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Welcome to the University of Catalonia



Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia

Catalonia

Catalonia is a leading cluster in southern Europe, a strategic hub thanks to a highly competitive knowledge economy and a privileged geographic location open to the world. There are over 5,000 international companies operating in Catalonia, 40% of them having been in the region for over 10 years. Business activity benefits from an excellent university and research system that feeds industry with well-trained professionals and innovation technology.



Sagrada Família, Barcelona. © Vicente Zambrano.
Courtesy of the Barcelona City Council



Barceloneta beach, Barcelona. © Vicente Zambrano.
Courtesy of the Barcelona City Council



Castellers, or human towers. © Pepe Encinas

Catalonia is a land that has produced artists of such international renown as Antoni Gaudí, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí, Antoni Tàpies, Pau Casals, Mercè Rodoreda, Josep Carreras, Ferran Adrià, Quim Monzó or Montserrat Caballé. A land with a plethora of talent, which also attracts excellence from around the world thanks to the warmth of its people, the modernity of its infrastructure and a way of life of exceptional quality, made even better by the Mediterranean environment.



Borja Mosaic. © Francisco Sánchez



Barcelona city landscape. © Antonio Luján. Courtesy of the Barcelona City Council

Catalonia has a leading position in the world, backed by international rankings. Barcelona, its capital, is the number-one European city in terms of quality of life as a place to work, and the sixth-best European city in which to do business, where 30,000 companies are created yearly. It is also the second-ranked city in the world in organizing international meetings. Barcelona is in 11th place on the list of the top university cities and has two business schools which are listed among the most prestigious in the world.



Ebre Delta. © Richard Martin



Pyrenees. © Marc Garriga

Catalonia is a region with a millennium-old tradition and its own language, Catalan, and autonomous government, the Generalitat, within Spain and the European Union. It has a stable political system—in fact, its Parliament is the oldest in the world (1283)—which promotes economic activity based on knowledge, in which higher education and research are key elements. Catalonia is a worldwide benchmark of excellence in research in areas such as biotechnology, photonics, energy and nanotechnology. It is research in close contact with universities, the principal mission of which is to discover and advance in knowledge that benefits society and brings about economic prosperity.

Catalonia has an area of approximately 32,000 km² and a population of over seven and a half million inhabitants. A region which bears the mark left by the footsteps of different cultures and a historical heritage recognized by UNESCO.



University of Girona (UdG)

The **University of Girona** (UdG) is a public institution that strives for excellence in teaching and research and which participates in the progress and development of society through the creation, transmission, dissemination and criticism of science, technology, health sciences, humanities, social sciences and the arts. Rooted in the Catalan country and culture, the UdG is one of the main economic and cultural driving forces in its environment, inspired by universality and openness in all its traditions, advances and cultures. Member of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Cross-Border Higher Education and Research Hub and of the Euro-Mediterranean Tourism and Water Campus, it promotes cross-border and regional cooperation with research centers and universities in the south of France and the Balearic Islands.



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History

UdG, established by legislation passed by the Catalan Parliament in 1991, is the product of the medieval university in Girona, which was created in the middle of the 15th century, and offered degrees in Grammar, Rhetoric, Philosophy, Theology, Law and Medicine.

Campus

UdG has three different campuses in the city of Girona: Barri Vell, Centre and Montilivi. The Barri Vell Campus is located in the heart of the historic center of Girona and occupies renovated historic and religious buildings. The Centre Campus is located in the urban development, while Montilivi Campus, newly built, is a green area within the urban fabric. All three campuses exude the vitality of the academic world and are rooted in their surroundings.

Teaching

UdG promotes studies of quality, whether in terms of academic results or the efficiency of the degrees. In order to meet its objective, UdG ensures the academic progress of students and ensures that the subjects programmed in the different syllabi follow the appropriate sequence. Therefore, students are not just another number and receive individualized attention.

The society of Girona actively participates in defining the new qualifications, so that they offer adequate education that enables students to successfully learn the professional skills required by the labor market. To that end, the degrees offered by UdG are constantly updated.

Research

UdG's research activity is carried out through various research groups connected to research departments and institutes. The professorial chairs also play an important role in promoting study and research, along with other structures such as observatories and laboratories. The research groups are specialized by area of knowledge: scientific, technological, health-related, humanistic and social sciences.

The research organization is also responsible for achieving excellence and internationalization. In parallel, UdG promotes training for researchers through its own scholarship program.

Innovation

Through its Office of Research and Technology, UdG manages its grants and the dissemination and application of research in society. The Science and Technology Park is the place where most of this collaboration and technology transfer takes place. The park contributes to attracting, creating and developing highly innovative companies, and spin-offs and start-ups based on technology and knowledge and those related to R&D. It also promotes interactions and relations between these agents and others in the sector.

The UdG Research Arch is the framework that encompasses the university's own research and that of participating centers, in collaboration with the Science and Technology Park, the Academy of the Humanities and Social Sciences, social agents and companies.

Internationalization

UdG identifies internationalization as a key strategic measure for the future of the university, which is applied in different areas: international teaching activity, student and professor mobility, the internationality of research and actions in the field of international cooperation. In the framework of internationalization, UdG has implemented a program to attract foreign students that has been designed as a series of university training activities, which are given in English and valued in academic credits.

UdG comprises two structures for cooperation in teaching and research in southern Europe: the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Cross-Border Higher Education and Research Hub (PRES-PM) and the Euro-Mediterranean Tourism and Water Campus, which was awarded the distinction of Campus of International Excellence (Campus e-MTA). This helps promote cross-border and regional cooperation with research centers and universities in the south of France and the Balearic Islands.

University community

UdG offers a wide array of services: from all of the information a student may need to get around on campus, to learning languages; from participation in a varied assortment of associations, to involvement in sports and cultural activities. It also provides the university community with a bike or laptop rental service, Wi-Fi connection, a campus bus, and so on.