

Time and Timing of Doctoral Education

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UNIVERSITY FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION KREMS MISSION STATEMENT

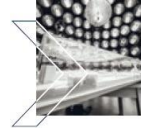
MISSION



The University for Continuing Education Krems is a leading public university for continuing education in Europe. With its expertise in teaching and research it works to overcome societal challenges.



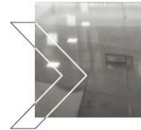
STRENGTHS OF THE UNIVERSITY FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION KREMS



We identify and are deeply involved in current and future **societal challenges** and tailor our study programs to address them.



Our study model is oriented toward the specific requirements of **adult learners** in all phases of life and especially to the needs of **working professionals**.



The professional experience of our students and teachers ensures an **intense transfer of knowledge**.

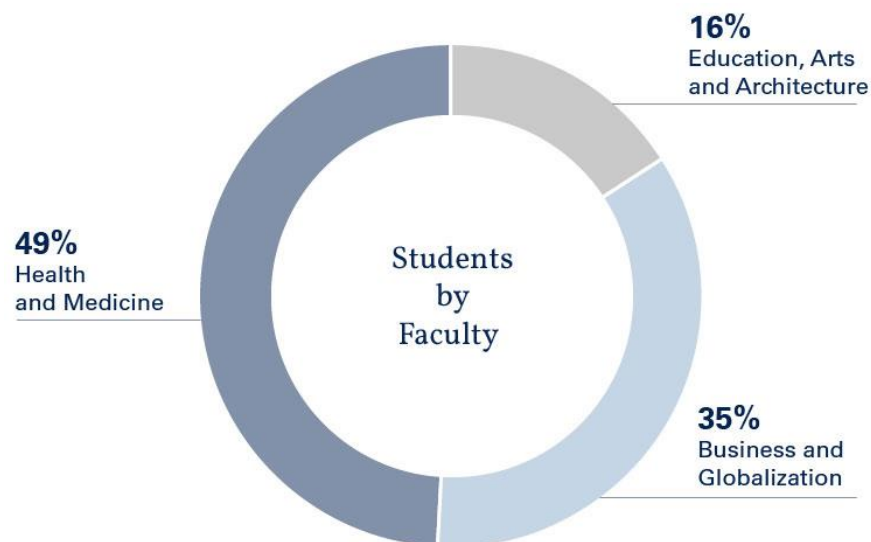


We are committed to research with a **high degree of transdisciplinarity**.



Our campus offers a service-oriented and **inspiring working environment** for our students and staff.

