

## Fact sheet – University of Limoges

### University profile

At the heart of Europe, the University of Limoges is **an important multidisciplinary higher education cluster in an environment conducive to scientific development**. It is a community brimming with **interactions**, with a **diverse student population**, **efficient hosting structures**, **close-knit teams**, **training based on research of a very high level and for well-identified opportunities**. Its scientific excellence, with its state-of-the-art laboratories and major partnerships, contributes to inventing the world of the future.

Unilim is not only deeply rooted in its local and regional ecosystem, but also is especially connected with the Francophone community abroad (particularly in Québec, Morocco and Western Africa) and the Anglophone community (in the United States and Ireland, for example). These connections provide opportunities to showcase the University's scientific and educational programs and help promote intercultural communication within the community.

Last but not least, Unilim joined *EUPeace Justice and Inclusive Societies Alliance* in 2023. This network of 9 universities, representing 7 countries, will shape the future of our institution, allowing our community to develop privileged collaborations with these European partners and help our students and staff become global citizens and share universal values of respect and tolerance.

### University history

The University of Limoges was created in 1968 by the incorporation into a single institution of various research schools of higher learning in Limoges, some of them previously affiliated to the University of Poitiers. At the time of its creation it counted 7,000 students and soon expanded to 15,000 making it a middle size university in France. It inherits from a long tradition of research, innovation and teaching possibly dating back

in the Middle Ages from the famed Abbaye Saint-Martial de Limoges founded in 848 and suppressed

#### Over 50 years of history

**October 24, 1968**  
CREATION OF  
UNIVERSITE DE LIMOGES



**1983**  
FRANCOPHONIA  
FESTIVAL



**1986**  
IPAG



**1991**  
ENSIL-ENSCI



**2007**  
IAE ET INSPÉ (EX-IUFM)



**2008**  
AVRIL



**2011**  
PARTNERSHIP  
FOUNDATION



**2012**  
ILFOMER



**2023**  
EUPeace



by the French Revolution in 1891, which was a major intellectual centre in Medieval Europe (technology of materials, enamel, manuscripts, scholarship, liturgy, theatre, etc.). The modern School of Medicine and Pharmacy was created in 1626 (the present day's university council meets in the "Salle Saint-Alexis", the 17th century former chapel of the old Hôtel-Dieu University Hospital).

## Higher education system of France

French higher education is based on three academic degrees: *Licence*, *Master* and *Doctorat*. This structure is in line with the European standards which aim to harmonise higher education systems and facilitate equivalences between higher education qualifications across Europe.

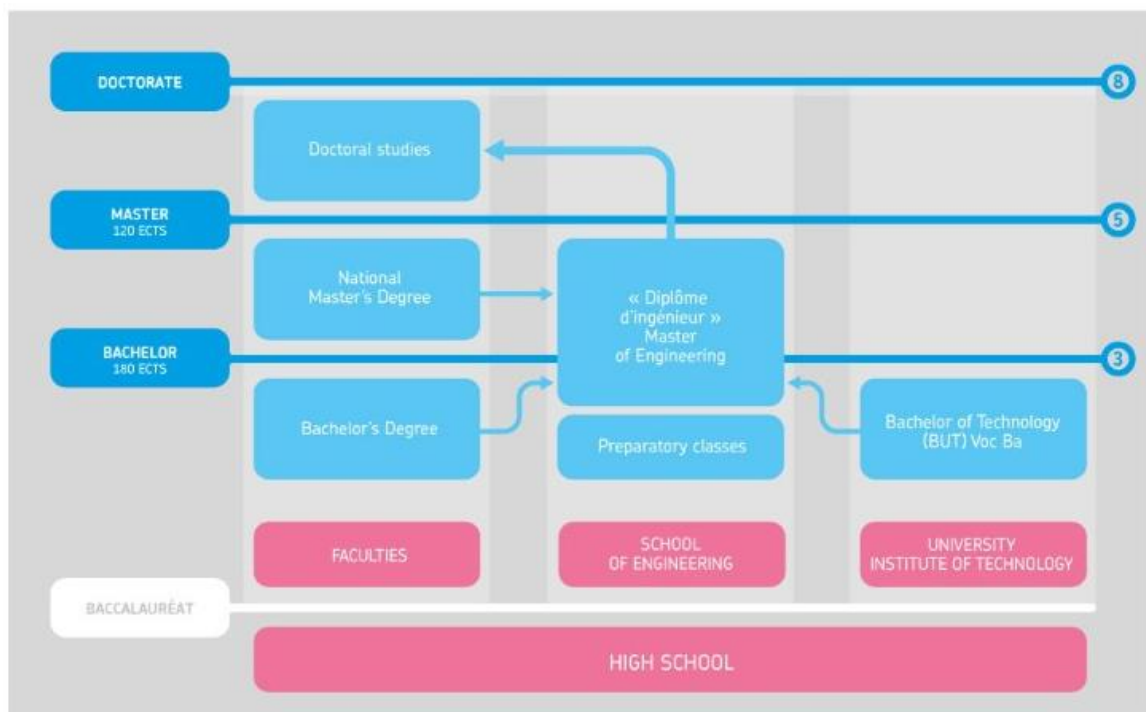
French university studies are organised around three national degrees: Licence, Master and Doctorat. Like the ECTS, the LMD system has been developed and standardised in most EU countries.

However, there is no automatic equivalence between French and foreign degrees, as each higher education institution can define its own admission criteria.

