UNIVERSITÉ DE TOULOUSE
RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION CLUSTER

Moving forward together...

Toulouse • Midi-Pyrénées
Founded seven centuries ago, Toulouse University is a real intellectual melting pot boasting a remarkable scientific think-tank which pools the resources of its HE institutions, thus contributing to its international repute. The “Université de Toulouse” (Research and Higher Education cluster) set up in 2007 by its six founding members, combines high-level skills in diversified and complementary fields such as sciences of materials, life and information sciences, sciences of human and social sciences or human and social sciences, with a particular focus on engineering.

Research has been spearheaded over a few hectares for a better understanding of the world and to develop the technological and intellectual means to act upon its evolution. This move has been readily accepted by the academic community of Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées, thus giving a new impetus to projects in partnership with companies and public authorities, to the hosting policy towards foreign students and visiting professors, to the creation of a regional digital university or the launching of innovative and far-reaching multidisciplinary programs.
Six founding members

- Université Toulouse I Sciences Sociales (Law, Economics, Management)
- Université Toulouse II Le Mirail (Arts, Literature, Humanities and Languages)
- Université Toulouse III Paul-Sabatier (Science, Technologies and Health)
- Institut National Polytechnique de Toulouse (Engineering School)
- Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Toulouse (Applied Sciences)
- Institut Supérieur de l’Aéronautique et de l’Espace (Aeronautics and Space)

Ten affiliated members

- Centre Universitaire Jean-François-Champollion (Several fields of study on offer)
- École d’Ingénieurs de Purpan (Engineering)
- École des Mines d’Albi-Carmaux (Mining Engineering)
- École Nationale de l’Aviation Civile (Civil Aviation)
- École Nationale d’Architecture de Toulouse (Architecture)
- École Nationale de Formation Agronomique (Agronomy)
- École Nationale d’Ingénieurs de Tarbes (Engineering)
- École Nationale Vétérinaire de Toulouse (Veterinary Studies)
- École Supérieure de Commerce de Toulouse (Business and Commerce)
- Institut d’Études Politiques de Toulouse (Political Studies)

Would you please visit our website www.univ-toulouse.fr/en
Gathering talents

Toulouse research laboratories have gained an international repute, thus attracting young researchers from all over the world; nearly 25% of Toulouse PhD students come from abroad. They enhance the already valuable scientific potential of Midi-Pyrénées which is the first French region in terms of the number of research scientists in the population.

Besides, Toulouse plays home to three models of French research excellence largely supported by the French State: the world-famous Toulouse School of Economics, the advanced research network “Sciences and Technologies for Aeronautics and Space” and the leading-edge cancer research centre (“Cancéropôle”).

Many research laboratories hosted in Toulouse carry out comprehensive work in the scientific and medical domains aiming at:

- gaining in-depth understanding of materials and life: mathematics, sciences of the infinitely large and infinitely fast sciences, neurosciences, complex systems...
- apprehending major societal issues such as: quality and future of the environment, natural and industrial hazards, biodiversity, genetics, medical research, health...
- envisaging industrial and technological applications: embedded systems, space technologies, computer sciences and automation, chemical engineering, new materials, aeronautics, biotechnologies, pharmacology, nanotechnologies...

Human sciences also largely contribute to the international scope of Toulouse with extensive work in archaeology, history, linguistics and cognitive psychology, public policies dealing with environmental and town-planning matters.

The achievements of Toulouse laboratories help support far-reaching multidisciplinary projects focusing on major current concerns such as the environment or industrial safety.

Toulouse-Midi-Pyrénées: a nursery of scientific talents

Moving forward
Number 2 for France
- Ranking first university cluster in France (except Paris) for the number of researchers, members of the Institut universitaire de France (French University Instituel)
- Ranking first university cluster in France (except Paris) for the number of researchers’ publications
- 4.6% of the regional GDP devoted to research and development, nearly twice as much as the European average

Doctoral schools aiming at:
- Securing high level PhD training programs
- Facilitating their integration into the world of work
- Encouraging synergies between the laboratories in the region

Would you please visit our website www.univ-toulouse.fr/research
Created in 1229, Toulouse University, one of the oldest in the world, is contemporary with the earliest European universities such as Bologna, La Sorbonne or Oxford... It has sown the seeds of knowledge for the legal scholars of the Middle-Ages, the dignitaries of the French Monarchy as it had done long before for the juriconsults of the former Roman Empire.

