



MILE

Master of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics

Admission

Online application form [here](#)

Looking to embark on a rewarding career in international trade and investment? The Master of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (MILE) program (MAS, 90 ECTS credits) is designed for students and professionals who wish to broaden their knowledge of international trade and investment in the fields of law, economics and political science.

Established in 1999, MILE is the flagship program of the World Trade Institute. It is one of the world's leading programs of advanced studies in the fields of international trade and investment regulation and has close ties to the WTI's research portfolio.

The program uniquely combines a multidisciplinary perspective with a strong applied focus. In addition to our resident faculty, we bring in the world's leading trade and investment experts from law firms, international organizations, policy research institutes and top universities.

Requirements: An undergraduate university degree, ideally in law, economics, international relations, or political science, and evidence of English proficiency. A degree and/or work experience in international trade or investment is desirable but not compulsory.

The MILE coursework is completed in a one-year intensive program organized in Bern. Writing requirements (MILE Master's thesis) and additional credits are usually completed outside the regular fall and spring semesters and do not require presence in Bern. The program can also be taken on a part-time basis for three years.

Teaching and guidance from world-class scholars and practitioners from leading universities, international organizations, think tanks and law firms.

[Everything about the MILE program](#)

Key facts

90 ECTS credits

Tuition fee: 21,000 CHF

Intake: September of every year

Language of instruction: English

Deadlines

Early bird deadline: 1 December (applications submitted before this deadline will be given priority)

Regular deadline: 31 January

What we offer

- Teaching and guidance from world-class scholars and practitioners from leading universities, international organizations, think tanks and law firms
- Highly applicable real-world knowledge and the latest research developments in international trade and investment regulation, and economics
- A vibrant alumni network with over 600 members worldwide
- Strong networks and mentoring programs to help students secure internships and entry-level positions

What you bring

The MILE is designed for students and professionals with a background in law, economics, international relations or political science, who wish to embark on a career in international trade and investment.

For information about living and studying in Switzerland, [click here](#).

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

MILE structure and regulations

The MILE is a non-consecutive Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) that counts for 90 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System Points). Coursework accounts for 75 ECTS, and the mandatory master's thesis is awarded 15 ECTS.

Length of Studies: Regular course attendance in Bern is required from mid-September until the end of June. The MILE Master's thesis is researched and written over the subsequent summer and fall and does not require a presence in Bern.

In addition to the courses offered during the fall and spring semesters, MILE program students can take advantage of the WTI Winter and Summer Academy courses (and obtain ECTS credits for those courses).

The MILE begins with a foundational semester during which students are given a solid basis in international economic law, international micro- and macroeconomics and global political

economy. The second semester consists of courses and seminars based on lectures and case studies that deliver an in-depth analysis of relevant topics in international trade and investment.

As part of many of the MILE courses, students are regularly given writing assignments to complete within a short time frame. These assignments are designed to prepare students for real-world scenarios and reflect what is expected of professionals working in the fields of international trade and investment.

The MILE program culminates in a challenging yet rewarding moot court exercise – a simulation of a fictitious trade dispute between two countries in front of a panel composed of top trade law experts.

The MILE curriculum is interdisciplinary, combining law, economics and political science. You will study the global economy, international macroeconomics and applied economics, trade facilitation, competition law, investment law, dispute settlement, trade remedies, political science and much more.

The WTI attaches great importance to its teaching methods. Courses and seminars consist of lectures and case studies, offering students opportunities for classroom discussions, group workshops, and individual research.

For a full list of available courses and seminars please refer to the MILE curriculum [here](#)

For questions about the curriculum, please contact the [Academic Coordinator](#)

Faculty

MILE course offerings draw on a global, highly experienced faculty. For a list of lecturers, please see the in-house and external faculty lists on the WTI [People](#) page and visit the University of Bern [Faculty of Law](#) page.

Academic Year 2024/2025 – Key Dates

9 & 13 Sept. 2024	10 & 11 Sept. 2024	12 Sept. 2024	16 Sept. 2024	17 Feb. 2025	30 June 2025
Induction days at the WTI	WTO Public Forum	Trade for Sustainable Development (T4SD) Forum	Courses begin Fall semester	Courses begin Spring semester	Courses end

Fall semester

16 September to 20 December 2024

Foundations of Economics

Lecturers: [David Baumann](#) (Mathematics and Statistics), [Kirti Jhunjhunwala](#) (Microeconomics), [Octavio Fernández- Amador](#) (Macroeconomics and Econometrics)

ECTS: 11

[Syllabus](#)

International Trade Regulation

Lecturer: [Michael Hahn](#)

ECTS: 10

International Investment Law

Lecturer: [Krista Nadakuvakaren](#)

ECTS: 5

[Read more](#)

