

What is the Gerzensee Study Centre?

The Gerzensee Study Center is an academic training center run by the Swiss National Bank. It hosts advanced courses, workshops, and conferences in economics, econometrics, finance, and central banking. Its programmes are taught by a distinguished international faculty composed of leading academics and policymakers, which constitutes a core strength of the Center. Courses are subject to rigorous quality assurance processes and are vetted in collaboration with the Geneva Graduate Institute, providing participants with both cutting-edge expertise and a high standard of academic quality.

How is Gerzensee connected to the PhD in Economics at the Geneva Graduate Institute?

Gerzensee provides the **core coursework** for our PhD in Economics. These courses are a required part of the programme and form the foundation of the first phase of doctoral training.

Is attending Gerzensee courses mandatory?

Yes. All our Economics PhD students must complete the Gerzensee programme as part of their doctoral training.

How does the Gerzensee course registration work?

Once students accept our PhD offer and confirm their admission:

- We send detailed instructions on **how to register**, the **programme structure**, **course dates**, and **fees**.
- Students must submit their registration requests to Gerzensee by **end of April**
- The registration request must include the same documents as your Graduate Institute application:
 - Transcripts
 - GRE scores
 - [Other required documents](#)
- Even though IHEID has reserved spots, admission is still **competitive**.
- Successful applicants receive an **acceptance letter** from Gerzensee.
- In **June**, Gerzensee sends a **CHF 2,000 tuition invoice**, which the student initially pays and is reimbursed.

How does reimbursement work?

Reimbursement is split into two stages:

- **CHF 1,000** reimbursed by **the Institute in September**.
- **CHF 1,000** reimbursed by **Gerzensee after successful completion** of the programme

If a student does not successfully complete the programme, the Institute covers the second CHF 1,000 reimbursement.

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What about travel costs?

The Institute provides **CHF 1,000** to cover train travel between Geneva and Gerzensee over the course of the year.

This amount is calculated to cover all Gerzensee-related travel needs.

Are accommodation and meals provided?

Yes. Gerzensee covers:

- Accommodation (most frequently private room; occasionally shared)
- All meals during the programme

The campus is fully residential, so students stay on-site for the duration of each course session.

When do PhD students attend Gerzensee?

Students typically attend during the first year of the PhD, before beginning dissertation research.

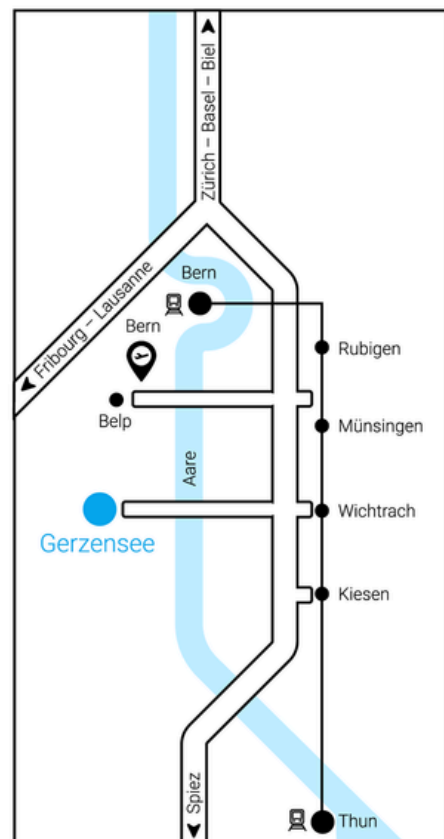
How long do sessions last?

- Most advanced courses: **1 week**

Where is Gerzensee located?

Gerzensee is the canton of Bern, Switzerland.

Address: Study Center Gerzensee, 3115 Gerzensee, Switzerland.



*Source: Gerzensee Study Center website, Swiss National Bank, accessed 06.05.2026

Do students from other universities attend?

Yes. Participants come from other Swiss universities. This creates a diverse academic community.

Do students need to travel frequently between Geneva and Gerzensee?

No. Students typically travel once a month:

- Once to Gerzensee at the start of each one-week course session
- Once back to Geneva at the end

The programme is residential, so no commuting is required during the week. On-campus PhD courses at the Institute are scheduled so they **do not clash** with Gerzensee.

What are the main benefits for students?

- Strong quantitative training
- Unique networking opportunities with **Gerzensee faculty** and **international economists**.
- Close bonds formed within the Institute's PhD cohort.
- Connections with PhD students from other Swiss universities.
- A focused, immersive study environment away from Geneva.



*Source: Gerzensee Study Center website, Swiss National Bank, accessed 06.05.2026