



Bern University
of Applied Sciences



The student project for your company

Innovation and research are essential in order to tackle the many and varied challenges of the agricultural sector. Students at BFH-HAFL can support you with their semester, bachelor's and master's projects.

► School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences HAFL

What are student projects?

- 2 Students on the Bachelor of Agriculture programme have to write two semester papers (in their 2nd year) and a bachelor's thesis (3rd year) as a mandatory part of their studies. Students on the master's programme pursuing a specialisation in Agricultural Science write a master's thesis.

In the bachelor's semester papers, students gain practice in scientific work on the basis of a practical topic. The bachelor's and master's theses take a broader approach, addressing a practical topic in scientific depth, drawing also on the current literature and expert knowledge. After completing the bachelor's or master's thesis, the students undergo an oral examination to provide evidence of their synthetical skills. The projects are supervised by a member of the BFH-HAFL staff (lecturers, research associates) and also by a person from the client company or institution, if applicable.

The benefit to you

Companies and organisations frequently do not have the time to explore individual issues in depth. In such cases, you can contact the BHF-HAFL with your topical questions. You benefit not only from the students' state-of-the-art subject knowledge, but also from the lecturers' many years of practical and scientific experience. More wide-ranging topics can also be covered by combining semester papers, bachelor's theses and master's theses.

The BFH-HAFL does not charge a fee for the production of semester papers or bachelor's or master's theses, since these are written by students as part of their education. The BFH-HAFL cannot guarantee a minimum quality. If extensive use is made of the laboratory infrastructure, a flat fee commensurate with the scope of the project is charged to cover part of the expenses for consumables and the use of equipment. In addition, the client is expected to pay any expenses which the student may incur as a result of the project. It is also desirable for a representative of the client company or institution to attend the bachelor's or master's oral examination in the role of an external expert.

How to apply and deadlines

Are you interested in collaborating with BFH-HAFL on this basis, and would you like to offer students the opportunity to work on exciting and practical topics?

You will find examples of past bachelor's and master's theses on our website at www.bfh.ch/hafl in the "Bachelor in Agriculture" and "Master of Science in Life Sciences – Agricultural Science" sections.

To propose a topic, all you need to do is define a working title and describe the goals in a few sentences. Please note the entry deadlines:

Semester paper/bachelor's and master's theses

	Semester paper	Bachelor's thesis (ordinary form)	Bachelor's thesis (compact form)	Master's thesis
Indicative scope	90–120 hours over 3–7 months Max. 30 pages (excluding appendices)	420–600 hours over 8 months Max. 60 pages (excluding appendices)	420–600 hours over 3 months Max. 60 pages (excluding appendices)	900 hours. May be completed in compact form (6 months full time) or over a longer period. No page limit
Entry of topics	Any time	Until CW 43	Until CW 36	Any time
Assignment of topics	Any time	CW 50	CW 39	Any time
Submission	Any time	Friday of CW 32	Friday of CW 51	4 periods per year; calendar weeks 44, 2, 14, 32
Oral examination	None	CW 35 and 36	CW 3	4 sessions per year; calendar weeks 48, 6, 18, 36

Do you have a topic you would like to propose or do you have further questions? If so, please contact Samuel Kohler, Head of the BSc in Agriculture Programme, or Jan Grenz, Head of the MSc in Agricultural Sciences Programme. It will be their pleasure to advise you, receive your topical questions and pass them on to the competent subject specialist.

Contact

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