

RISE Newsletter Autumn 2025

New RISE team lead

On September 15th, [Arno Bosse](#) joined RISE as its new team lead. Before coming to Basel, Arno worked in the digital humanities in the USA, UK, Germany and the Netherlands. In his last role at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) in Amsterdam, he served as a digital humanities consultant and grant adviser for the Academy's humanities and social science institutes, and was actively involved in several national and EU-funded research infrastructure projects, including [Odeuropa](#), on sensory data mining and olfactory heritage, and [Globalise](#) which is working on enhancing the accessibility of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) archives.

New location

Last month RISE closed its offices at Spalenberg 65 and has now moved to its [new location](#) at **Allschwilerstrasse 14 (third floor)** which it shares with [DH-Lab](#). Our new, open-plan office is right next to the Brausebad tram stop and can be easily reached on foot or by bike in less than fifteen minutes from Petersplatz. We are happy to be there for you again at our new address, either in person or via video conference.

AI crash courses

RISE is proud to continue its popular crash course series on artificial intelligence. We are committed to staying at the forefront of technological advancements and regularly update our courses to ensure researchers are equipped with the latest tools and knowledge. This semester, we are offering our regular slate of courses, which include:

- *Practical Introduction to AI/LLMs*, Wednesday, September 24th (date in the past; will be offered again in the spring semester)
- *Practical Introduction to using LLMs via APIs*, Wednesday, October 8th (date in the past; will be offered again in the spring semester)
- *Information Extraction from Images with AI*, Wednesday, October 22nd, 1400-1600 (date in the past; will be offered again in the spring semester)
- *AI Benchmarking*, Wednesday, November 5th, 1400-1600
- *Coding with AI*, Wednesday, November 19th, 1400-1600
- *AI Workshop: Bring Your Own Data*, Wednesday, December 3rd, 1300-1700

Our courses will take place mostly online this semester. You can register for them on our website: <https://rise.unibas.ch/en/news-events/>

More training courses

In addition to our series on AI, we are also offering crash courses on other topics. The courses we offer this semester are the following:

- *Preparing and visualizing data with RStudio*, October 21st and November 18th, 1000-1200
- *Automatic text recognition with Transkribus*, December 8th, 1000-1200
- *Organizing research images with Tropy*, December 12th, 1000-1200
- *Version Control and Documentation with GitHub*, December 15th (tba to our website)

You can register for the crash courses on our website: <https://rise.unibas.ch/en/news-events/>

In addition, RISE will also offer **two courses on Python in the spring semester of 2026**:

- *Introduction to Python*, March 25th, 1400-1600
- *Practical applications of Python*, April 8th, 1400-1600

You will soon be able to sign up for these courses via our website.

Training materials and code

You can find the training materials, papers and open source code for all of our courses in our [Zenodo community](#) and [GitHub repositories](#).

ArcGIS mini conference

Together with the Department of Environmental Sciences and the Swiss TPH, RISE is organising an **ArcGIS Mini Conference**, all about the usage of the software ArcGIS at the University of Basel. The event provides a platform to exchange ideas about the latest developments and application possibilities of ESRI ArcGIS tool and is aimed at researchers from all departments.

Date: Friday, November 14, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: University of Basel Autumn

Program highlights

Presentation by Stefan Graf (ESRI): The science of where: GeoAI for everyday research – tools in the ArcGIS Software

Guest lecture by Dr Johanna von Holdt (UCT): Mapping Mine Waste Risk: A Spatial Framework for Assessing Environmental Exposure from Tailings Storage Facilities

Short talks by participants: You will have the opportunity to present, in 5–10 minutes, the ArcGIS tools you use in your work.

Call for Contributions

Do you have an exciting project or application with ArcGIS? Then please submit your topic by November 1, 2025 to arcgis-admin@unibas.ch. We look forward to your contributions!

Target audience:

Researchers, students, and staff of the University of Basel

Registration:

Please register by November 1, 2025 via email at arcgis-admin@unibas.ch.

Research Consulting

Of course, we continue to provide regular research support services to university members. RISE offers consultancy services for all stages of a research project, from conceiving the technical plan for the grant proposal to preparing the data management plans to archive its results at the end of a project. Please contact us as early as possible during the planning phase of your projects! This allows us to provide you with the best possible support – both in preparing the best technical approach to address your research questions and in drawing up the necessary staffing, timeline, data management, and budget plans.

Implementation Services

RISE also offers comprehensive support for implementing your digital workflows during the active lifetime of your project. Our team can assist you with putting into practice a wide range of digital methods and workflows involving, for example, data transformation, text analysis, visualization, or image recognition. RISE does not operate its own technical infrastructure for storing data or hosting (web) applications, but we are available to help you select the best and most cost effective options for your project. Our [implementation services](#) are charged at a rate of 80 CHF per hour.

Mailing list

We have an official mailing list for news and announcements which you can join via <https://www.maillist.unibas.ch/mailman/listinfo/rise>. Please note that you have to be within the network of the University of Basel or use its VPN to access the registration page.