



Mildelile

Nº1

# Welcome from the President

As one of Europe's leading business universities, we are systematically and continuously developing our internationalisation. The combination of our strengths — which include academic excellence, managerial relevance and intercultural skills — has enabled us to create the Master of Arts in Strategy and International Management (SIM) programme, taught entirely in English. The outstanding quality and cultural diversity of this high-profile, top-ranked programme give our students a competitive edge and confirm that we are on the right path. Prof. Dr. Thomas Bieger, President of the University of St. Gallen

- 3 Our Journey
- 5 Our Vision
- 7 The University of St.Gallen (HSG)
- 11 Our Commitment
- 13 The Best of Both Worlds
- 15 SIM Curriculum Overview
- 17 SIM Core Faculty
- 19 International Double Degree and Exchange Programmes
- 21 Purposeful International Journeys
- 23 Global SIM-HSG Community
- 27 Exclusive Employability Initiatives
- 29 Career Networking Opportunities
- 31 Life in St. Gallen
- 33 Financing Your Studies
- 35 Profile of a SIM Student
- 37 Meet and Visit Us
- 38 Application Requirements

# Insight and Impact

Our programme offers a perfect blend of academic rigour and managerial relevance. Thought-leading research and real-world practical experience. Swiss quality with a global outreach.



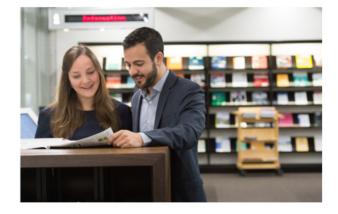
# International Journeys

At SIM you will learn from a diverse class and faculty. You will also embark on an international project, a social initiative abroad, and benefit from unparalleled access to exclusive exchange opportunities worldwide.



# Global Excellence

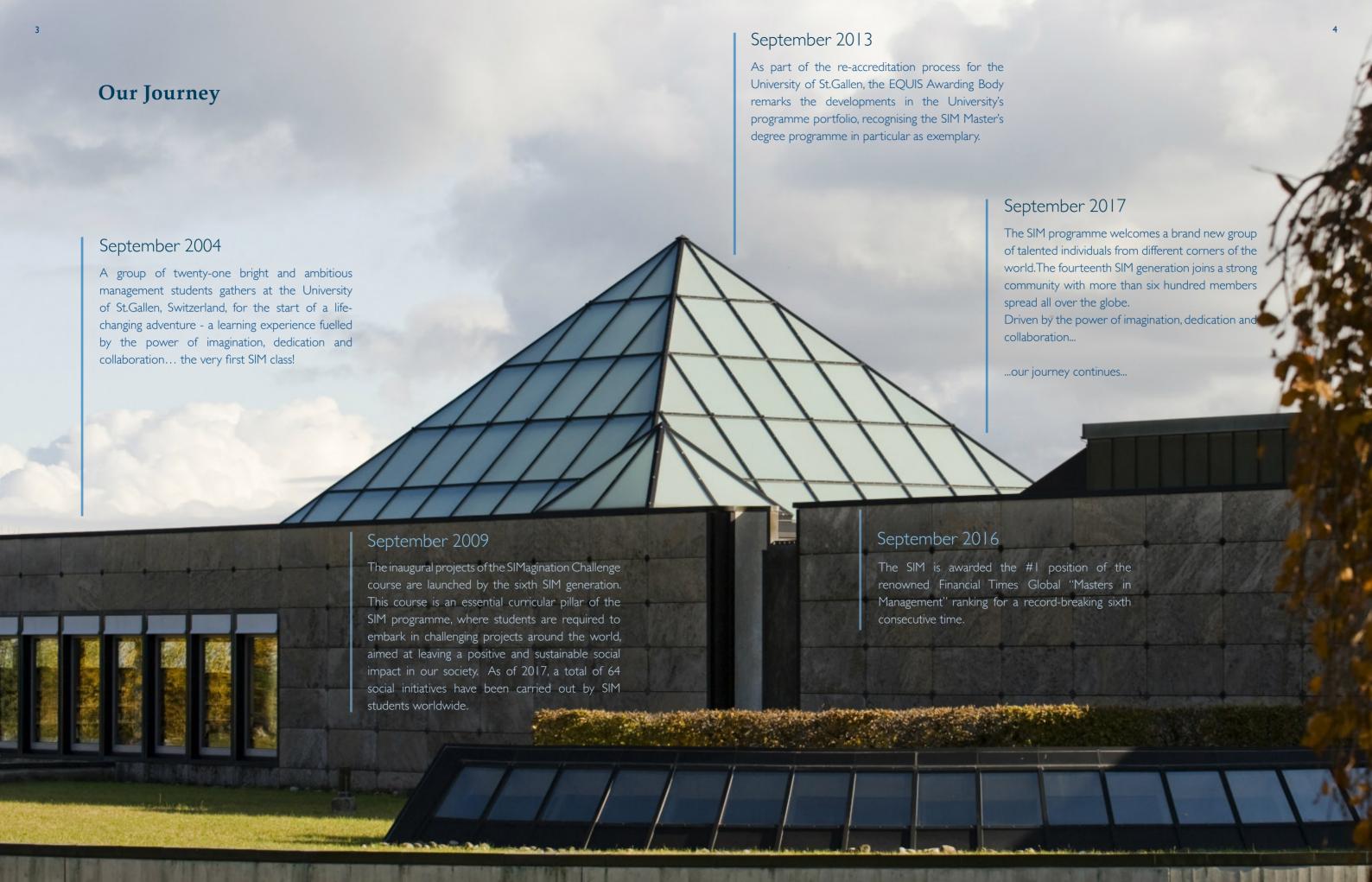
Our commitment to excellence has been internationally recognised by our programme's top position in global MIM rankings (Financial Times, The Economist) and our University's international accreditations (EQUIS, AACSB).



