The University of Teacher Education, State of Vaud, Lausanne (HEP Vaud) provides the complete range of training courses for the teaching professions in French speaking Switzerland. In the very heart of the dynamic Lake Geneva area university network, HEP Vaud plays a great role in the Swiss and International Education Sciences scenes, invigorating and benifitting from them.

In a general context characterised by the increasing complexity of social relationships, HEP Vaud prepares students for the teaching professions and supports their development. With this focus, HEP Vaud offers them solid theoretical and practical training, thus promoting their integration in the professional field.

The State of Vaud has had a very dynamic training and research policy for many years. That is the reason why numerous public and private institutions of international repute are based in this region.

HEP Vaud, which is part of the Swissuniversities network, is also developing strong cooperative links in the training fields as well as in research with a number of academic institutions in Europe and all over the world.

Excellence applied to three major goals

HEP Vaud strives towards three major goals motivated by excellence:

- To offer university level training to future teachers as well as postgraduate training to teachers and to all teaching professionals;
- To stimulate the field of research and development in the Education Sciences notably as part of international research projects;
- To offer a complete set of educational resources to teaching professionals.
A complete range of training courses

The University of Teacher Education, State of Vaud, Lausanne (HEP Vaud) offers a wide range of fundamental training. In the first place the Bachelor of Arts in Pre-Primary and Primary Education, the Master of Arts of Science in Secondary Education, the Master of Advanced Studies in Upper Secondary Education, the Master of Arts in Special Needs Education, as well as numerous joint Masters, notably with the University of Lausanne, the University of Geneva and the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale of Lausanne. A whole range of post graduate training is also available at HEP Vaud such as the Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS), the Diploma of Advanced Studies (DAS), the Master of Advanced Studies, (MAS) and last but not least, more than 300 continuing education courses meant to fulfil the expectations and the needs of teaching professionals and school leaders.

The creation of new scientific poles

The teaching and research units (UER) of HEP Vaud actively work towards development and research in the Educational Sciences. Several of these units, sometimes in partnership with other academic entities, have launched research labs, in order to create real poles of scientific excellence.

Since 2010, four Labs have been aiming to achieve precisely that outcome:

/ Lisis: The International Laboratory on Inclusive Education (LISIS/ILIE)
/ LasaLé: Laboratory on Students’ school persistence and Educational Alliances
/ LiREDD: The International Research Lab on Education for Sustainable Development
/ 3LS: The Lausanne Laboratory Lesson Study.

A great openness to the world

In order to foster the training and research offered, HEP Vaud ceaselessly cultivates openness to the world and thus encourages the students’ and trainers’ mobility. It is so true, that only the development of an international and intercultural framework can guarantee the following outcomes: the academic broadening, the continuous quality improvement and compliance with international standards in training and research.

HEP Vaud has also committed itself to pilot or co-pilot innovative programmes such as PEERS (Student and Trainer-Researcher Projects in Social Networks). This project embodies real innovation in the field of mobility: it allows students to be confronted by cultural differences present in their training field in another framework than a classic stay abroad.

‘Aware of the complexity of teaching practices, HEP Vaud offers the best training possible to future and current teachers.’

Guillaume Vanhulst,
Rector