**Licence:** 'Licence', like Bachelor's degrees, are 3-year programmes (6 semesters) that are accessible after completing secondary education.

**Master:** French Master's degrees are completed in 2 years: Master 1 and Master 2.

**Doctorat:** A doctorate is completed after 8 years/ 16 semesters of study.



## Faculties & Institutes



Department of Sciences and Technology



Department of Law and Economics



Department of Literature and Humanities



Department of Medicine



Department of Pharmacy

5 Research Institutes and 22 Research Units, of which 3 UMR (unités mixtes de recherche with) CNRS, 3 UMR Inserm, 1 UMR CNRS-Inserm, 1 UMR Inserm-IRD & USC INRAE and 1 UAR CNRS-Inserm : BISCEM

1 LABEX Σ-LIM

1 Graduate School TACTIC

1 ASDESR INTERFACES

1 LABEL SAPS LIRES2

11 Joint laboratories with companies

7 Chairs of excellence

1,500 publications per year

## Student involvement at University of Limoges

Student involvement in the University of Limoges can take 2 different forms. The first is the involvement in student associations and the second is political involvement of represent students.

Students are free to join associations that are either component-based or multi-site. Generally speaking, the aim of these associations is to liven up student life by organising various events. All the associations can rely on a body that is managed by the students of the University of Limoges: The Student Life Office (BVE). The aim of this structure is to bring together and create links between all

the student associations at the university. To do this, it has the following missions: to train all the association leaders, to develop university-wide cultural events (back-to-school parties, outings, concerts, etc.) and to support any student wishing to carry out an action or project.

Student involvement can also take a more political form. At the University of Limoges, there are councils in the various Faculties as well as in the university's central services. For the central services, we have three main councils: The Training and University Life Committee (CFVU - 16 elected student members), the management board (6 elected student members) and the Commission de la Recherche (5 elected PhD members). Every semester, we held an Academic Council, which brings together the elected members of the Research Commission and the CFVU, and within which are elected the Student Vice-President and his or her deputies for a two-year term. These are members of the university's governance team. He/she is also invited to any committee where his/her opinion is required. He/she may be involved in any project where it is necessary to provide a student perspective, and he/she has an ex-officio seat on the standing committee responsible for preparing the CFVU and the FSDIE (management of the Solidarity Fund for the Development of Student Initiatives). The VPE is currently assisted by 2 Deputy Student Vice-Presidents. Their roles are to represent the student voice on the University's various committees.

Bringing student life onto campus is a deliberate choice made by Université de Limoges. Now, a dedicated space has been created and student engagement is given its proper due.

- The Office of Student Life benefits from a 250m<sup>2</sup> space named CALM (“Comme A La Maison” or “Just like home”) has a stage and modular furniture.
- A charter of associations should soon be drawn up. This will identify the establishment's student associations and promote them.
- The campus and student life budget (CVEC in French) is now managed by students themselves, who have decision-making power over allocation of the funds.
- A university diploma specific to this commitment is being developed.

## Research focus & number research groups

5 cutting-edge Research Institutes, gathering 22 Research Units

- **GIO** harbors three cross-disciplinary research units with overlapping scientific interests in the **Governance of Institutions and Organizations**.
- **OmegaHealth** groups together all research units active in the fields of **biology, health, chemistry and environment** in Limoges. It hosts 3 UMR Inserm, 1 UMR CNRS-Inserm, 1 UMR Inserm-IRD & USC INRAE
  - In the Spotlight: *EpiMaCT refers to the epidemiology of chronic tropical diseases. Only laboratory in Europe that performs research at the intersection of neurology and tropical epidemiology. Under the wing of the University, INSERM and the University hospital center, combines cutting-edge technology with world-class knowledge.*

- The **SHS institute** features six teams with complementary scientific challenges and practices that focus on **Francophonie** and **world culture**, the environment and health, and **transformations and societal innovations**.
  - In the Spotlight: *Limoges is renowned for its Centre de Recherches Sémiotiques and for its Master in Semiotics and Strategies. Attracts many students each year. Essential for analyzing and understanding many of the texts, objects and behaviors in our environment.*
- **IMPEO** hosts three research units that focus on research and training situated at the **intersection of materials and process engineering**.
- **XLIM** stands out due to its high-level competence in **electronics and hyperfrequencies, optics and photonics, mathematics, computer science and imagery, and CAD**.
  - In the Spotlight. The Ministry of Higher Education and Research has distinguished the *LabEx Σ-lim* on the basis of 4 main themes: Going beyond 5G ; Doing more with less energy; Shedding new light on photonics; Promoting health with advanced diagnostics and therapies
  - SAFIR is a technological platform that serves as a complement to **the shared research laboratory Protheis**. These two structures, which were established thanks to Safran, Oerlikon, the CNRS and Université de Limoges, research surface coatings for aeronautics applications. Collective innovation makes this a powerful collaboration—and one that is unprecedented in Europe.
- 11 Joint laboratories with companies

## More information

### ➤ **AVRUL (Research Valorization agency)**

As one of the University's flagship programs, AVRUL leverages laboratory prowess to meet needs identified in the region. In 2021, AVRUL's contract volume reached 5.6 million euros.

### ➤ **The Foundation**

Thanks to the funds it collects from public and private donors, the Université de Limoges Partnership Foundation has also become a strong link in the chain connecting the institution to the socioeconomic community around it.

The Foundation continues to develop to better serve research, adapt academics and training courses to new activity sectors, and promote the University.

7 Chairs of excellence