UNIVERSITY FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION KREMS



Winter Term 2021/22

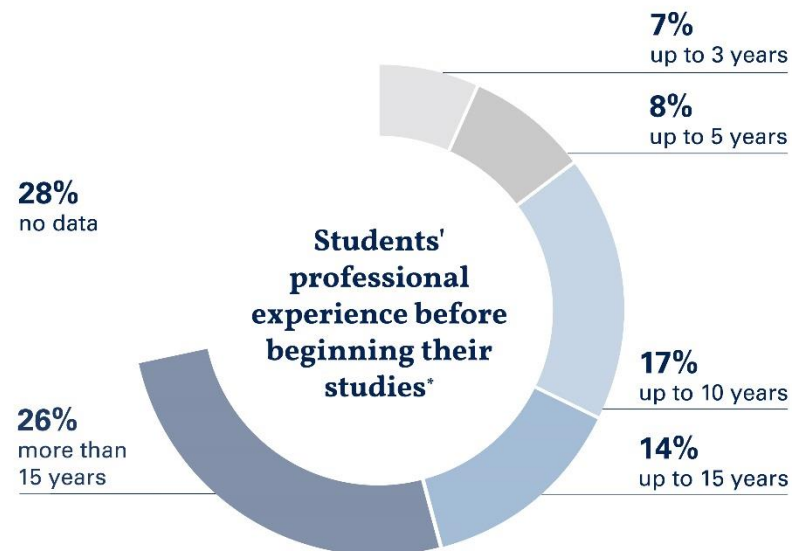
Total number of students: 7,455

From 83 countries

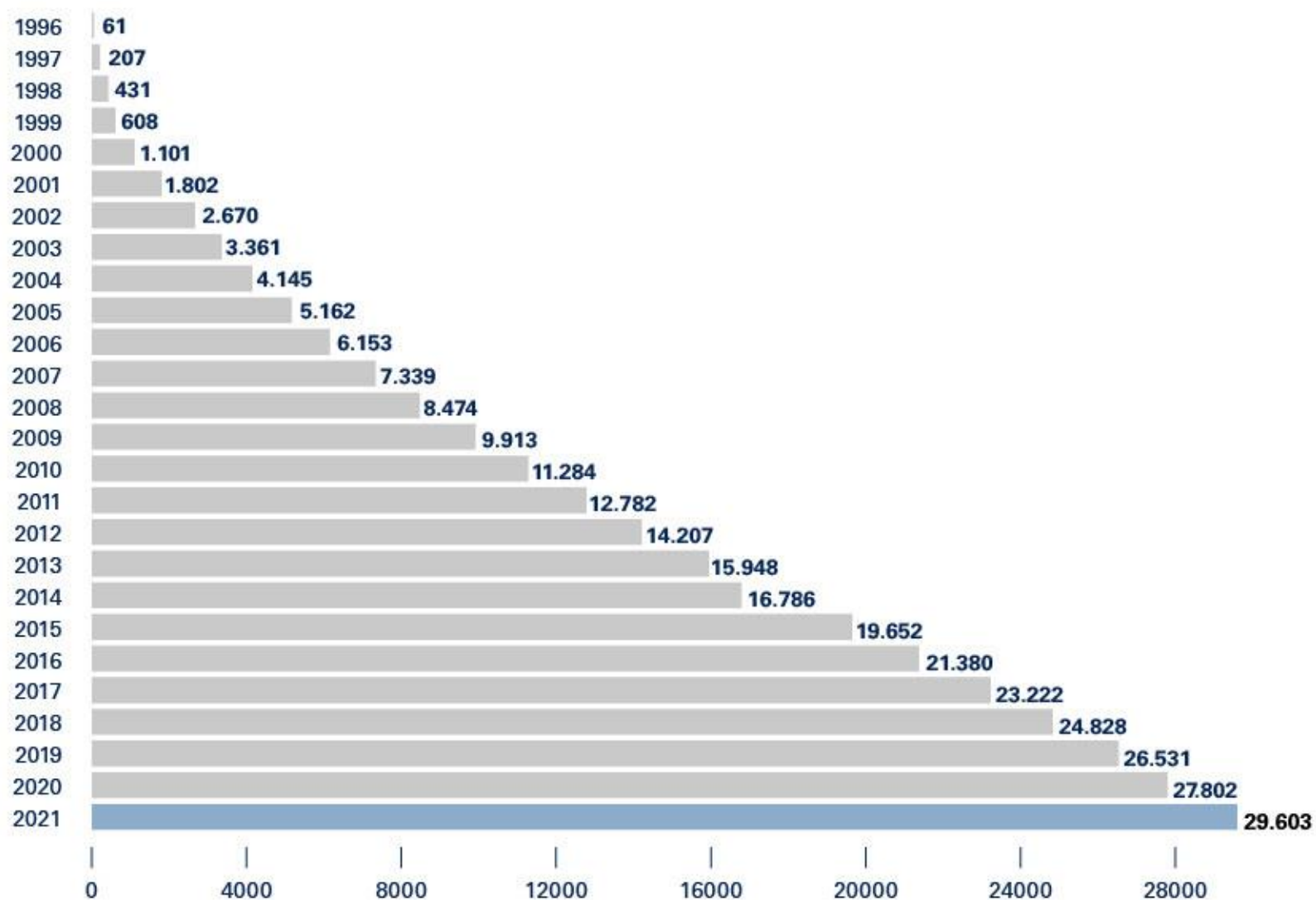
Average age: 39 years

Female students: 54%

Students from foreign countries: 26%



Alumni 1996–2021



Strength

The (professional) experience of our students and teachers is embedded in our teaching and research, ensuring an **intense transfer of knowledge and skills**.

