

Università
della
Svizzera
italiana

Faculty of
Communication
Sciences

Master of
Advanced Studies
in Intercultural
Communication
MIC

www.mic.usi.ch

MASTER OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION



ENRICH YOUR PROFESSIONAL PROFILE IN THE
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR WITH HIGH-LEVEL
INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCIES



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MIC IN BRIEF

The Master of Advanced Studies in Intercultural Communication (MIC) is a part-time post-graduate program for professionals engaged in managing operational or strategic situations in a multicultural context and in managing multicultural human resources.

Founded in 2004, MIC is the only academic program in Intercultural Communication of its kind in Europe that allows you to pursue your professional activity while studying.

An international faculty of over 30 professors and guest speakers from renowned universities, institutions and organizations around the world guarantees academic excellence to the program and ensures its multidisciplinary and multicultural orientation.

The MIC program's structure (9 weeks of courses distributed over 18 months) allows participants to pursue their professional activity.

Participants coming from all over the world contribute to creating a truly immersive intercultural experience that stimulates thought and engages emotions.

The teaching language is English.

Once per year an event to exchange knowledge, experiences and insights among our MIC Alumni.



WHY MIC?

Because we tailor our program to maximize your potential.

- Achieve a higher comprehension of your own culture and the culture of others.
- Develop a laser focus in analyzing multicultural situations.
- Gain the necessary skills for mediating conflicts and creating practical solutions.
- Challenge yourself in intercultural strategic sessions in Asia, North Africa, and Europe.
- Impact your organization immediately.

WHO IS THE MASTER'S PROGRAM FOR?

This program is designed, first and foremost, for professionals who manage multicultural situations on the operational or strategic level, as well as for those who play or will play a leading role in promoting cultural cohabitation, such as practitioners and management staff in:

- public administration;
- international organizations;
- nongovernmental organizations;
- development and cooperation organizations;
- the business world (production, trade, tourism, etc.);
- the media;
- educational institutions;
- religious institutions.

WHY STUDY INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LUGANO (USI | UNIVERSITA' DELLA SVIZZERA ITALIANA)?

Switzerland has a long tradition of federalism and institutional decentralization which have favored a harmonious coexistence of its different cultures, languages and religions. The University of Lugano (USI, Università della Svizzera italiana), despite its relatively recent foundation, has acquired a solid reputation in scientific research as well as in academic teaching precisely because of its strong international, multilingual and multicultural character.

USI is located in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland, a language and cultural minority region. At the same time this region acts as a bridge between Northern Italy and the German- and French-speaking regions of Switzerland and the neighboring countries. USI is therefore particularly receptive to multicultural challenges and very experienced in coping with them. Accordingly, the university places great emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to concrete economic and social problems.



General Theory

An Interdisciplinary Theory of Intercultural Communication

Disciplinary Approaches

Psychology of Prejudice and Stereotyping

Difference, Meaning and Communication: Semiotic Approaches

Multiculturalism and Diversity

Contemporary Governance of International Migration

Methods and Competencies

International Organisations

Personal Project

Intercultural Workshops

National Institutions and Policies

Migration as a Challenge to Democracy

Law and Multiculturality

International Relations and Cooperation

International Organizations

Culturally-centered Approaches to Development

Economy and Cultures

Businesses, Markets and Human Resources

Emerging Economies and Their Cultures

Education and Media

Intercultural Training and Education

Diversity in the Media

Daily Life

Integration: Difference, Diversity and Dialogue

Policies and Processes of Integration in Society

Sustainability, Change, and Migration

“MIC gave me opportunities and possibilities to succeed better in my career and also make me think about what do I really want to do in the future.”



“I would recommend MIC to people who want to criticize their actual assumptions about others and different cultures.”

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The MIC Program comprises 20 modules distributed over 9 weeks of courses. Each module is worth 2.5 ECTS credits, except for Module 19+20 (Personal Project) which is worth 15 ECTS.

Modules 1 to 18 consist of 24 contact hours each. They are scheduled in sets of two per week, for a total of six consecutive days, Monday through Saturday, and are run every six to twelve weeks.

Each of the first 18 modules is structured in three parts:

1. Preparation

The individual preparation for each module, to be done before classroom instruction, consists mainly of reading and analyzing documents (articles, websites, etc.). All preparatory materials are made available well in advance on an e-learning platform reserved for MIC participants.

2. Face-to-face instruction

The main part of each module will be taught face-to-face over three days of intensive instruction (22 hours course work plus 2 hours of Intercultural Atelier).

