeks from middle of July to middle of August.

**Post Office Mendrisio Station**
(Main Post office)  
via Franscini  
CH-6850 Mendrisio  
tel. +41 91 640 88 20  
Opening hours:  
Monday to Friday 8.30 to 18.00 hrs.  
Saturday 8.30-12.00 hrs.  
www.post.ch/en
Mappa di Mendrisio

1. The Mendrisio Campus
2. Town hall and police station
3. Foreign registration office (Ufficio regionali degli stranieri)
4. Art museum
5. Mendrisio-station post office
6. Main train station (FFS)
7. Hospital – Accidents & Emergencies
8. Exhibition centre “Mercato Coperto”
9. High school and cantonal library
10. Mendrisio-Borgo post office
Useful Links

(The following list is not exhaustive)

**Information on the Swiss Government**
www.admin.ch, www.ch.ch

**Insurance**
www3.ti.ch/DSS/sw/struttura/dss/ias/Assicurazionemalattia.htm (in Italian)

**Tourism**
Swiss tourism www.myswitzerland.com/en
Ticino tourism www.ticino.ch/en/
City of Mendrisio www.mendrisio.ch (in Italian)
City of Lugano www.lugano.ch (in Italian)
Lugano tourism www.lugano-tourism.ch
Mendrisiotto and Basso Ceresio tourism www.mendrisiotourism.ch/en
Events in Lugano www.agendalugano.ch (in Italian), www.lugano.ch/cultura

**Transportation**
Train time schedules www.sbb.ch/en
Train pass “binario 7” www.binario7.ch (Italian, German, French)
Lugano Public transportation www.tplsa.ch (in italian)
Bus time schedule www.postauto.ch/en
Public transportation passes in Ticino www.arcobaleno.ch
Airport in Agno www.lugano-airport.ch
Transportation from Malpensa to Mendrisio and Lugano www.malpensaexpress.ch
International Airport:
- Zurich www.zurich-airport.com
- Milan www.sea-aeroportimilano.it
Cars www.ti.ch/circolazione (in Italian)

**Courses**
Language courses www.scuolaili.ch
Other course offered by the Canton of Ticino www.ti.ch/cpa (in Italian)

**Museums**
Ticino Centre of Contemporary Art www.cacticino.net/eng/exhibitions/home
Lugano Art Museum www.mdam.ch (in Italian)
Concerts, Festivals, events
A detailed list of all the events in Ticino, is available on www.ticino.ch/en/
Following are some of the best known events:
Ascona jazz www.jazzascona.ch/en
Blues to bop www.bluestobop.ch/website/en
Magic Blues www.magicblues.ch (Italian and German)
Chiasso Letteraria www.chiassoletteraria.ch (in Italian), www.chiassocultura.ch (in Italian)
Estivaljazz www.estivaljazz.ch
Film Festival Locarno www.pardo.ch
Moon & Stars Locarno www.moonandstarslocarno.ch (Italian and German)
Martha Argerich Project www.rsi.ch/argerich
Rabadan Carnival Bellinzona www.rabadan.ch (in Italian)
Wine Festival Mendrisio www.sagradelluva.ch (in Italian)

Cinema (in Italian)
Cinestar www.cinestar-lugano.ch
Cinema Mendrisio www.mendrisiocinema.ch

Price reductions and other informations (in Italian)
Luganocard www.luganocard.ch

Renting DVD, books (in Italian)
Lugano Cantonal library www.sbt.ti.ch/bclu
Mendrisio Cantonal library www.sbt.ti.ch/bcme
Agorateca www.agorateca.ch

TV
Swiss Radio Television www.rsi.ch (in Italian)

Car sharing
www.mobility.ch/en/pub

Bike sharing
www.velopass.ch (Italian, German, French)

Ticino Portals (in Italian)

The information contained in the present guide are subject to change.
Visit USI!

Do you want to know more about the Università della Svizzera italiana and its study curricula? Discover our open days.

**Bachelor Info Days**
Students assist to a presentation of the Faculty of interest, interact with professor and USI students and get more information about possible future Master studies and job opportunities.

**Ministage**
For two days, high school students are immersed in the daily USI life and follow lectures with current students from the Bachelor of their interest. Ministages are an excellent opportunity to get to know USI, get familiar with life on campus and understand better the content of the degrees. USI is glad to offer lunch and dinner to all participants and one overnight stay for participants coming from outside Ticino and Lombardia. Registration is compulsory and participation is limited to high school students.

**Master Info Day**
Join our Master Info Day to get more information about the structure, content and professional prospective of our Master degrees. During this open day, each Master is presented by its scientific director and by current Master students.

**Master Meetings**
The various Master Meetings offer students the opportunity to follow lectures together with the current master students. Guided by a USI student, participants can visit the campus and make up their mind as to whether the contents correspond to their study ambitions. Registration is compulsory.

For more information on USI’s open days please refer to:
www.opendays.usi.ch
Welcome Meetings
are organised during the month of September by the Study Advisory Service to provide new students with information on insurance, housing, transportation, etc.

Opening Day
The first day of classes, USI organises an event to welcome all freshmen students. In this occasion, students will receive key information about the University. There will also be tables in the hall of the Aula Magna with information material on the different Services offered at USI. (www.usi.ch/bachelor-inizio-corsi)

Architettura
www.arc.usi.ch
Scienze economiche
www.eco.usi.ch
Scienze della comunicazione
www.com.usi.ch
Scienze informatiche
www.inf.usi.ch

Bachelor / Lauree Triennali
www.bachelor.usi.ch
Master / Lauree Magistrali
www.master.usi.ch
Dottorato / PhD
www.phd.usi.ch
Executive Master
www.executivemaster.usi.ch