Universität Zürich[UZH]

Global Student Experience

Information for International Master's Students

Fall Semester 2026

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September 2026

Welcome Events

Welcome Days Program (for all new students)
7 - 11 September 2026
→ **Warm-Up event & program organized by different faculties**
(for questions please directly contact est@sib.uzh.ch)

Intercultural Workshop
10 September 2026, 4:30 pm - 6 pm
→ *Details to follow (registration is mandatory)*

May We Introduce Ourselves?

Global Student Experience
You can ask us questions about:
- Visa and entry into Switzerland
- Registration in Zurich
- Health insurance
- Getting settled in Zurich

Contact
Rosina Korschildgen
+41 44 634 20 28
incoming@int.uzh.ch

UZH Main Building
Rämistrasse 71
8006 Zürich
KOL-E-17
Mobility Desk Opening hours:
Monday - Friday, 09:30am - 12:30pm (hours might differ on public holidays or semester vacations (no lecture periods)

https://www.int.uzh.ch/en/in/degree-seeking-students.html

Enrollment at UZH

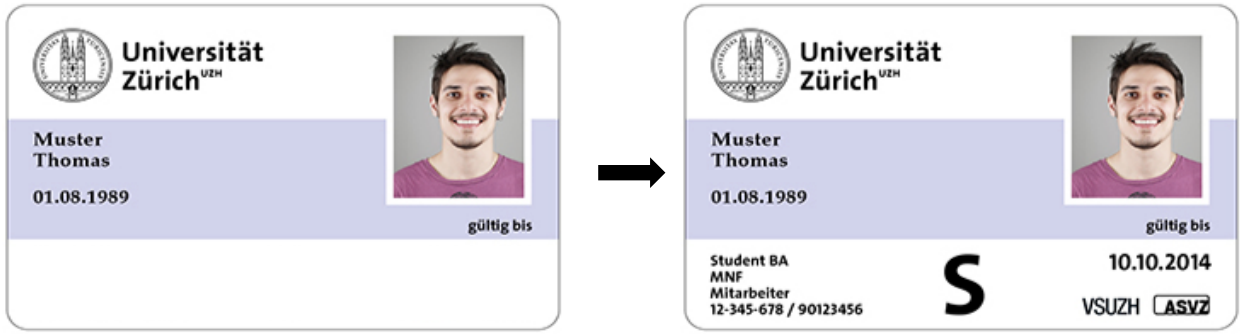
In brief
Follow instructions in your UZH Acceptance Letter – **enrollment deadline is 7 September 2026**

In more detail
1. Use → contact form to confirm your arrival date and provide your **Swiss address** (where you can receive post) after your arrival
2. Invoice for semester fees will be made available to you online; pay it as soon as possible
3. Once UZH receives your payment, you will be sent your proof of matriculation vouchers and your student card by post at the address you provided, plus your UZH credentials online via the application portal
4. Use your UZH credentials (shortname, password) to book your modules etc.

Please note that it can take up to two weeks to receive your documents by post.

Student Card

Make sure to → validate your student card (print your information on your student ID). This includes your study level, student number, VSUZH and ASVZ logos



You will need the card for

- Identification at the University (e.g. at examinations, for libraries etc.)
- Pass for special prices in the cafeterias
- Print, copy and scan at UZH multifunction devices: →UZH Print plus
- Student discounts outside of the university
- Electronic access to buildings and facilities if the card is enabled for access rights
- Some functions of the UZH Card are also available electronically on the → UZH now app

Technical Set Up and IT-Support

Your UZH Credentials (Login Information)
Your UZH login data will be made available for download within 72 hours of completion of the enrolment process. The data can be found in a separate password letter in the → Application Portal

Technical Setup: → Getting Started
Need assistance? → Technical Support

Your UZH Email Account
→ First steps in setting up your account. Make sure you check your UZH e-mail account regularly! With your UZH email account you will have access to → Microsoft 365 (Outlook). UZH uses **two-factor authentification.**

Student Portal and OLAT

Student Portal
Check your course schedule and your exam results on your → UZH Student Portal (through Microsoft Online). Modules will only show up in your course schedule after you have booked them.

