



**University of  
Zurich** <sup>UZH</sup>

**English Department**

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# **Study Guide**

**Bachelor English Literature and Linguistics  
Major & Minor Programs**

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## Preliminary Remark: Legal Regulations

Please note that the applicable legal regulations can be found in the framework ordinance (*Rahmenverordnung*) and the program regulation (*Studienordnung*) for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences:

<https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/rechtsgrundlagen.html>

[https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/rechtsgrundlagen/rechtsgrundlagen\\_bachelor.html](https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/rechtsgrundlagen/rechtsgrundlagen_bachelor.html)

The information below is for illustrative purposes only and should be regarded as a recommendation. In case of any contradictions between this document and the legal regulations or between the German version and a translation, only the legal regulations or the German version, respectively, have legal bearing.

Table 1 outlines the function of the various documents that are available.

**Table 1: Types of Documents**

Document	Explanation
<i>Rahmenverordnung</i>	The <i>Rahmenverordnung über die Bachelor- und Masterstudiengänge an der Philosophischen Fakultät der Universität Zürich (RVO PhF)</i> constitutes the legal framework for the Bachelor and Master programs at the UZH Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.
<i>Studienordnung der Studienprogramme der Philosophischen Fakultät</i>	The <i>Studienordnung</i> implements and details the legal framework outlined in the <i>Rahmenverordnung</i> . It consists of a general section ( <i>Allgemeiner Teil</i> ), which concerns the regulations that apply to all programs at the UZH Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and of several appendices, each of which concerns one particular study program ( <i>programmspezifische Anhänge</i> , e.g. for English Literature and Linguistics).
<i>Programmspezifische Anhänge zur Studienordnung</i>	The <i>programmspezifische Anhänge</i> outline the detailed regulations for each study program. The core element is the study plan, which contains information concerning the structure of the program as well as the program requirements. These requirements detail which modules students need/may choose to complete their studies in this particular program.
<i>Modulkatalog</i>	The <i>Modulkatalog</i> outlines all modules offered as part of a particular program. Some of these modules are offered on a regular basis; others are offered on a semester-to-semester basis. For a full overview of modules offered in any given semester, students may consult the online course catalog: <a href="https://studentservices.uzh.ch">https://studentservices.uzh.ch</a>
<i>Mustercurriculum</i>	The <i>Mustercurriculum</i> outlines one particular way in which one can complete the program requirements. Note that there are other ways of organizing your studies (cf. section on sample timetables below).
<i>Wegleitung zu einzelnen Programmen</i>	The <i>Wegleitung</i> or study guide intends to explain the regulations for one particular program. The current document provides students with a very rough overview. A more detailed study guide is available on the English Department website: <a href="https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor.html">https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor.html</a> .
<i>Wegleitung für das Studium an der PhF</i>	In addition to the study guides for individual programs, the UZH Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences provides further guidelines and explanatory documents. For more information, see <a href="https://www.phil.uzh.ch/en/studium.html">https://www.phil.uzh.ch/en/studium.html</a> .

## **Welcome to the UZH English Department!**

Established in 1887 (as the “Romanisch-Englisches Seminar”), this is not only the oldest, but also the largest English Department in Switzerland and one of the larger departments in the German-speaking part of Europe. We are proud to offer a wide range of courses in both English literature and linguistics, with a broad coverage for historical studies in both fields (including mediaeval literature and language history from Old English to the 21<sup>st</sup> century).

Our department has eight professorships (given this is Switzerland, we have parity and four in each field) and – until the end of January 2021 – an additional assistant professorship for Global literatures. With a total staff of over 50 we offer Bachelor, Master and PhD programs and are committed to high standards in research and teaching, which is evidenced by our research output, regular course evaluations from students and particularly the fact that our students are regularly awarded the faculty’s prestigious semester prizes for best papers.

We are strongly committed to cooperation with other departments within our faculty (e.g. in the cross-disciplinary course programs in linguistics and literature) and across Switzerland and Europe. We have benefited from the Bologna 2020 reform to carefully design our course programs and guide students, both at Bachelor and Master levels, through their studies in an efficient way while at the same time leaving room for specialization in various areas. We firmly believe it is paramount to make teaching methods research-based so students make most of their time in class and acquire methodological expertise and analytical skills.

In the name of all our staff members, let me welcome you warmly to the English department!

Prof. Dr. Daniel Schreier  
Head of Department

## Information on the Bachelor Programs in English

### 1 Bachelor in English Literature and Linguistics

#### 1.1 Aims of the Program

Anglophone literature, media, and culture are key influences across the globe, and English remains the dominant language of international exchange. The UZH Bachelor programs in English Literature and Linguistics will appeal to students wishing to explore the variety and complexity of these cultural formations.

The programs aim to equip students with the theoretical and methodological tools needed to analyze and engage with the language and culture of the English-speaking world from a historical perspective, as well as with a focus on contemporary issues and debates.

Students will learn how to approach linguistic data and analysis in a structured, scientific way, and they will acquire the necessary skills to develop sustained critical interpretations of both literary and audio-visual material.