3. Certification paper

The evaluation of students' performance for each module is based on an academic assignment. This work has to be prepared by the student at home and has to be sent by email by the deadline set by the Academic Director. Participants usually have between 6-8 weeks to complete their certification paper.

Module 19+20 consists of planning and completing a personal project. This module includes a specific preparation phase which takes place mainly during the module on research methods; in addition, professors and experts will provide personalized face-to-face as well as distance tutoring to participants throughout the Master's program. Participants are expected to complete their personal projects no later than three months after the last module of the program.

WORKLOAD

The total workload of the program is approximately 1800 hours, including 500 hours of face-to-face instruction, 900 hours of individual work preparing for seminars, reviewing study materials and writing course papers, as well as 400 hours dedicated to the MIC Personal Project.

MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY

The teaching staff of the MIC program (2017-2019) is multidisciplinary and includes professors from USI and other universities in Switzerland and abroad. It also involves experts from selected institutions, companies and organizations.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

- 6 weeks of classes will be held in Lugano (Switzerland), at Università della Svizzera italiana,
- 1 week of classes will take place in Neuchâtel (Switzerland), at the Université de Neuchâtel.
- 1 week of classes will be held in Beirut (Lebanon), at American University of Beirut.
- 1 week of classes will be held in Bangkok (Thailand), at Kasetsart University*.

Including visits to selected Swiss federal institutions and international organizations in Bern, Geneva and abroad.

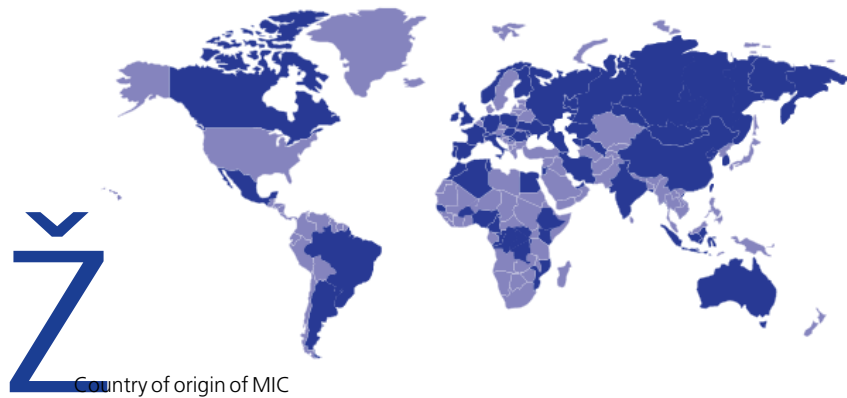
*Locations are subject to change.



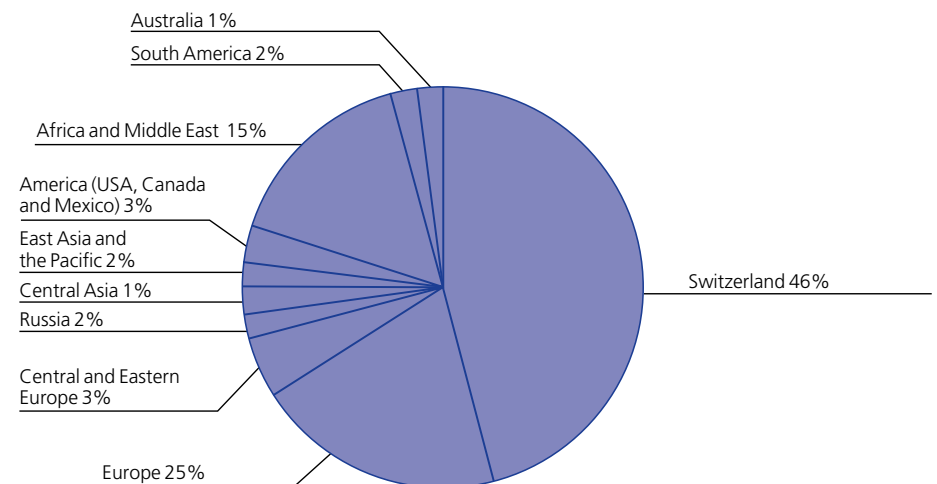
MIC PARTICIPANTS' DIVERSITY

The great cultural, professional, language, and educational diversity within the MIC program widens the range of opportunities for all participants to learn from each other and to live many unexpected and unforgettable experiences.