OLAT
OLAT (= **O**nline **L**earning **A**nd **T**raining platform) is used by most lecturers at UZH to manage their courses and to share course material with you.

→ Login OLAT (use your UZH login data)

If you have **IT problems with either**, please visit or call the → IT Service Desk

Module Booking – Module Cancelation

- You can only book modules **during the module booking period** / after you have **paid your semester fees**
- Take into account the different → booking and cancellation deadlines
- Don‘t miss cancellation deadlines for module you no longer want! If you miss it and don‘t complete the module, it will **reflect as a failed attempt in your transcript**.
- **Canceling exams:** Petitions for canceling exams due to illness must be handed in to the dean‘s office of your faculty **before** the exam is taken.

Helpful information on booking modules (or contact your faculty directly): → General information on how to book modules, requirements etc.

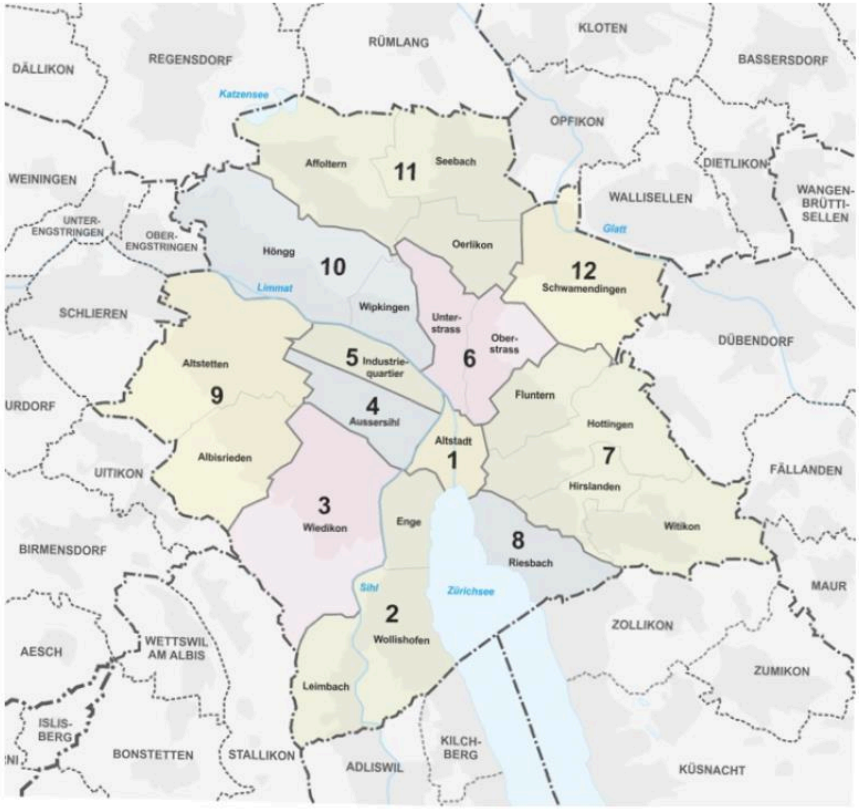
Registration at the Residents' Registration Office («*Personenmeldeamt*»)

Registering for a Residence Permit

- **Within 14 days** of arrival in your district of residence (and in the Canton that issued your visa)
- you will need to book an appoinment → Registration and necessary documents
- If you live outside the city of Zurich you will need to visit the so-called «Einwohnerkontrolle» in your place of residence
- Make sure to keep your residence permit on you at all times, esp. when traveling
- Don't forget that you need to → extend your residence permit **every year**

Extending your Residence Permit: Required Documents

- Renewed proof of sufficient financial means (if you required a visa), or a letter stating that your finances will be covered (if you didn't need a visa)
- Confirmation of matriculation (≠ proof of enrollment) – this must be ordered from the Student Administration Office



Health Insurance

In Brief

- Under Swiss law it is mandatory to get sufficient health insurance coverage **within 3 months** of your arrival
- After registering for a residence permit you will receive a letter stating the same from the municipal health authorities. **Please keep this letter**

Exemption

As an international student, you apply for an exemption from the compulsory health insurance if:

- you are legally insured by an EU/EFTA/UK state, have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) and do not plan on working in Switzerland
- you take out Swiss health insurance for international students, which is a cheaper package specifically designed for international students (see Factsheet on page 4, question 11)
- you are covered by a private health insurance from an EU or non-EU country

Work

If you take up a paid part-time job, you **cannot apply for an exemption and need to get a Swiss health insurance** (regular or for international students).