The programs also allow students to improve their proficiency in English, with a particular focus on academic discourse and writing. An emphasis is placed on reading and understanding challenging theoretical texts, as well as an in-depth awareness of regional issues (particularly in the UK and the USA, but also touching on themes and topics from the entire English-speaking world).

The Bachelor programs in English Literature and Linguistics prepare students for later employment in a range of areas, particularly education, editing, journalism, PR, advertising, marketing, film, translation, administration, and diplomacy, as well as for advanced studies at Master level.

#### 1.2 Difference(s) between Major and Minor

The Bachelor Minor program comprises all the core elements of English studies as taught at UZH: Linguistics, Literature, and Language Skills and Culture. More specifically, students have to complete all mandatory modules (so-called *P-Module*) and one core elective (one of the ten Bachelor Seminar modules from the module group "English Literature").

Compared to the Minor, the Bachelor Major program offers students a much broader range of choice from within the field of English studies, as well as the option of taking modules from other UZH Bachelor programs (in the module group "Transferable Skills").

Both Bachelor programs provide students with all the skills that they need to continue their studies at Master level, either as a Major or as a Minor (i.e. there are no additional requirements even if one changes from the Bachelor Minor to the Master Major).

### 1.3 About the Curriculum

The English Department website contains a wealth of information about the Bachelor Major and Minor. In particular, students may consult the following:

- **Information for Prospective Students**
  - <https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/prospective.html>
- **Information for First-Year Students**
  - <https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/new.html>
- **Major**
  - Requirements:  
<https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/major120.html>
  - Module groups:  
<https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/major120/modulegroups.html>
- **Minor**
  - Requirements:  
<https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/minor60.html>
  - Module groups:  
<https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/minor60/modulegroups.html>

Students wishing to change from the Major to the Minor or vice versa should ideally do so early on in their studies. For more information, please contact the study advisor: [englishstudies@es.uzh.ch](mailto:englishstudies@es.uzh.ch)

### 1.4 Sample Timetable vs. Individual Study Plan

One basic sample timetable is available on the website of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (in German): [https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/rechtsgrundlagen/rechtsgrundlagen\\_bachelor.html](https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/rechtsgrundlagen/rechtsgrundlagen_bachelor.html)

In addition, the English Department website provides sample timetables for both Major and Minor students:

- **Major:** <https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/major120/sampletimetables.html>
- **Minor:** <https://www.es.uzh.ch/en/bachelor/advanced/minor60/sampletimetables.html>

Note that individual study plans may vary. For example, if you work part-time, then you will very likely want to do fewer than 30 ECTS per semester (which is considered the full-time workload).

Contact the study advisor if you are unsure about your study plan: [englishstudies@es.uzh.ch](mailto:englishstudies@es.uzh.ch)

## 2 Further Information and Contacts

Information on your studies:

- Advising of studies: [englishstudies@es.uzh.ch](mailto:englishstudies@es.uzh.ch)
- Study abroad coordinator: [studyabroad@es.uzh.ch](mailto:studyabroad@es.uzh.ch)

Student groups:

- Fachverein Anglistik FAVA (student association): [fava@es.uzh.ch](mailto:fava@es.uzh.ch)
- Drama group: [info@blueprintmasquerades.com](mailto:info@blueprintmasquerades.com)
- The Zurich English Student (online blog): [zest.editor@gmail.com](mailto:zest.editor@gmail.com)

Alumnae/-i:

- UZH Alumni English Studies: [es-alumni@alumnioffice.uzh.ch](mailto:es-alumni@alumnioffice.uzh.ch)

The **ES Alumni Student Fund** supports academic and study-related projects by Bachelor and Master students of English Literature and /or Linguistics. Examples include:

- student research projects;
- the Blueprint Masquerades (English Department drama group);
- small travel bursaries (e.g. for field work, or to attend an academic conference);
- the Shakespeare Week;
- course-related excursions (max. CHF 50.- per student).

Bookshops:

- Orell Füssli: [www.orellfuessli.ch](http://www.orellfuessli.ch)
- Pile of Books: [www.pileofbooks.ch](http://www.pileofbooks.ch)

Of general interest:

- Cabaret Voltaire, Zürich: [www.cabaretvoltaire.ch](http://www.cabaretvoltaire.ch)
- Literaturhaus, Zürich: [www.literaturhaus.ch](http://www.literaturhaus.ch)
- North American Native Museum, Zürich: [www.nonam.ch](http://www.nonam.ch)
- Phonogrammarchiv, UZH: [www.phonogrammarchiv.uzh.ch](http://www.phonogrammarchiv.uzh.ch)
- Robinson-Bibliothek im Kunst(Zeug)Haus, Rapperswil-Jona: [www.kunstzeughaus.ch](http://www.kunstzeughaus.ch)
- Sprachpanorama Laufenburg: [www.sprachpanorama.ch](http://www.sprachpanorama.ch)
- Swiss Centre of Irish Studies: [www.es.uzh.ch/scis-zjff](http://www.es.uzh.ch/scis-zjff)
- Strauhof, Zürich: [www.strauhof.ch](http://www.strauhof.ch)
- Zurich James Joyce Foundation: [www.joycefoundation.ch](http://www.joycefoundation.ch)