# Personal Connection

With a small class-size, our curriculum focuses on your personal development. You will be part of a vibrant community founded on integrity, responsibility and shared values.





# **Our Vision**

By being admitted into the Master of Arts in Strategy and International Management (SIM), you are part of a leading programme which longs to provide outstanding management education and generate exceptional value for students, employers and society at large.

# Outstanding Management Education

It is our mission to provide you with the advanced knowledge and skills of management for a successful career as a respected and responsible manager, entrepreneur, business consultant, and beyond. We offer an integrative and interdisciplinary learning experience, since only an approach of this nature is capable of conveying the ability to cope with the complex management challenges of our time. Our programme aspires to act independently of all interests and is committed to uphold high ethical and academic standards.

#### Flagship Master's Degree Programme

As a SIM student, you are part of a diverse group of highly motivated and ambitious individuals. You stand out through your strong track record, your eagerness to learn and develop key competencies, and your aspiration to grow into a responsible global leader. Thanks to our small class, you can interact with an experienced faculty that combines academic rigour with managerial relevance, whilst experiencing a high level of cultural diversity. The University of St. Gallen is well known for its integrated management framework, which forms the heart of teaching in the SIM master's degree programme. By way of international projects, challenging initiatives dedicated to finding creative solutions to address social needs, as well as multiple exchange and double degree opportunities available around the globe, you will be challenged to leave your comfort zone, perform and excel.

#### **Exceptional Career Prospects**

At the SIM, your efforts are rewarded with excellent prospects in the job market. You benefit as well from the University's close ties to leading international companies, business leaders, and access to the nearly 26,000 active alumni around the globe.

## An Inspiring Community

Furthermore, you become an active member of our programme's most unique feature: a lively and enthusiastic SIM community. Based on joint initiatives, the SIM Directorship and Management Unit, together with its Faculty, committed students and graduates, strive to create a social environment that allows for much more than just participating in a top-notch educational programme year after year.

We look forward to welcoming you to the SIM master's degree programme at the University of St.Gallen.

#### The Directorship Team

Managing Director, Prof. Dr. Academic Director, Prof Omid Aschari, MBA (standing left)

Dr.Dr.Tomi Laamanen (standing right)



# The University of St. Gallen (HSG)

Since its founding in 1898, the education and training offered by the University of St.Gallen have been characterised by a close affinity to the working world and an integrative approach. More than 8,300 students are enrolled at the HSG in Business Administration, Economics, Law and International Affairs; they are supported by over 2,900 professors, researchers and administrators.

# School of Management, Economics, Law, Social Sciences and International Affairs

HSG aims to develop you both professionally and personally by providing you with an education grounded in the humanities. Among the HSG's general principles is the promotion of interaction between faculty and students in an environment characterised by diversity and synergetic development of regional and international roots. You can witness first-hand its international orientation thanks to students and faculty coming from all continents, its collaboration with around 200 partner universities, and its active membership in international networks.

# "From Insight to Impact"

Our University is more than an educational institution; it is a place of inspiration that stimulates you to think. You will acquire up-to-date knowledge that is of great practical relevance, and gain valuable insights. This will enable you to make an important contribution to social and economic progress and to your own personal development.

# Ranking and Accreditations

According to current rankings, the HSG is one of Europe's leading business universities. Its holistic education of the highest academic standards has earned it the EQUIS and AACSB accreditations.

## Unique Academic Structure

Intellectual skills, an integrative view, flexibility, responsibility and intercultural qualifications are of ever increasing importance today. To ensure that students are able to acquire these skills, we have a unique degree course architecture at the HSG.

#### **Core Studies**

Core studies at the University of St.Gallen consist of compulsory subjects, core electives, electives and the Master's thesis. The compulsory subjects convey the basics of the degree course of your choice. Core electives consist of a wide range of programme-specific courses. Courses of other programmes are open to you among the electives. The extensive range of core electives and electives enables you to focus on issues which may be of particular interest to you.

# Contact & Independent Studies

In Contact Studies, the subject matter is communicated by a teacher in lectures, exercises and seminars.

A further form of teaching is Independent Studies: you learn on your own or in small groups, using various aids. This is a more extensive concept than preparatory or follow-up work on lectures. In Independent Studies, you hone your ability to acquire knowledge on your own. The advantage is that you are free to schedule your own learning time.



#### **Contextual Studies**

Contextual Studies at the Master's Level enable you to study relevant issues with a multidisciplinary approach and in depth: media, cultures, history, society, responsibility, creativity, law and technologies. These eight Areas of Concentration provide you with an opportunity to acquire more detailed qualifications. Alternatively, you can thematically combine two seminars from Contextual Studies with a core studies course you have already completed and achieve an intensively supervised and innovative synthesis in a portfolio course. Courses in Skills, for instance, include rhetoric and programming. In addition, the University of St.Gallen fosters discourse with different countries and other cultures: you can gain international experience in dialogues with students from more than 80 nations.