We will be holding an information session dedicated solely to health insurance in October 2026 *(details to follow).*

In the meantime, have a look at our Factsheet "Health Insurance in Switzerland" (PDF, 144 KB) and Instructions: How to Apply for an Exemption (PDF, 1 MB) to get an idea of what you will need to do.

Social Insurance

In Brief

- All international students will be assigned a so-called AHV number by SVA (Social Insurance Authority)
- Annually, SVA sends out a questionnaire via e-mail to all UZH students, where they ask you if you are a student & to check if you have to pay insurance contributions:
  - Please make sure to complete the form - this does not mean that you will have to pay.
  - As an **international student without employment in Switzerland**, you will **not need to pay anything**.
  - **International students with employment in Switzerland** need to **contact their employer about their obligation to contribute.**

→ Please contact the municipality of your place of residence to receive your AHV number

Working while studying

In Brief

- you may accept a paid part-time job of no more than 15 working hours a week (full-time employment is permitted during the regular semester vacations)
- Bachelor & Master students from third countries (countries outside EU/EFTA) must have lived in Switzerland for at least 6 months to obtain a work permit unless they get a job at their UZH institute.
- Your future employer will need a letter confirming that your employment will not interfere with your studies. Please contact the dean's office of your faculty for this. Law students are asked to contact the Student Center of the Faculty of Law.
- Carefully read regulations about → working while studying & Factsheet "Health Insurance in Switzerland" (PDF, 144 KB)

→ Career Service: Working in Switzerland - Information for Non-EU/EFTA Nationals

→ Overview Work Permit Regulations

UZH Services

Administrative Support (Student Services)
Before enrollment, and for anything related to enrollment, submitting extra documentation to your admission etc. please contact the
→ Admissions Office

After enrollment, and for anything related to fees, exam results, student cards etc. please contact the → Student Administration Office

Services Overview
→ Student Affairs and Advisory Services (overview)
→ Career Services
→ Disability Office
→ ETH/UZH Housing Office
→ Office for Gender Equality and Diversity
→ Against Sexual Harassment
→ Psychologial Counseling Services
→ Student Associations

→ UZH “How-Tos” (Youtube)
→ UZH now App

Next slides: activities at UZH

Learning Languages at the Language Center & Self-Access Center

Grüezi Guten Tag Bonjour Buongiorno Bun Di Hello Buenos Días
Goedendag God Dag Hyvää Päivää Dzień Dobry Merhaba Tungjatjeta Jó
Napot Zdravstvuyte Γεια σας 你好 こんにちは გამარჯობა

Language Center

Language Courses for different languages (e.g. German as a foreign language)

- **Enrollment period for semester courses** fall semester 2026: **7 September 2026 (morning) until 18 September 2026**
- Allocation on basis of first come, first served

→ Language Center of UZH and ETH Zurich

Self-Access Center

- library for autonomous learning of foreign languages
- Staff: two teachers from the language center and ten students, each of us responsible for at least one language

Teaching Activities

- Self-Access Center offers a range of learning activities (e.g. language get-togethers, writing workshops, games events, film clubs, and book clubs). These are designed to support your autonomous and cooperative language learning

Locations and Opening Hours

- The Language Center's Self-Access Center (SAC) is located at two campuses, at the University Zentrum campus at Rämistrasse 74 and at the ETH Hönggerberg campus in the Architecture and Civil Engineering Library (HIL E2).
- Important: You will need a → Swisscovery account in order to use their services

→ Self-Access Center (SAC) / Selbstlernzentrum (SLZ)

ACADEMIC SPORTS ASSOCIATION ZURICH

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Zürcher Kantonalbank

ASVZ

ASVZ

The university sports organization of Zurich (ETH Zurich/University of Zurich/ ZFH) offers all students, employees and further members of the universities a voluntary sports program. There are **five main sport centers** and most of the courses on offer are **free of charge** for students.

