

Swiss Study Foundation Education Strategy 2018-2022

1. What does the Study Foundation mean by education?

Education means enlightenment, orientation in the world and historical consciousness. It encompasses training our faculties to aid our own understanding, to enable us to orientate ourselves and to critically reflect on and organise information. Education enables articulation, self-awareness, self-determination and ethical sensitivity. It allows us to act responsibly towards ourselves, others and the environment.

The Swiss Study Foundation defines education based on the given assumption of an open, free, democratic and modern society that is focused on a sustainable future. At the same time, education in this sense is also the prerequisite for the continued development of our society. The Swiss Study Foundation has a broad concept of education. Education encompasses all areas and stages of life. It leads from self-reflection, interactions with others and achieving performance-related objectives to the development of personalities.

2. What is the identity, contribution and role of the Swiss Study Foundation?

Identity: Curiosity – Motivation – Responsibility. The mission of the Swiss Study Foundation is to promote talented students who are hungry for knowledge and willing to take on responsibility. It supports interaction between highly motivated peers. The potential for mutual inspiration is high and this elevated level guarantees effective working. Self-initiative is important and should be valued everywhere. The educational program should promote the social responsibility of students, as well as their motivation and curiosity.

Contribution: The Swiss Study Foundation complements university education at the bachelor, master and doctorate level (no new admissions). It promotes excellence and achievement as well as assuming responsibility in all areas of society. The program offered by the Swiss Study Foundation provision is voluntary (other than ECTS) and is aimed at promoting talent in the sense of biography development.

The role of the Swiss Study Foundation in the educational program is:

- Promoting a high level of reflexivity and connectivity in dealing with educational content
- Intense knowledge transfer (e.g. ratio of lecturers to students)
- Creating a concrete, experience-based frame of reference for educational content
- Critical examination of models
- Encouraging self-initiative and assuming responsibility
- Space for experimentation and the unpredictable
- Educating a society of self-motivated learners, promoting team spirit and networking future leaders.

3. What topics are covered?

The Swiss Study Foundation offers a wide range of subjects and is proactive in adding new topics, relying on the input and suggestions of the students in this regard. Sustainability and social responsibility are key guiding principles.

In addition, it focuses on one core area for several years. The Werner Siemens program, launched in 2015, deals with the topics of “Mobility – Infrastructure – Innovation“ looking at interdisciplinary perspectives and taking account of their most diverse facets. The “Univers Suisse” and “Culture Matters” subject areas are currently ongoing.

4. Strategic objectives and measures

1. The Swiss Study Foundation continues to promote the development of an attractive, interdisciplinary educational program with a wide range of formats and subjects, based on the Foundation objectives and the interests of those it supports. Speakers have a proven track record and events take place in all regions.

- The events are evaluated regularly and systematically and are rated between good and very good.
- All events receive the necessary minimum number of students registrations and can take place.

2. The Swiss Study Foundation systematically promotes the initiatives of its students and makes these a core aspect of the program.

- There are a minimum of five Peer Events each year.
- Supported students are actively involved in at least 30% of the events.
- Former students are actively involved in at least 15% of the events.

3. The Swiss Study Foundation also drives forward its international focus within the educational program.

- At least three events take place abroad each year.
- At least 10 events cover international topics.