But its real expansion started in the Renaissance as the saying goes: “Paris for seeing, Lyon for possessing, Bordeaux for spending and Toulouse for learning”. Toulouse was one of the major avenues of humanism, at the crossroads between Spain and Italy. It was the city of the troubadours and of learned societies. It was a privileged stop-over in Europe for students on the road to knowledge.

Second university town in France after Paris, Toulouse offers an impressive course portfolio with a strong focus on high-technologies. The students are trained to take up the challenges of the future in many areas: economy, societal issues, energy, transport, information, nutrition... The fact that one graduate in two studying in Toulouse comes from other regions in France or from abroad clearly illustrates the scope of its influence.

Moving forward

A century-old dedication to higher education
Four training domains

• Engineering Sciences
• Arts, Literature, Humanities and Languages
• Sciences and Health
• Social Sciences

Would you please visit our website
www.univ-toulouse.fr/courses
Outstanding document resources are available to students and researchers in the Midi-Pyrénées region. The documentation departments of Toulouse HE institutions are part of a network counting over 50 libraries, which is a rather unique example in France. They operate a valuable interlending service providing books or documents for loan thanks to a single library card. The collections recorded in the Archipel data bank contain 2 million books, 28,000 paper periodicals, audiovisual items, mapping documents... Together with 60,000 on-line journals, 200 databases and, since 2006, electronic books, they support scientific enquiry from the academic community. The holdings count over 50,000 volumes published before 1815, many of them being very rare and highly valuable.

Moving forward

A network of fifty libraries
The library network

The documentary portal offers performing research tools and provides access to the documents published by the researchers of Toulouse universities (doctoral theses, papers, reports...).

Would you please visit our website www.univ-toulouse.fr/libraries
Sharing talents

French language courses tailored to the students’ needs, hosting families, cultural events: here are a few examples showing that the “Université de Toulouse” is highly dedicated to its 12 000 foreign students (over 10% of the overall number) studying in Toulouse and its region every year. They give to Toulouse campuses a cosmopolitan and friendly atmosphere. Moreover, about twenty Master’s degree programs are taught in English.

Looking ahead

Hospitality: a tradition in Toulouse

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Exporting its know-how

The "Université de Toulouse" designs and facilitates training programs in partner countries in many different fields: Law, Medicine, Management, Mathematics, tourism... Toulouse researchers-lecturers invited abroad are offered foreign language courses to improve their skills if needed.

Would you please visit our website www.univ-toulouse.fr/en/international
Looking ahead

Innovation is about joining forces

Three world-scale clusters of competitiveness combine the strengths of companies and academic partners with a view to structure the regional economy: «Aeronautics, Space and Embedded Systems», «Cancer-Bio-Health» and «Agrimip-Innovation».

Many events are staged to facilitate exchanges between the scientists and the representatives of industry. Moreover, researchers benefit from legal and technical support to fulfill their contracts, apply for patents or set-up companies at the forefront of innovation.
Technology transfer

Thanks to their expertise in microelectronics, nanotechnologies, computer sciences, mechanics or biotechnologies, the leading centres of research have attracted numerous high-tech companies in Toulouse Midi-Pyrénées such as Freescale, Siemens VDO, Actia, Thales, Alcatel, Astrium, Airbus, Latécoère, Pierre Fabre, Sanofi-Aventis...

Would you please visit our website www.univ-toulouse.fr/industrial-relations
Toulouse
Midi-Pyrénées

The art of living in Toulouse

Toulouse is a city of the south, with an Italian touch for its ochre hues and a Spanish flavour for its night life. When summer comes, terraces are overcrowded until very late at night and people like to stroll around. Musicians and jugglers meet on the river banks. Toulouse is a lively, friendly and festive student town located in a privileged environment. The Pyrenees mountain resorts attract ski lovers throughout the winter season. In summer, many options are available to Toulouse youth: a dive into the Mediterranean sea, a surfing experience on the Atlantic Ocean or just lying in the sun by the largest swimming pool in Europe. Hiking in the Causses of Aveyron and among the hills and dales of the Gers or canoeing along the meandering Lot River will also bring joyful memories. An art of living which attracts over 15,000 newcomers every year!
Nature
• 110 km from the Pyrénées ski resorts
• 150 km from the Mediterranean Sea
• Less than a 3-hour drive from the Atlantic Ocean
• 250 km of cycle paths in Toulouse
• 2,027 hours of sunshine annually

Culture
• 30 theatres
• 20 festivals every year
• The largest Zenith concert hall in France
• 90,000 film tickets sold every week.

Would you please visit our website
www.univ-toulouse.fr/territory