



University of  
Zurich <sup>UZH</sup>

UZH International Summer Schools

Online Format  
Apply by  
25 April 2021  
[http://bit.ly/UZH2021\\_WDCS](http://bit.ly/UZH2021_WDCS)

What Defines a Country's Success?

Switzerland's Experience in Comparison

4 - 23 July 2021



## Course Description

This online Summer School looks at the development of Switzerland in comparison with other successful small countries. Students will find out how Switzerland became one of the richest and most globalized countries in the world. During the three weeks of the Summer School, you will learn about the country's roots and how it became an international finance center. We will also study its worldwide successful industries like watch-making, pharmaceuticals, and food processing, through talking to leading experts.

We will then compare Switzerland to other successful small and open countries in today's world. Together we will explore their singularities, similarities and remarkable differences. This will help us to understand whether there is one recipe for political survival and economic success, or if there are many different development paths.

By doing so, we will examine which historical, sociological, and political factors have to be taken into account when explaining a country's success.

Last but not least, this will also help us to understand why countries react differently to crises such as the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Hosting Institute	Department of Sociology, UZH
Course Director	Prof. Dr. Patrick Ziltener (Sociologist & Economist, UZH)
Language	English
Credits	6 ECTS credits
Open to	2nd or 3rd year Bachelor students and Master students



## Main Learnings

- Understand the different preconditions and historic experiences in economic development of small countries, based on a comparative, interdisciplinary approach
- Analyze the Swiss success stories and identify singularities and commonalities with other countries.
- Discuss strengths and weaknesses of the different “national models” and how their elements fit together.
- Draw conclusions for ongoing debates on the relevant factors for successful economic and crisis management of countries.

## Teaching and Learning Methods

- Podcasts and Livestreams: Interact with lecturers and classmates during live sessions or watch them again if they have been recorded
- Q&A and mentoring sessions: Ask your questions to your Course Director
- Group work: Interact with other students and work together on your projects
- Individual presentations: Improve your presentation skills, discuss your project and get immediate feedback from classmates and your Course Director
- Comparative analysis and discussion of recent topics: Benefit from a diverse classroom and discuss about commonalities of different countries

## Fees

The regular fee for this Summer School is CHF 1,500.

The fee includes:

- final certificate and transcript
- virtual classroom teaching
- a digital social program that will foster your intercultural competence

## Scholarships

We offer generous discounts to students from UZH partner universities, including strategic partners and international networks (Universitas 21 and LERU).

Once we have received your application, we will notify you of any potential discounts available to you.



## Application

Bachelor students who have completed their first year of study and Master students from all subject areas are encouraged to apply. Applicants must possess a sufficient command of English (broadly CEFR B2 or equivalent). This needs to be visible from your motivation letter, previous studies or work experience.

Please apply online on our registration platform as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. We will carefully check your application and get back to you within seven days. For further information on the application process please visit our website: [www.summerschools.uzh.ch](http://www.summerschools.uzh.ch)

## Contact

University of Zurich  
International Relations Office  
Raemistrasse 71  
CH-8006 Zurich

[summer@int.uzh.ch](mailto:summer@int.uzh.ch)  
[www.summerschools.uzh.ch](http://www.summerschools.uzh.ch)