#### Research

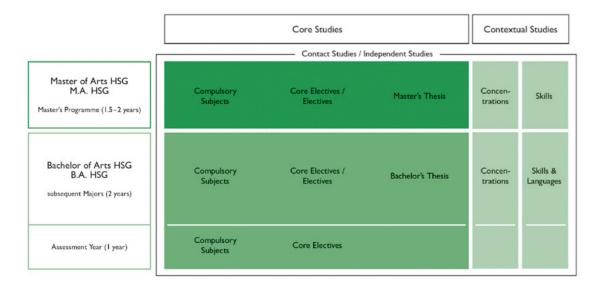
With a research culture that prizes excellence and is fully committed to academic freedom, research at the University of St.Gallen is centered around 41 institutes, research institutes and centres, which are an integral part of the HSG and operate at a largely autonomous level. They combine theory with practice, provide important input for teaching at the University and play a significant role in furthering the careers of young academics.

## Entrepreneurship Campus

The main objective of the HSG Entrepreneurship Campus is to introduce you to the world of entrepreneurship and to outline entrepreneurship as a possible future career path. An extensive programme offers support to technology-based and knowledge-orientated business ideas and start-ups of HSG students. Apart from numerous events throughout the year, the Entrepreneurship Campus can offer you individual consultation hours with specialists. In addition to this support, a scholarship programme called HSG Entrepreneurial Talents was set up, providing the future founders with working space, mentoring and financial support, and the prestigious HSG Founder of the Year prize of CHF 10,000 is awarded annually.

# The St. Gallen Symposium

The St. Gallen Symposium is said to be the world's premier opportunity for debate across generations on issues of management, politics and civil society. First launched in 1970 and organised entirely by students, the Symposium aims to foster intergenerational and intercultural dialogue between the leaders of today and the leaders of tomorrow. Annually, 200 talented young people from across the world are invited to attend. The St. Gallen Foundation for International Studies is an independent foundation supervising the activities of the International Students' Committee (ISC) St. Gallen in the organisation of the St. Gallen Symposium. www.symposium.org





# **Our Commitment**

As a SIM student, you benefit from excellent graduate-level education in Strategy and International Management, and experience a unique blend of academic coursework with realising complex goals in practice. The curriculum is enriched by opportunities for personal development and enables you to sharpen the skills required of a future global leader.

#### A Challenging Curriculum

Your SIM curriculum consists of 90 ECTS and is typically three semesters (1.5 years) in duration. It builds upon the core disciplines of strategy, leadership, finance, marketing, organisational behaviour and international management. Advanced courses in these majors are complemented by a selection of SIM Integratives, which allow you to explore sizeable management challenges of our time by taking a holistic approach to the relevant management disciplines.

Thanks to the mandatory pillar "SIM in Practice", comprised of the SIM International Project (SIM-IP) and the SIMagination Challenge course, we ensure that you have the opportunity to apply what you learn in both corporate practice and international initiatives.

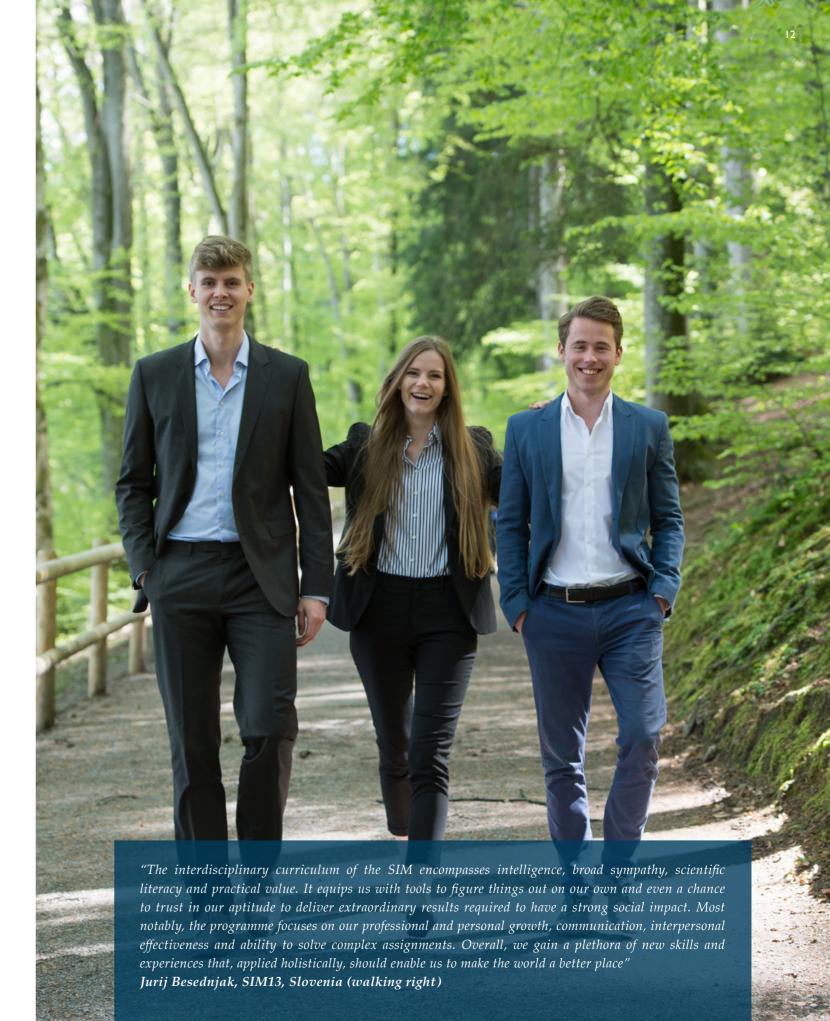
On account of our global orientation, the language of instruction and examination at the SIM programme is English. Upon successful completion of the programme, you will be awarded the Master of Arts in Strategy and International Management (SIM-HSG).

