The University of Louvain
A diverse and open community

UCLouvain fully entrusts its students, researchers and faculty to advance the state of knowledge and develop new approaches to important questions facing society.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>31,000</th>
<th>2,000</th>
<th>1,900</th>
<th>3,000</th>
<th>1,900</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>students,</td>
<td>PhD students,</td>
<td>teachers,</td>
<td>researchers,</td>
<td>administrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% from abroad</td>
<td>45% from abroad</td>
<td>14% from abroad</td>
<td>30% from abroad</td>
<td>and technical staff</td>
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<th>8,800</th>
<th>6,000</th>
<th>160,000</th>
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<td>university hospital staff</td>
<td>science parks staff, of which 2,500 in university spin-offs</td>
<td>Alumni, 123 nationalities</td>
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Each year 1,600 students devote themselves to a social, cultural or sporting activity with the support of the university.

Each year, UCLouvain organizes around 8,000 training days for its staff.

300 PhD students defend their theses each year.

A vast student body

- 14,000 bachelor’s degree students
- 15,000 master’s degree students
- 2,000 PhD students
- 4,000 adults in continuing education programmes
Research—a passion
Each day, UCLouvain’s 3,000 researchers conduct fundamental and applied research within the university’s three sectors: humanities and social sciences; science and technology; health sciences. UCLouvain’s Louvain Technology Transfer Office, a turnkey solutions service, helps researchers use their results to benefit the public.

Innovation in teaching
At UCLouvain, professors are encouraged to make innovative techniques central to their teaching approach. They can rely on support from the Louvain Learning Lab (LLL), a veritable incubator of innovative educational methods, which helps instructors integrate new teaching tools: project-based learning, flipped classes, interactive teaching platforms, e-learning. The Lab helped make UCLouvain a pioneer in MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) in Belgium.

“Above all, the university is a place where we prepare the young to assert themselves.”

Denis Mukwege, a Kivu gynaecologist, recipient the Nobel Prize for Peace of the Sakharov Prize and a 2014 UCLouvain Honorary Doctorate.
Understand and act

Through its teaching, social mission and consistently rigorous research, UCLouvain endeavours to understand the world, identify challenges and find solutions.

Programmes in all fields of study
As a comprehensive university, UCLouvain offers a very wide range of programmes:
- **Humanities**: law and criminology; economics and management; history; history of art and archaeology; information and communication; languages, literatures and art; philosophy and ethics; psychology; speech and language therapy and education; political and social sciences; theology and religious studies.
- **Science and technology**: Agricultural and environmental bioengineering; architecture and urban planning; physical and biological sciences; veterinary sciences; actuarial science; engineering sciences; computing.
- **Medical sciences**: medicine and dentistry; physiotherapy and physical education; pharmacy and biomedicine; public health.

A cross-disciplinary approach to research
At UCLouvain, research emanates from 22 institutes, which implement research policy in their respective scientific disciplines. Moreover, recognising that exploring major social issues demands a more comprehensive, cross-disciplinary approach, UCLouvain launched a new research initiative, the ‘Louvain4’ consortiums. These bring together researchers from all sectors of the university to study themes of societal interest. Nine key topics have so far been identified: nutrition, ageing, cities and community life, education, energy, water, evolution, space and migration.
Each year, roughly 50% of university degrees in French-speaking Belgium are awarded by UCLouvain.

35 research chairs and 15 funds are supported by the Louvain Foundation.

UCLouvain is at the centre of a network of hospitals that provides almost half the hospital beds in French-speaking Belgium.

Achievement isn’t the goal; changing minds is.

Bertrand Piccard, psychiatrist and balloonist, developer of the Solar Impulse solar aeroplane, recipient of 2008 UCLouvain Honorary Doctorate.
Reaching out to the world

Ever since its founding in 1425, UCLouvain has both reached out to the world and invited it in. Such openness is evident in its various international partnerships, participation in European and global networks, and long tradition of international collaboration in support of developing countries.

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<th>24</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>34</th>
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<tr>
<td>master’s programmes taught in English</td>
<td>languages taught, including sign language</td>
<td>MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) in 2017-2018</td>
<td>European Research Council (ERC) grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>€1,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>international joint master’s degrees</td>
<td>Erasmus (EU) and Mercator (non-EU) partnerships</td>
<td>projects funded by European framework programmes</td>
<td>million in capital resources dedicated to development cooperation</td>
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“Let’s marvel at the morning, the evening, and the eternal dance of the world that we carry in us.”

Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, dancer, choreographer, recipient of 2013 UCLouvain Honorary Doctorate.

Almost **one-third of UCLouvain graduates** have undertaken part of their training overseas.

UCLouvain was one of the first universities to receive the ‘HR Excellence in Research’ award, associated with the European Commission’s Euraxess programme.

The second-ranked comprehensive French-speaking university in the world, UCLouvain is in the top 1.25% of universities worldwide, making it one of the **world class universities**.*

* According to THE, QS and Shanghai rankings.
600 years of exploring the world
Since its founding, UCLouvain has explored the world and what it means to be human. As one of the rare universities at that time to offer a complete range of academic faculties, it trained the lawyers, judges, barristers and doctors demanded by the emerging modern world. In the 19th century UCLouvain evolved into a research and teaching university. In the 1970s, its separation into a Flemish university (KULeuven) and a French-speaking university (UCLouvain), and the transfer of the latter to Louvain-la-Neuve and Brussels, accelerated the pace of innovation within its laboratories and lecture halls. The 1990s marked a significant turning point: the university began taking part in the world’s most significant international projects in information technology, nanoscience, genomics and gene therapy, ethical studies and analysis of climatic, economic, geopolitical and societal changes.

Exchange programmes: the top destinations
Each year UCLouvain sends 1,200 exchange students abroad. Where do they go?

Culture: a window to the world
Artists in residence, seasonal performance programmes, an academic minor in culture and creation, cultural development funding—culture is everywhere at UCLouvain. Students contribute enthusiastically to its development through countless initiatives. In 2017, the university has opened ‘Musée L’, a major art and science museum and a powerful symbol of the university’s intention to keep culture at the heart of the university’s scientific approach.
One university – seven sites

Located in Belgium, at a crossroads between Europe’s major capitals, UCLouvain is headquartered in Louvain-la-Neuve, about 30 km south of Brussels. The town, created in 1971 by the university, offers a unique living environment.

It boasts innovative architecture, a town center entirely free from motor traffic with a variety of social and cultural activities. The university also has six other sites in Brussels and Wallonia.