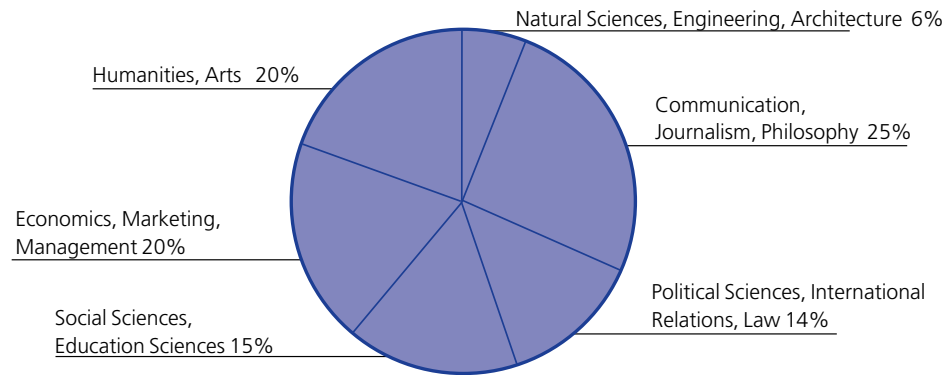
Countries of origin of MIC participants since the start of the program (2004):



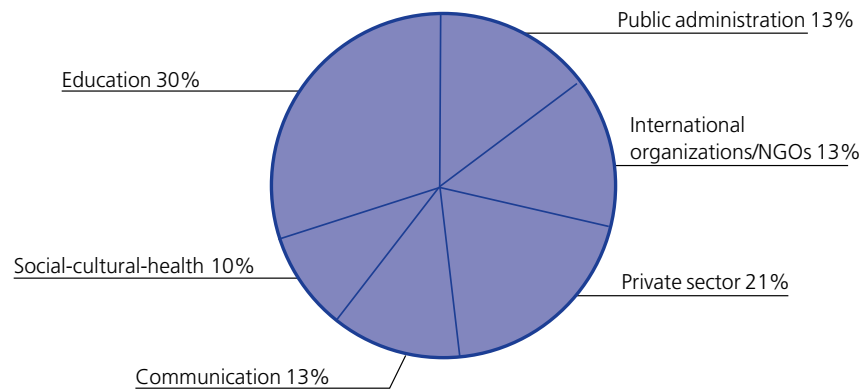
MIC PARTICIPANT PROFILE (since 2004)



MIC1-7 PARTICIPANT'S EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND



MIC1-7 PARTICIPANT'S PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND



Average age: 37 years

Average professional experience: 12 years

ADMISSION

Applicants must hold one of the following academic qualifications:

- a Master and/or a Bachelor degree awarded by a University, a (Federal) Institute of Technology or by a university-level Professional School (or an equivalent qualification) plus adequate professional experience.
- professionals with significant experience in the intercultural field and who do not hold one of these degrees may be admitted on the basis of their professional curriculum.

Each application will be considered individually.

LANGUAGE

The official teaching language is English.

ACADEMIC TITLES AWARDED

Master of Advanced Studies in Intercultural Communication (MAS)

to students who have successfully completed all modules and their personal project (20 modules / 60 ECTS).

CHF 19'500

Diploma of Advanced Studies in Intercultural Communication (DAS)

to students who have successfully completed 8 or 12 modules (30 ECTS).

CHF 13'000

Students who attend one or more modules will receive a Certificate of Attendance for each module successfully completed, carrying the corresponding ECTS.

Participants may apply for the option of spreading the payment of their tuition over a period of up to four years at 0%.

Partial scholarships available based on personal qualifications, motivations and financial situation.



APPLICATION

Application documents may be downloaded from the link "APPLICATION PACKAGE" on our website: www.mic.usi.ch/admission

If you wish to find out more before applying, you can either attend lectures, meet MIC participants or ALUMNI (we can put you in contact with one of them) or ask for a personal meeting with us. We will be glad to help you in your decision in any way.

FEES

Master of Advanced Studies (20 modules/60 ECTS): CHF 19'500
Diploma of Advanced Studies (12 modules/30 ECTS): CHF 13'000

One module (2.5 ECTS): CHF 1'200

Included are the costs of the study materials distributed in class and test fees.

Not included are costs for books, accommodation and travel expenses.

Payment plan comprises of four installments to be paid during the course of the Master. Participants may apply for the option of spreading the payment of their tuition over a period of up to three years at 0%.

MIC Academic Director

- Prof. Jolanta Drzewiecka, Università della Svizzera italiana, Switzerland.





CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

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