## Personal Mastery

A key feature of the exclusivity of the SIM programme is its small class size, which facilitates individual attention. Several courses, such as the SIM Integratives, are limited to 30 participants, thereby creating a high level of intensity in the interactive teaching. You will thereby benefit from an environment that allows for interaction with the staff, the faculty as well as with mentors and other stakeholders. Moreover, various learning experiences are designed to include personal reflection and individualised feedback.

#### SIM-Start Professional

Prior to starting the programme, you are required to attend a selection of short and intensive sessions, focusing on distinct topics of high managerial relevance. The SIM-Start Professional is in place to prepare you for the start of your SIM studies and maximize your success during your SIM experience. The SIM-Start Professional week is usually held in early September, around calendar week 36.



# The Best of Both Worlds

The SIM curriculum unites the best of both worlds. It combines the research-based, academic rigour of a Master of Arts with the interactive nature and practice-oriented approach present in leading MBA programmes. It reflects the confidence we have in your abilities and potential.

## **SIM Compulsory Courses**

These courses advance your knowledge in the functional areas of management. You will explore advanced theories and concepts, examine managerial practice and engage in scientific discussion.

#### **SIM Core Electives**

The SIM core electives consist of Advanced Management Courses and Integratives. The Integratives focus on subjects of widespread and current interest in the field of management. Multidisciplinary perspectives are needed in order to embrace these subjects and explore ways to successfully cope with the most current management challenges.

# The SIMagination Challenge

The first element of the mandatory "SIM in Practice" pillar consists of an innovative approach to spur advanced learning by planning, executing and reflecting upon a challenging project which aims at leaving a positive and sustainable impact in society. This course allows your team to initiate an international project, first by carefully identifying and analysing social needs and then by developing effective and sustainable solutions to address these challenges in the long term. The course embraces topics such as personal mastery, team diversity, strategy execution and social responsibility, which combine to address the key development needs of leaders in the 21st century. www.simaginationchallenge.com

## SIM International Project

The "SIM in Practice" pillar also requires you to engage in a challenging international internship that you independently define, plan, initiate, successfully complete, and reflect upon.

## **Independent Electives**

You may choose from a range of different independent electives offered both by the SIM programme and other Master's degree programmes. Thus, you will have the opportunity to acquire additional knowledge in specific fields of interest.

#### Contextual Studies

Contextual Studies are a particular feature of the HSG degree course architecture. They enable you to complement and reflect upon your core studies from various perspectives. You will learn that economic decisions are always embedded in general societal, cultural and historical conditions and must therefore be viewed from an integrative angle. The eight Areas of Concentration are: media, cultures, history, society, responsibility, creativity, law and technologies.

#### Master's Thesis

In order to complete the Master's degree, you must write a thesis worth 18 ECTS credits. The topic of the Master's thesis may derive from any constituent of the SIM programme. You are encouraged to write your thesis in an area relevant to practice.



15

# **SIM Core Faculty**

As a SIM student, you will have access to a top-tier faculty that consists of award-winning academic scholars and senior lecturers in the field of management, as well as a large number of hand-picked industry and academic guest lecturers and executives.



Prof. Dr. Omid Aschari, MBA Associate Professor of Strategic Management Managing Director, SIM-HSG; Chairman of ASG Strategy Group AG



Prof. Dr. Dr. Tomi Laamanen Professor of Strategic Management Academic Director, SIM-HSG; Director, Institute of Management



Prof. Dr. Tomas Casas i Klett Assistant Professor of International Management with a focus on China Director, China Competence Center



Prof. Dr. Heike Bruch Professor of Management with focus on Leadership Director, Institute for Leadership and Human Resource Management





Prof. Dr. Christian Hildebrand Assistant Professor of Marketing Analytics Geneva School of Economics and Management, University of Geneva





Dr. Xena Welch-Guerra Senior Research Fellow Institute of Management



Dr. Thorsten Truijens, MBA Lecturer in Financial Management Managing Partner, Controlling Partner St. Gallen AG

Prof. Dr. Chris Stevaert

Organizational Psychology

Dr. Florian Überbacher

Department of Business Administration,

Senior Research Fellow

University of Zurich

Director, Research Institute for

Professor of Organizational Psychology





Barbara Kux, MBA Lecturer in Business Sustainability Former Board Member and Chief Sustainability Officer, Siemens AG



Prof. Dr. Sven Reinecke Associate Professor of Business Administration and Marketing Director, Institute of Marketing

Prof. Dr. Torsten Schmid Assistant Professor of

Institute of Management



Prof. Dr. Urs Jäger Associate Professor Professor at INCAE Business School, Academic Director of VIVA





Prof. Dr. Andreas Binder Honorary Professor of Debt Law and Company Law Director, Corporate Governance Competence Center; Practicing attorney of law at Binder Legal



Prof. Dr. Marc van Essen Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Director, Global Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation





Dr. Benjamin Berghaus Postdoctoral Researcher Head of the Competence Center for Luxury Management, Institute of Marketing



Prof. Dr. Alexander Zimmermann Assistant Professor of Organization and Strategic Management Project Manager, Centre for Organizational Excellence



# **International Double Degree and Exchange Programmes**

Whether doing a SIM-MBA double degree or an exchange term at a partner university, the international exchange programmes are available to fit a wide spectrum of your educational and intercultural goals.

