



Bern University
of Applied Sciences



Master's Degree Programme in Wood Technology

A master's programme
unlike any other in Europe

► Architecture, Wood and Civil Engineering

Master of Science in Wood Technology: Practical, Sustainable, International

Are you a wood engineer, civil engineer or materials scientist seeking to deepen your knowledge of the sustainable and future-oriented use of wood? In this master's degree programme, you will specialise in complex timber structures and multi-storey timber and hybrid construction, innovation management, digital manufacturing or innovative technologies for bio-based materials.

Main Areas of Study

The programme offers outstanding application-oriented training with involvement in current industry and research projects and a strong emphasis on sustainability issues. In the specialisation Complex Timber Structures, you will develop the expertise needed for planning and implementing challenging timber construction projects. The Management of Processes and Innovation specialisation will enable you to develop innovative digital technologies, products and business models and manage processes with an entrepreneurial focus. And the Innovation in Bio-based Materials specialisation will help you become an expert in sustainable bio-based material and product concepts in the materials industry. All three specialisations seek to provide you with a firm grasp of the very latest technologies and focus on collaboration with industry partners.

Programme Content

This degree programme has a modular structure and can be undertaken full-time (4 semesters) or part-time (5 to 6 semesters). Core modules are interdisciplinary in nature, meaning you will work with students from the other specialisations. Elective modules, semester-long specialisation projects and the master's thesis allow you to personalise your profile.

You will be taught and coached by a team of highly experienced lecturers and experts from the private sector. Workshops, excursions and assignments at the Technology Park in collaboration with industry partners consistently ensure a high degree of practical relevance right from the outset.

Unique profile

Choose your
personal focus
from three
specialisations.

The Degree Programme at a Glance

Focus	In-depth knowledge of the topics that will shape the future of the wood industry Applied sustainability in the construction sector and wood industry
Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Training focused on application and involvement in current industry and research projects– Personalised profile thanks to elective study options based on personal preferences– Development of an international network
Specialisations	<p>Complex Timber Structures CTS: multi-storey timber and hybrid construction; earthquake design, fire protection and building physics; assessment and upgrading of building condition; complex free-form and shell structures; BIM and digital processes in construction</p> <p>Management of Processes and Innovation MPI: innovation and process management; digital manufacturing in the wood industry; composite materials technology; ecodesign of products and buildings</p> <p>Innovation in Bio-based Materials BBM: technology, processes and development of biobased materials and products; ecodesign and life cycle assessment, innovation management</p>
Mode of Study	Programme available full-time (4 semesters) or part-time (5 to 6 semesters)
Language of Instruction	English. Student research projects can be written in German or French subject to approval
Mobility	Optional semester abroad and internship
Study Location	Biel, Switzerland
Costs	One-time registration fee CHF 100.– Semester fee CHF 750.–, for foreign students CHF 950.–
Beginning of Studies	September (Week 38)
Admission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Bachelor's degree in wood technology, timber construction, civil engineering, materials science or another engineering science– Graduation with 210 ECTS credits (missing credits can be earned during the master's programme)– Suitable qualifications in timber construction and /or structural engineering are required for the Complex Timber Structures specialisation.– Proof of English language skills
Application Deadline	15 June Candidates requiring a visa for Switzerland are advised to apply as soon as possible
Title/Degree	Master of Science (MSc) in Wood Technology



Discussions about environmental management and sustainability

Professional Profile and Career Prospects

As a graduate of our master's degree programme in Wood Technology, your expertise is in demand. Your comprehensive knowledge, sound technical know-how and ability to make savvy business decisions set you apart from the crowd. Your employment will become increasingly international and interdisciplinary with time. If you specialise in Complex Timber Structures, you can work as a timber engineer to create structural plans for complex tasks. The Management of Processes and Innovation specialisation equips you with the skills needed to develop and apply innovative technologies, products and business models and manage relevant processes with an entrepreneurial focus. The Innovation in Bio-based Materials specialisation prepares you for careers in the development and realisation of biobased, circular and sustainable technologies, processes and products.

The degree programme will open up outstanding career opportunities where you will help shape a sustainable, future-oriented wood industry and bioeconomy.



Digital manufacturing at
the Technology Park

Good Reasons for the Master's Degree Programme in Biel

- You will study alongside fellow students from all over the world and develop an international network of contacts.
- The bilingual city of Biel and lectures in English will improve your intercultural skills.
- You will learn from leading experts and tackle challenging, application-oriented tasks.
- You will benefit from BFH's research and development activities and have access to a Technology Park unparalleled in Switzerland with digitally networked CNC machines and robots, testing equipment for façade elements, furniture, construction elements and load-bearing structures as well as laboratories for materials, wood modification, biopolymers, adhesive technology and surface treatment.

Information Event and Personal Consultation

Visit one of our information events or arrange for a personal consultation to discuss the degree programme and your specific plans.

Arrange an appointment for a personal consultation

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Register for
an information
event now

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