

## Course types

Listed under 'Hours' in the course catalogue (VVZ)

Example: 2V + 3U = 2 hours lecture plus 3 hours exercises per week.

V	Lecture	<p>Lectures are talks which convey theoretical knowledge. They are often accompanied by exercises or practicals to make up a course unit which is examined as a unified whole.</p> <p>The one-sided communication techniques of the lecture can be altered by using suitable teaching methods which activate students and foster interaction. These include ascertaining of previous student knowledge (classroom assessment techniques) and posing questions for students to answer and clarify (peer instruction).</p>
U	Exercise	<p>Exercises accompany most lectures and in combination with these form a course unit. Exercises consolidate theory by providing a context to solve and discuss practical problems. They are usually supervised by Assistants and Junior Assistants.</p>
G	Mixture of lectures and exercises	<p>Students taking this mixed course can choose freely how lectures, interaction and exercises will be combined during the semester. The advantage of course type 'G' over course type 'V' (with no exercises) is that knowledge is not only conveyed by the lecturer but can be applied immediately by students, tried out (with faculty feedback) and consolidated. The range of material covered depends on the scope of homework assignments (independent study) and is correspondingly often smaller than in type 'V'.</p>
S	Seminar	<p>Seminar courses feature a high level of participant activity. Frequently specialist literature is read, presented and discussed. Through seminars students therefore have the opportunity to acquire scientific working and communication skills.</p>
K	Colloquium	<p>Colloquia are specialist discussions among scientists. Research colloquia, where research contributions are presented and discussed, are typical. Leading a colloquium primarily involves moderating a group to encourage mutual feedback and cooperative elaboration of quality standards.</p>
P	Practical / laboratory course	<p>Practicals in combination with lectures may together be a course unit, but practicals can also comprise an independent course form. Like exercises or excursions practicals offer a deeper, practical approach to the theory imparted in lectures. They are usually supervised by Assistants or Senior Assistants. Many specialist competences can be built up in practicals, e.g. experimental thinking and working, manual skills, and situation-related modes of behaviour.</p>
A	Independent project	<p>The 'independent project' course form is a vehicle for the development and elaboration of projects and semester papers (not to be confused with Bachelor's and Master's theses). This course type may form part of a course unit or be conducted as an independent course unit. Normally no fixed attendance requirement is involved; rather, personal supervision (mostly by faculty or Senior Assistants) of students in the production of scientific work is primary.</p>
D	Diploma thesis	<p>This course form involves the development and production of Bachelor's and Master's theses.</p>
R	Revision course / private study	<p>'R' courses may be course units designed as repetition of content, e.g. in preparation for examinations, or course units in which independent study assignments are completed. Private study phases are usually supervised in one form or another.</p>