# International Double Degree Programmes

#### **CEMS MIM**

CEMS is a global alliance of 30 leading business schools, collaborating with multinational companies and NGOs that together offer the CEMS Master's in International Management. The CEMS MIM—builds a bridge between university education and practical management, thus offering you profound insight into leadership best practices.

## DM2 Double Degree Programmes

A double degree gives you the opportunity to be challenged further while experiencing another culture in depth and earning a second Master's degree from one of the partner institutions:

ESADE, Barcelona, Spain | HEC Paris, France | RSM Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands

# FGV-EAESP Double Degree Programme

Within approximately 2.5 years, you can add a second degree from FGV-EAESP (Fundação Getulio Vargas, Escola de Administração de Empresas de São Paulo), the most renowned school of economics in Brazil.

## International Exchange Term

The HSG has an extensive partner network with over 200 universities worldwide. As a SIM student, you may choose to spend an exchange term abroad at universities such as: AGSM MBA Programs, UNSW, Sydney | Columbia University | Cornell University | Duke University | Waseda University | Northwestern University | New York University | Queen's University | Seoul National University | Tel Aviv University | Tsinghua University | UCLA | Universidad de los Andes





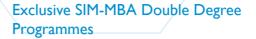


ESADE



UCLA





#### **INCAE Business School - MBA**

The SIM and INCAE MBA double degree programme allows you to enrich your studies with a Latin American perspective. You will receive a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in combination with the SIM Master's degree in two years. Studying at the INCAE MBA prepares you for the challenging business world at the interface of developed and emerging countries. This double degree is the ideal path if you wish to start your management career, distinguishing yourself with the unique Latin American perspective and focus on sustainability. INCAE Business School is the leading business school in Latin America (Financial Times 2017).







"The origination of this idea was when president Kennedy visited 50 years ago and recognised the enormous potential for the private sector as a critical ingredient for progress and development for the hemisphere as a whole"

(Barack Obama, President of the USA, speaking about INCAE at the Foro Centroamérica 2013)



# Nanyang Business School

# Nanyang Business School - MBA

This prestigious double degree provides you with the unique opportunity to gain both Asian and European perspectives on business. You simultaneously earn an MBA at Nanyang Business School (NBS) in Singapore and the SIM Master's degree at the University of St.Gallen. Situated in Asia's most liveable city, the Nanyang MBA is an intense global MBA with a focus in Asia. While in Singapore, you have the opportunity to specialise in Strategy and Innovation or Banking and Finance. The Nanyang MBA was ranked 24th globally by the Financial Times (2017).





# **Purposeful International Journeys**

SIMagination Challenge

Exchange Semester

DM2 Double Degree

SIM-IP

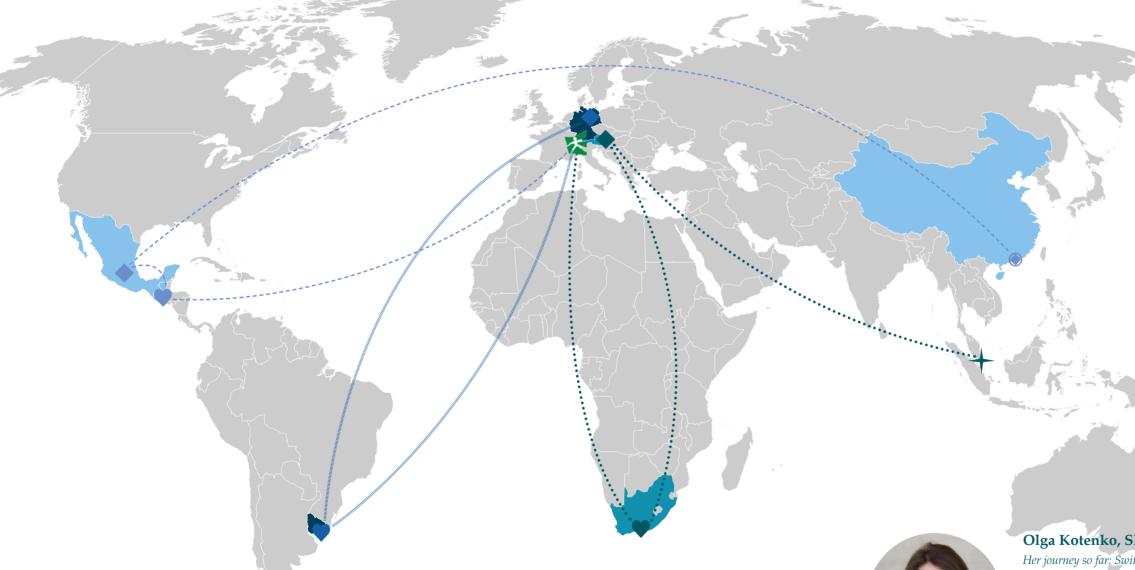
SIM-MBA

The SIM programme encourages and enables you to supplement your academic curriculum with meaningful practical and international experiences. In addition to the SIM-IP and the SIMagination Challenge courses, our Double Degrees and Exchange opportunities through the exclusive HSG network give you the chance to experience foreign cultures and perspectives first hand.



**Tobias Bitzer, SIM12, Germany**His journey so far: Switzerland- Guatemala- Mexico- Hong Kong

"The SIM programme gave me the great opportunity to gain international experience on two continents: During my SIM-IP I supported a pro bono consultancy in Mexico City while in my exchange semester I attended an MBA programme in Hong Kong. Through these occasions, I had the chance to pursue my academic and professional goals in an entirely new and different environment. Being able to work and live with such diverse cultures has been extremely rewarding and broadened my horizon for life."