Locations

- Polyterrasse
- Irchel
- Fluntern
- Hönggerberg
- Winterthur
- different further locations in Zurich (also in Winterthur and Wädenswil)

→ Academic Sports Association Zurich/Akademischer Sportverband Zürich

Akademischer Sportverband Zürich

Sport Center Polyterrasse
ETH Zentrum
8092 Zürich
044 632 42 10
info@asvz.ch
asvz.ch

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Zürcher Kantonalbank

Psychologische Beratungsstelle

Psychological Counseling Services

Psychological Counseling Services

Services

- Professional counseling can help you overcome difficult phases in life, troubles in your studies and conflicts arising during the course of doctoral study. We are here to offer quick and effective support – also in the case of an acute crisis. Our therapists are all clinical psychologists with qualifications in psychotherapy
- The counseling services **are available to all matriculated students** and PhD candidates at UZH and ETH Zurich
- The sessions are confidential and **free of charge**
- We offer counseling in German, English, Dutch, French and Polish, and one counseling session lasts 30–50 minutes

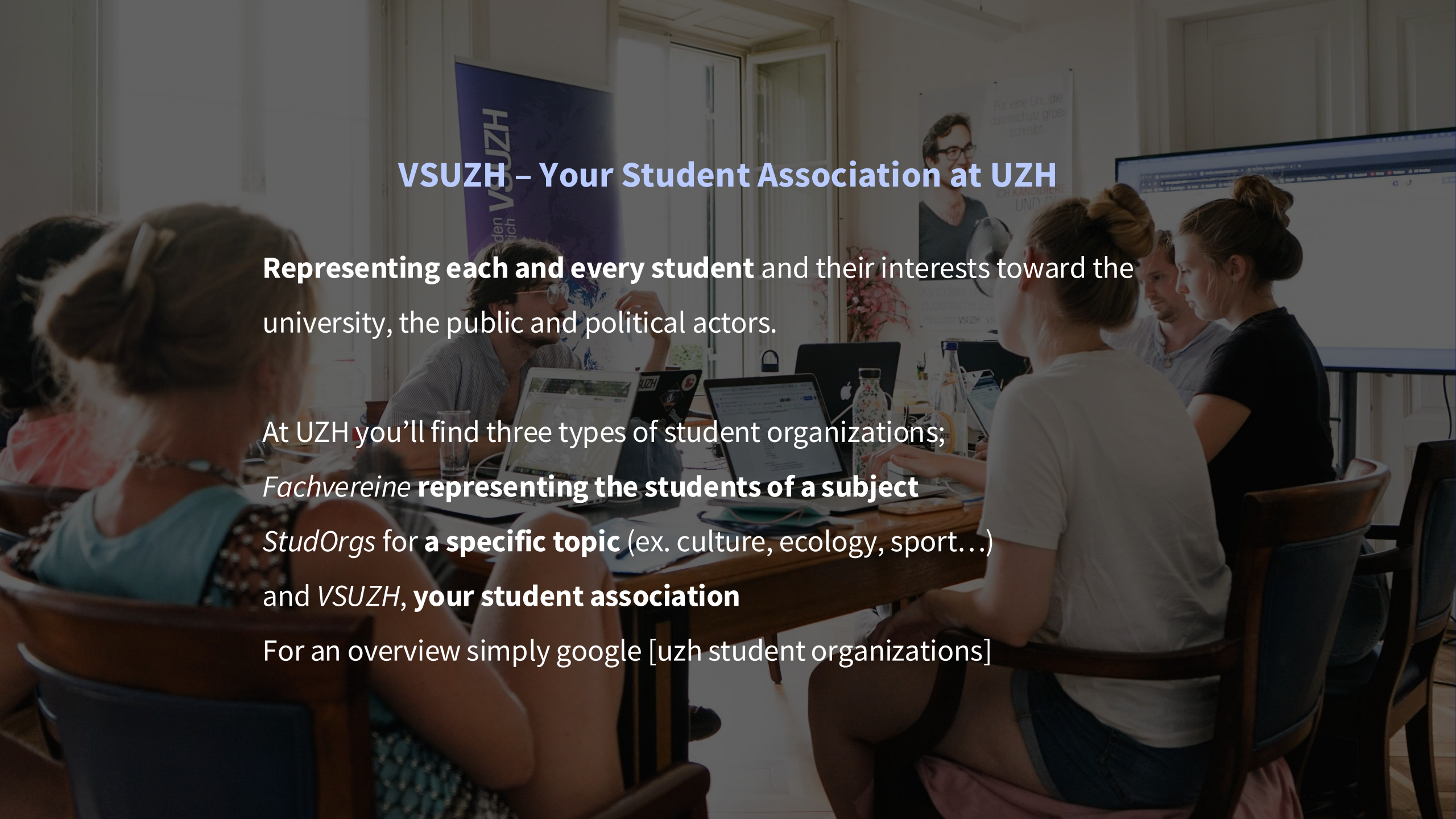
You can come to them with all kinds of issues, for example