+ 10 y.
on the job

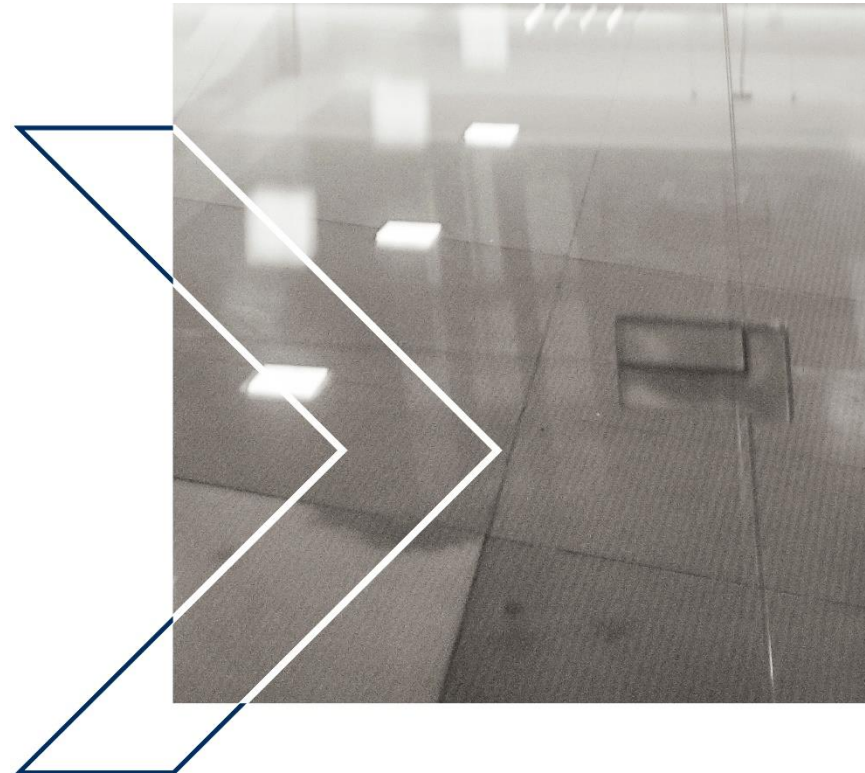
More than 50 percent of our 8.500 students have **over 10 years of professional experience**




In combination with the experience of our teaching staff this promotes an **intensive transfer of knowledge and skills** in teaching and research.

+ 80%

More than 80 percent* of graduates consider that their study program increased their **specialist expertise** and **personal development**.



The image shows a modern architectural structure with a glass and steel framework. The structure features multiple levels with glass railings and a corrugated metal roof. In the background, a white building with many windows is visible. The overall color scheme is dominated by blue and teal tones, giving it a contemporary feel.

Doctoral Education in the Context of a University of Continuing Education...

A photograph of a modern architectural structure featuring a glass and steel bridge or walkway. The bridge has a corrugated metal roof and glass railings, connecting two historic buildings. The building on the left is a light-colored, multi-story structure with many windows. The building on the right is a darker, more ornate structure with a red-tiled roof. The overall scene is bathed in a cool, blue-toned light.

**...Building the Bridge
Between Guidance and
Freedom**

- ★ In 2014, the University for Continuing Education Krems obtained the right to offer PhD programs.
- ★ All our PhD programs are accredited by AQ Austria, the quality assurance agency of Austrian universities
 - » Migration Studies
 - » Regenerative Medicine
 - » Technology, Innovation, and Cohesive Societies
- ★ All students – approximately five per year in each of the programs – take part in third-party funded research projects, on the basis of which they are employed while participating in cutting edge research.
- ★ The PhD programs at the University for Continuing Education Krems are characterized by intensive guidance in a structured but flexible project-oriented research scheme, where Summer Schools and scientific colloquia are the locus for reflection and mentoring.

Objectives (I)

- ★ The objective is to raise the skills and competencies of the students such that they are able to make original scientific contributions to their chosen fields of research.
- ★ During the project-oriented, six semester programs, the students will be exposed to the latest research findings and methods and will above all be encouraged to develop their own research topics.
- ★ Graduates of the University for Continuing Education Krems PhD programs will be able to make original, independent scientific contributions to their research fields.

Objectives (II)

★ Our PhD programs particularly focus on the following:

- » Knowledge of the current state of research
- » Ability to recognize interfaces with related research areas
- » Skills for writing scientific papers meeting international standards
- » Skills for presenting their own research in scientific discourse
- » Ability to reflect on the ethical and social implications and consequences of their research
- » Skills for organizing and implementing research processes, and for working in national and international research teams.

Example Regenerative Medicine: Bridge Between Work as Clinician and PhD Student

- ★ **In this PhD program, we have a number of PhD students who are already employed as physicians (mainly orthopedic surgeons) at Lower Austrian hospitals.**
- ★ **They reduce their employment at the clinic to 20h per week for the duration of our PhD studies and are employed in research projects at our University for another 20h per week**
- ★ **This splitting between their work as physicians and their research projects is perceived as very fruitful by all students, as it allows them to focus on their research work, which would not be possible to the same extent with a full employment at the hospital**



Thank you!

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