Thanks to projects that span the continents, as well as access

to around 200 partnerships the HSG has cultivated with

leading business universities around the world, your SIM

journey could take you to a number of exciting destinations,

just like those of Tobias, Ying Ying and Olga ...



Ying Ying Su, SIM12, Taiwan
Her journey so far: Switzerland- Paraguay- Germany

"The SIMagination Challenge was a true hands-on course on teamwork and innovative problem-solving. It was a provocative learning experience to collaborate with people from such diverse cultural and professional backgrounds on an entrepreneurial project in a foreign environment. I was challenged on many different levels, being often outside of my comfort zone and having to overcome various obstacles to move the project forward, but I believe such experience helped me become a better leader and I wish the same for the future SIM generations"

# Olga Kotenko, SIM-MBA Nanyang Double Degree, Russia

Her journey so far: Switzerland - South Africa - Austria - Singapore

"Since I had some years of working experience, the MBA double degree was an obvious choice for me. The combination of SIM and Nanyang MBA not only creates perfect theoretical and practical ground for future development, but also gives a truly global vision by exposing us to the most innovative European and Asian markets in Switzerland and Singapore."

# **Global SIM-HSG Community**

As a "SIMmie", you become part of a strong, diverse and dynamic community. Our global community embraces all students, graduates, staff and faculty members of the SIM programme. Its life is shaped outside the classroom, through regular events, social media and international networking. University life at HSG is also rich and diverse, thanks to numerous student clubs, initiatives and activities at your disposal.

#### Student Initiatives

Some 120 student associations and initiatives contribute to an exciting university life. Whether your fields of interests include leisure, academics, international/regional networks, management and business, music and culture, politics and society, religion, or sports, you can certainly find one or more associations to enrich your university experience. As a HSG student you are encouraged to work towards the realisation of your ideas and contribute to the development of the University by means of these initiatives. You will soon find out that this unique commitment of HSG students is, together with the high quality of its research and teaching, among the most prominent features of the University of St.Gallen.

A selection of student associations:

Young Entrepreneurs Club | St. Gallen Symposium
(ISC) | Toastmasters | Sailing | Consulting Club | Choir |
HSG Big Band | HSG Orchestra | Student Theatre

A full list is available at: www.myunisg.ch

## **HSG Sports**

Thanks to the University's Sports Office, you have free access to a multitude of sport and exercise activities each semester, which can help you maintain a healthy and balanced lifestyle. The University offers state-of-the-art sports facilities such as gymnasium, gymnastics room, sauna, football field, basketball and beach volleyball court, and tennis courts.

Examples of activities organised by HSG Sports:

Aerobics | Aikido | Badminton | Basketball | Beach volleyball | Canoeing | Cycling | Dancing | Diving | Golf | Horseback riding | Indoor climbing | Judo | Rugby | Paragliding | Skiing | Snowboarding | Soccer | Squash | Swimming | T'ai Chi | Tennis | Yoga

A full list is available at: www.sports.unisg.ch



# SIMopoly

This icebreaker event has become a tradition, actively introducing you to your classmates' unique personalities. SIMopoly focuses on building collaboration within diverse groups, friendly competition, and creative problem-solving – which are themes of the overall SIM programme. Your team will be led by previous SIM students along a treasure hunt trail, while getting acquainted with the city of St. Gallen.

# SIM Buddy System

As a newly admitted student, you have the chance to be assigned a current SIM student as a peer mentor. Your SIM Buddy can assist you in tackling many of the challenges you may face when preparing to move to Switzerland or study at the HSG (e.g. housing, course selection).

# Regulars' Tables

At the SIM Regulars' Tables your class will find a space to define its own identity. These are regularly organised events with specific cross-cultural themes that serve as social networking opportunities between SIM students, SIM staff and members of the SIM faculty.

# SIM Community Event

Once a year, members of the SIM community – comprised of SIM students, graduates, staff and faculty – come together for an exclusive and interactive event. This constitutes the perfect forum to catch up with the whole SIM community, make new connections and strengthen your bonds with other SIM colleagues.

















# **Exclusive Employability Initiatives**

We offer you the chance to take part on a number of workshops exclusive to SIM students, aimed at increasing your employability at graduation. The workshops are tailored to enhance your skillsets and knowledge, while enabling you to differentiate yourself from other candidates in the job market.

#### Skill Enhancement

Workshops are organised in conjunction with a number of our corporate partners in order to provide you with a chance to work on practical scenarios and to network with top professionals in specific fields of interest. Interactive and challenging case studies and workshops are provided, focusing on enhancing employability relevant skills such as problem-solving skills, team dynamics, communication in a business environment, and analytical skills.

# SIMtensive German Programme

With a high number of international students looking to increase their employability within the Germanspeaking region, an intensive language course is provided exclusively for you, should you not be a native speaker of the German language. Focus in this course is put on conversations and the teaching builds on the knowledge you may have attained from other German language courses. This process supports you in your preparation for conversations in the context of networking.

# **SIM Community Contributions**

Being a member of the SIM community also means you can find support from our active SIM graduates in various ways. They share information and news on social media platforms, network at SIM social events and workshops, as well as collaborate to offer private and focused industry-specific sessions.

#### Personal Focus

You will find several opportunities for self-reflection throughout the SIM programme. We stay close to our students by offering advice on career related topics, such as industry or company specific information, interview preparation and job application documents. You are given the chance to discuss individually about your own life and career goals and get an idea of the opportunities that can be found in specific areas, such as in German-speaking or emerging countries, and the improvements that you can make on an individual level in preparation for targeted and systematic career planning.