- problems in a relationship or family problems
- dealing with stress, test anxiety, procrastination, writer's block, starting a phd, conflict management for PhD candidates
- cultural integration
- psychological assessment
- crisis intervention

→ Psychologische Beratungsstelle (PBS)

Welcome to UZH

Verband der Studierenden
der Universität Zürich VSUZH



VSUZH – Your Student Association at UZH

Representing each and every student and their interests toward the university, the public and political actors.

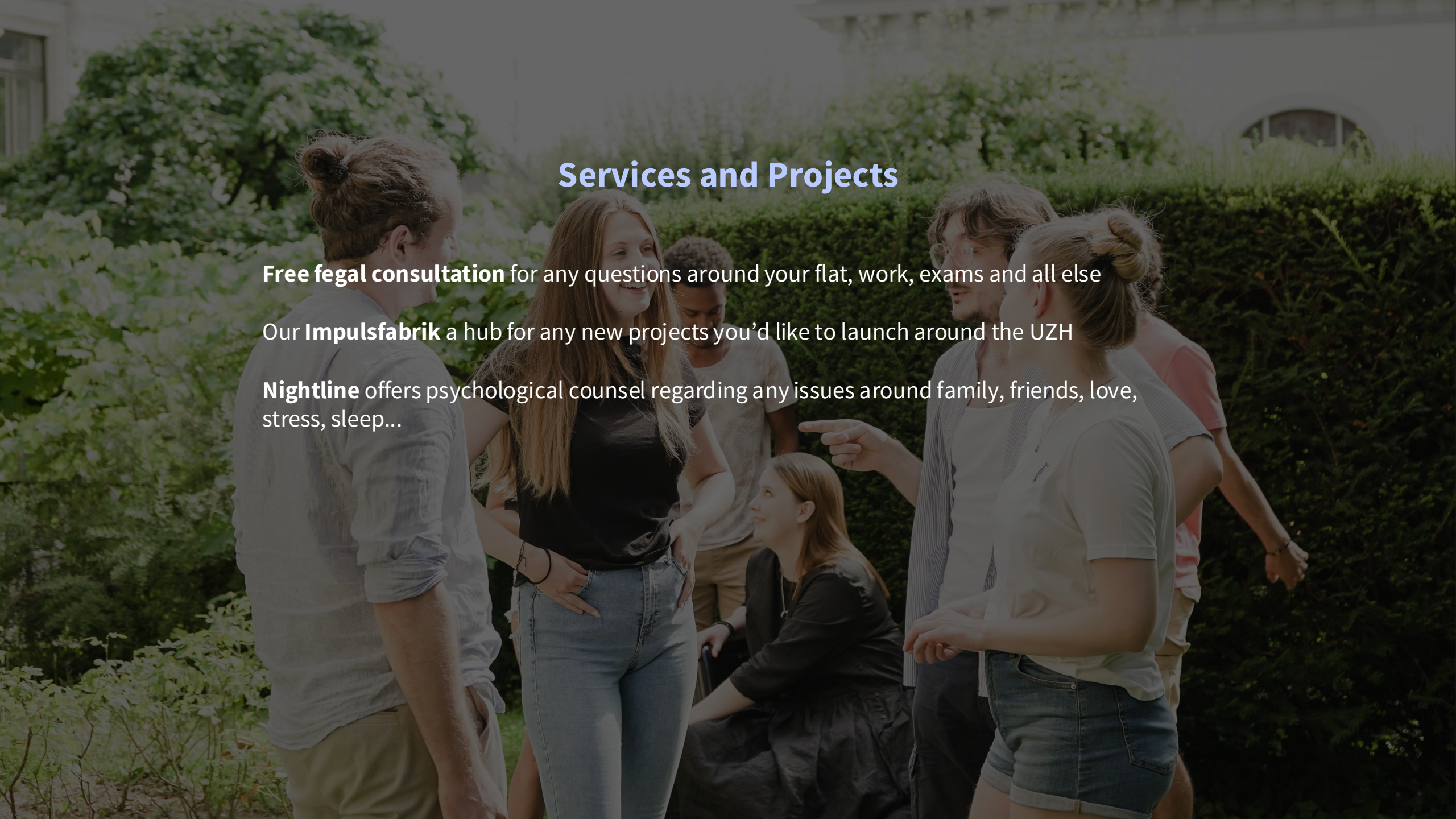
At UZH you'll find three types of student organizations;