Academic Support: Research and Academic Writing Seminar

Dates: 20 September, 25 October, 15 November, 30 November and 6 December 2024

Lecturers: [Rodrigo Polanco](#)

[Syllabus](#)

Global Political Economy

Lecturer: [Manfred Elsig](#)

ECTS: 5

International Courts and Tribunals: International Economic Dispute Resolution in Times of Geopolitical Confrontation

Lecturer: [Peter Van den Bossche](#)

ECTS: 5

[Syllabus](#)

Global Economic Governance Seminars – Fall Series

ECTS: 1

Every session features an expert lecturer. Please visit the [Events page](#) for a list of seminars.
[Read more](#)

WINTER ACADEMY 2024

All courses in January/February 2025 (Winter Academy): see [here](#)

Spring Semester

17 February to 30 June 2025

International Economic Dispute Resolution

Lecturer: Isabelle Van Damme

ECTS: 5

International Economic Law and the Pursuit of Sustainable Development

Lecturer: Isabelle Van Damme

ECTS: 5

International Economics

Lecturers: [Octavio Fernandez- Amador](#)

ECTS: 4

Advanced International Investment Law

Lecturer: [Rodrigo Polanco](#)

ECTS: 5

Development economics and environmental sustainability

Dates: 19, 20 and 21 February and 26, 27 February 2025

Lecturers: [Patrick Tomberger](#) (Environmental Sustainability), Jesús Crespo Cuaresma (Development Economics)

ECTS: 3

Global Economic Governance Seminars – Spring Series

ECTS: 1

Every session features an expert lecturer.
Please visit the [Events page](#) for a list of seminars.

Moot Court

Dates: TBD

ECTS: 5

Coaches: TBD

Introduction to International Negotiation

Dates: 7 March, 14 March, 21 March and 28 March 2025

ECTS: 3

Lecturers: [Felix Addor](#)

Research Tutorials for Thesis Writing

Dates: 3 March, 10 March, and 17 March 2025

Lecturer: [Patrick Wagner](#)

Academic Support: Research and Academic Writing Seminar

Dates: TBD

Lecturer: [Rodrigo Polanco](#)

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Admission requirements

We require you to have completed, at least, an undergraduate degree to be considered for admission to the Master of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (MILE) program at the WTI.

The majority of our students have a background in law, economics or political sciences. However, we also accept applications from individuals having backgrounds in other fields of expertise. Graduate degrees in a related field and/or work experience in the fields of international trade and investment give you a bonus when the selection committee evaluates your application.

To be considered for the MILE program, please make sure to upload in the online application **all** the documents below.

Please upload electronic copies of your documents, preferably in PDF format (jpg/png/gif are accepted), limited to 20MB:

- Detailed CV
- Letter of motivation (write about your academic & professional accomplishments, and explain why you believe the MILE will be beneficial to you and your career)
- Transcripts and degrees of all completed college/university courses
- Two letters of recommendation
- Evidence of English proficiency for non-native speakers (please see requirements above)
- A two-page essay in English (instructions can be found [here](#))

How to apply

Please use our online application form to apply for the MILE program and to view details of our requirements.

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Online application form [here](#)

About the English language requirements

The MILE program is taught exclusively in English. Therefore, you need to arrive at the WTI with a level of English. In particular, the level of English needs to allow you to express yourself effectively in and outside the classroom, deliver on weekly writing assignments and adequately cover weekly readings.

You are required to submit objective test scores of one of the accepted tests listed below:

Test	Minimum Score
TOEFL iBT	100 points or above
TOEFL Paper	600 points or above
IELTS	7.0 or above
Cambridge CAE	A
Cambridge CPE	C or higher

Exemptions

The following applicants are exempt from submitting test scores:

- A student with an undergraduate and/or graduate degree from an institution where English was the primary language of instruction, and the degree was awarded no longer than five years ago
- A student who has completed at least one year of study in an English-speaking country and at an institution where English was the primary language of instruction immediately prior to joining the MILE program
- Native English speakers: Students with an undergraduate and/or graduate degree from an institution in the USA, Canada, the UK, Ireland, Australia or New Zealand, where English was the primary language of instruction, and the degree was awarded no longer than five years ago.

Important: If you believe you are exempt from submitting an English test score, please state the relevant reasons in the comment box in the online application form.

Tuition and registration fees

Tuition for the MILE program is CHF 21,000 for both full and part-time studies.

You may benefit from either one of the following two payment methods:

- A 2% discount is applied if you pay your entire tuition fee prior to the first day of the program.
- If you are unable to pay in full, you can pay in installments. Please contact us to discuss this.

A one-time, non-refundable registration fee of CHF 200 is required upon admission to the program. Once we confirm your admission to the TRAIL+ program, we will provide you with bank details. The applicant must bear any charges incurred during the transfer of the tuition fee or registration fee.

Financial support

Opportunities for financial aid are available [here](#)