# **Career Perspectives**

Leading international companies in a wide arrange of industries and sectors are keen to employ SIM students, usually before graduation, thanks to their close ties to the programme and the University. Whichever your career goals and aspirations are, you will benefit from the strength of the programme's community and partnerships, as well as the HSG's global alumni network.



# **Career Networking Opportunities**

We trust you have a strong vision of where you wish to be in the future; you have set ambitious goals for yourself and actively pursue them with determination. We support you in developing your skills and ideas on a personal level to prepare you for the pursuit of a rewarding and meaningful career.

# Career & Corporate Services (CSC-HSG)

Early preparation and career planning are important parts of studying in a Master's degree programme. The clearer you are about your skills, values, interests and goals, the more focused you are when developing goals for your career and your life. The Career & Corporate Services (CSC-HSG) is an additional support for all HSG students and is offering you job application support and counselling. It also offers a number of official recruiting events, such as the HSG Banking Days, the HSG Industry Days and the HSG TALENTS Conference. The CSC-HSG can also provide you with information about work permit regulations in Switzerland.

You can find more information on www.hsgcareer.ch

#### **HSG TALENTS Conference**

www.hsgtalents.ch

Every year, over 100 international corporations and more than 1,000 students and graduates participate in this event, which ranks as Switzerland's largest recruitment event for business and law. This three week-long event takes place in March every year - as a HSG student, you will have a unique opportunity to interact with prospective employers during company presentations, workshops, pre-scheduled interviews and a career fair.

#### **HSG Alumni**

HSG Alumni is the official alumni association at the University of St.Gallen, with almost 26,000 members and more than 180 formal organisations established throughout the five continents.

The goal of the association is to create value not only for alumni, but also for the University, its students and faculty. The HSG Alumni association actively creates value in three ways; by creating opportunities to network (friendraising), by creating opportunities to give back to the University (fundraising) and by creating opportunities to share knowledge with each other (brainraising).

#### SIM Corporate Partnerships

The SIM programme has established close ties to leading international corporations that act as our corporate sponsors and practice partners. This cooperation includes interactive workshops, lectures, invitations to visit their offices, and attractive international internships.

## **SIM Corporate Sponsors**





THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP

SIM Selected Practice Partners









Further Employers (Sample)\*



























McKinsey&Company

































# Life in St. Gallen

St.Gallen is a historically unique town complete with a variety of shops, street cafés, bars and clubs, and with approximately 79,000 inhabitants. The Abbey District holds international significance with its baroque cathedral and the Abbey Library, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

#### Switzerland

As a federal republic with a system of direct democracy, Switzerland enjoys a high degree of political stability. Living here means being close to various international organisations, such as the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. The country's economy is based on a highly qualified and skilled labour force. Switzerland's international reputation as a research centre is beyond dispute. Primary industries include micro-, high- and biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, as well as banking and insurance. Swiss companies are extremely competitive in the global markets. Due to all these factors, as well as its beautiful landscapes, you will soon be conquered by the high standard of living at affordable prices.

## Living in St. Gallen

St. Gallen is a vibrant and dynamic cultural town, where performances in the city theatre, the concert hall, local cultural festivals, as well as exhibitions in numerous museums and private galleries are extremely regular. An event that is particularly popular with many students is the Open Air St. Gallen, a music festival during which the Sitter Valley is transformed into Switzerland's largest tent city for four days. Additionally, you will have the opportunity to keep fit with varied leisure and sports activities, such as as skiing, rock climbing and sailing due to the city's great location between the snowy Alps and sunny Lake Constance. The Peter and Paul Wildlife Park, close to the University, is an idyllic setting for jogging or walking. Furthermore, St. Gallen's "Three Ponds" are only a few minutes' walk

from the city centre. These three large ponds, situated on a hill on the outskirts of the city, serve as public swimming pools in the summer and as ice rinks in cold winters.

## Preparation for Settling in St. Gallen

As an international student, you must obtain a visa prior to entering Switzerland, unless you are a national from the EU/EFTA area, Japan and Singapore, in which case you must only apply for a residence permit. On average, visa applications take about eight weeks to process. You can apply for your visa as soon as you have received your letter of acceptance from the University and have secured financing for your studies. Information on such procedures is offered by the HSG Admissions and Crediting Office.

#### Highlights

- The Abbey District in St. Gallen, UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Switzerland's four national languages: German,
- French, Italian and Romansh
- Large international population (24.3% foreign nationals)
- One of the highest annual per capita GDPs worldwide: USD 84,070 (IMF, 2015) at current prices
- St. Gallen is very close to Zurich, number 2 city in Mercer's 2016 Quality of Living Ranking



# **Financing Your Studies**

Higher education is subsidised by the Swiss government, resulting in low tuition fees, which makes the SIM an affordable programme among the world's top-ranked institutions. A degree is an investment in your personal development and your future, which should enable you to recover your tuition fees after the first few months of employment.

#### **Tuition Fees**

Switzerland invests in excellent undergraduate and graduate education by way of government subsidies. Thus, as an international student, your tuition fee at the University of St.Gallen is a favourable amount of CHF 3,326 per semester (not including text books and other teaching material). Payments are made by semester.

# Living Costs in St. Gallen

The recommended monthly budget is between CHF 2,100-2,500 per month for basic needs, including living and studying expenses.