Fachvereine **representing the students of a subject**

StudOrgs for **a specific topic** (ex. culture, ecology, sport…)

and *VSUZH*, **your student association**

For an overview simply google [uzh student organizations]



Services and Projects

Free fegal consultation for any questions around your flat, work, exams and all else

Our **Impulsfabrik** a hub for any new projects you'd like to launch around the UZH

Nightline offers psychological counsel regarding any issues around family, friends, love, stress, sleep...

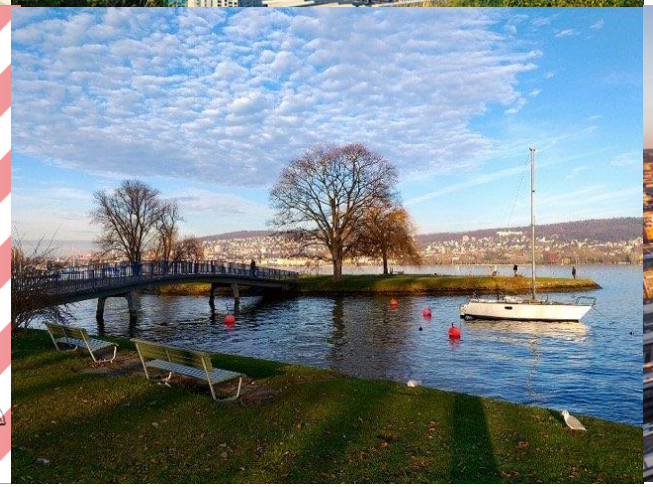
Great having you at UZH!

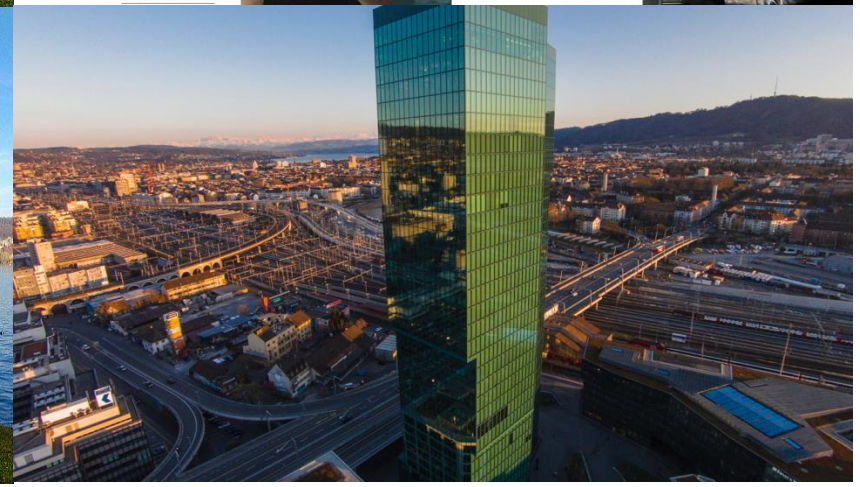
Get in touch and stay up to date:

info@vsuzh.ch

www.vsuzh.ch

Life in Zurich





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Contact

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