Estimated monthly expenses:

Housing: CHF 660

Living expenses: CHF 1,120

Health (insurance, medication, etc.): CHF 170

#### Accommodation

St. Gallen has a relaxed house market, with a good selection of apartments, rooms in shared apartments (called Wohngemeinschaft or WG), and houses at varying prices. Links to online housing markets can be found on the Student Union or University website. Prices for accommodation vary greatly depending on location, size, standard of living and amenities.

## Travelling

In Switzerland, travelling by public transport is very convenient and encouraged. You are advised to obtain the Swiss Federal Railway half-fare (Halbtax) card in order to save 50% on all tickets. It is available for about CHF 185 and is valid for one year.

#### Financial Aid

When studying in Switzerland, you can take up a temporary part-time job and/or apply to secure a student loan or scholarship. Financial aid for studying in Switzerland can be obtained from various sources. Specifically, two funds are made available by the HSG:

#### Loan and Scholarship Fund

To ensure financially disadvantaged students are also able to study at the HSG, we have the loan and scholarship fund. The fund offers loans and scholarships to students enrolled in the Bachelor's or Master's Level. Additionally, foreign students can be granted a scholarship that covers the difference between the fees for Swiss nationals and foreign nationals. The purpose is to support students in need. To be eligible to apply for either form of aid, students must be enrolled for a minimum of one semester.

www.studyfunding.unisg.ch

# Starr International Foundation Scholarship Fund

The Starr International Foundation Scholarship Fund is set aside for highly talented foreign-language students with a recognised foreign Bachelor's degree who are completing a Master's degree in one of the English-language programmes. Exceptional students are identified by the Advice Center for Study Funding and asked to hand in an application. Please check the website of the Advice Center for Study Funding for further information on the above-mentioned or other options.

www.studyfunding.unisg.ch studyfunding@unisg.ch

# Other Scholarship Opportunities

A limited amount of scholarship opportunities, such as the WEF Global Shapers Scholarship and the Kistefos St. Gallen Masterclass Scholarship (for Norway), may be available to SIM candidates every year thanks to our strong network of strategic partners. During your application process, we can advise you on your eligibility for any of these initiatives.

www.globalshapers.org www.stgallen.no

# Work-Study Opportunities

The University and its institutes are regularly looking for students to do project work. The SIM Management Unit also offers projects to students of the SIM programme. Vacancies can be found on the website of the HSG, the HSG institutes and the Career & Corporate Services. International students are allowed to work 15 hours per week. Students from outside the EU/EFTA area need a work permit in order to work in Switzerland.



# Profile of a SIM Student

If you identify with these traits, you are on the right path to becoming a member of this engaged community.

# Global Mindset

You feature a high level of intercultural awareness. Your life experiences allow you to embrace more than just your own cultural background and you are both able and willing to consider different perspectives on any given subject.

# **Critical and Creative Thinking**

You are capable of critically reflecting upon complex topics. You enjoy finding creative, novel ways to approach the analysis of context and content, identify solution paths, and corresponding explanations.

#### **Self-Reflection**

You have reflected upon your life, background and experiences, and are aware of your own strengths and weaknesses. You constantly discern your developmental needs and you are highly motivated to address them.

# Maturity and Integrity

You are a mature, well-balanced individual, who has developed through meaningful experiences and learnings in different contexts. You are engaged in activities for your peers, community and society at large.

# **Analytical Aptitude**

You have a proven ability to effectively solve problems, which you can demonstrate through your outstanding achievements in various areas.



## Meet and Visit Us

The University organises two Master's Information Days per year, which are open to prospective students. The dates for these events are published online: <a href="https://www.infotag.unisg.ch">www.infotag.unisg.ch</a>

You are also welcome to visit us in St.Gallen at any time of the year. Please send us an e-mail to schedule an appointment.

You may also meet us in your own country, as we regularly attend international fairs and events. We are happy to schedule individual consultations. Check regularly for our next destinations here:

www.simhsg-events.com



## Contact us

For any enquiries,
do not hesitate to contact us at
sim@unisg.ch or
+41 71 224 23 67

# Application Requirements

Below is a brief overview of the requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in management, business administration or equivalent (economics degrees may be accepted), or a Master's degree in any field.
- Proof of English proficiency
- GMAT or GRE score (not older than five years)
- CV and proof of extracurricular activities
- Application essay (check the website for details)
- Interview

To start the programme in September, you must submit your application online. For detailed information on

the requirements: www.admissions.unisg.ch admissions@unisg.ch



Contact us for more information regarding the general application window and intermediate deadlines.

sim@unisg.ch













# International Rankings

Our programme has led the Financial Times Global "MIM" ranking for a record six consecutive years (2011-2016). In 2017, "The Economist" also recognised the SIM with a top five placement on their first ever global MiM ranking.

N.1 in "Aims Achieved" (FT, 2016)

N.1 in "Overseas Study Programmes" (The Economist, 2017)

N.1 in "International Mobility" (FT, 2016)

N.1 in "Employed at three-months" (FT. 2016: The Economist. 2017.

# Are you ready to become one of tomorrow's global responsible leaders?

"Leaders continuously seek ways to grow, have a meaningful purpose in their lives, and inspire and support those around them in their further development"

Prof. Dr. Omid Aschari, MBA, What is the true meaning of leadership? (St. Gallen, 2016)

#### University of St. Gallen (HSG)

Master of Arts in Strategy and International Management Institute of Management Dufourstrasse 40a 9000 St. Gallen Switzerland

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**Further Information:** 

SIM website: www.sim.unisg.ch Facebook page: facebook.com/SIMHSG

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