Université du Québec



QUÉBEC

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Largest University Network in Canada

Created by the Government of Québec in 1968, the Université du Québec is the largest university network in Canada. Its mission is to facilitate access to university education, contribute to the scientific development of Québec as well as to regional development.

From its headquarters in Québec City, Université du Québec coordinates courses taught by nearly 6,000 professors and their assistants, to 86,000 students in its 9 establishments in 54 cities across the province. As the youngest university in Québec, Université du Québec has established an identity based on innovation and challenge, quality of teaching and openness to the world at large.

An Imposing Presence

To fulfill its mission, Université du Québec boasts a network of 9 establishments across the province:

Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), along with TÉLUQ (an online university specializing in distance education);

Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (UQTR);

Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC);

Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR);

Université du Québec en Outaouais (UQO);

Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (UQAT);

Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)

(National Science Research Institute);

École nationale d'administration publique **(ÉNAP)** (National School of Public Administration);

École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS) (a school for higher technology).



Open to the World at Large

Due to the superior quality of its teaching and research, the various establishments within the university network offer world-class education. The "mobility program" gives students the flexibility to study at any of the university establishments within its Québec network. The university's faculty members have established partnerships in Asia, Europe, the Americas and Africa, through which the institution remains at the forefront of developments in world-wide research. Out of 86,000 students enrolled at Université du Québec, 5,000 come from abroad.



For those students who need to balance work, family and studies and who cannot attend courses in person, Université du Québec offers a distance education program through TÉLUQ, which is linked to UQAM. Together, these two entities form the largest French-speaking university, combining on- and off-campus education. They fulfill their mission of education, research and creation whether on campus, in the regional centres or by means of distance education programs, both in Québec and on the international scene.



On the Cutting Edge of Research

In 2005, the Université du Québec ranked 11th among Canadian universities respecting its research revenues, which amounted to over 196 million dollars.

Though young, the Université du Québec has developed expertise in various human and social sciences, health sciences, natural sciences and engineering. In fact, researchers from its various establishments have distinguished themselves in areas of alternative energy, marine sciences, neurosciences, cognitive sciences, environmental studies, forest ecology, water, mining, athletic drug testing, international studies, management, new economy, cold engineering, territorial development, optics, nanobiotechnologies as well as social health issues.

Through a multidisciplinary approach, the Université du Québec wishes to ensure the integrated development of society and encourages consensus on crucial issues, such as accessibility to academic success.



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The Strength of a Network: Large-scale Activities

Taking advantage of the strength of its network, the Université du Québec has set up large-scale activities, selected from among its many teaching and research facilities throughout Québec. Through these strategic partnerships, its leaders and researchers have combined their efforts and resources to forge a university that's at the cutting edge of education, research and technology. The Université du Québec is currently focused on developing the following:

FORESTRY

Surrounded by immense forests, the Province of Québec has taken advantage of this natural resource and developed an internationally recognized expertise in pulp and paper, forest regeneration and forest ecology. When it comes to forestry, the Université du Québec network supports the ecosystems approach and counts on the expertise of:

- Centre multirégional de recherche en foresterie (a multiregional forestry research centre);
- Groupe de recherche en écologie forestière interuniversitaire (an interuniversity forest ecology research group);
- Consortium de recherche sur la forêt boréale commerciale de l'UQAC (a consoritum for boreal, commercial forest research at UQAC);
- Centre de recherche en pâtes et papier de l'UQTR (the pulp and paper research centre at UQTR);
- NSERC Industrial Chair in Sustainable Forest Management at UQAT & UQAM;
- Unité de recherche et de développement forestiers de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue (the Abitibi-Témiscamingue forestry research and development unit);
- Institut québécois d'aménagement de la forêt feuillue relié de l'UQO (a Québec institute for deciduous forest management, linked to UQO).

As well, groups from the Université du Québec have access to numerous forests and forested areas for the purposes of teaching and research, allowing them to conduct practical analyses of different concepts and ideas.

WATER

Fresh Water

About 10% of Québec's territory consists of water, representing 4,500 rivers, half a million lakes, and 430 major catchment areas. With such a bountiful resource, establishments of the Université du Québec network have become experts in this field, ranking them among the world leaders in water research. The following groups were established by Université du Québec researchers:

- Centre INRS-Eau, Terre et Environnement (earth, water and environment centre of Québec's scientific research institute);
- Groupe de recherche interuniversitaire en limnologie (interuniversity limnology research group);
- Groupe Développement et recherche appliquée en modélisation de l'eau et de l'environnement (a group for applied research and development in water and environment modelling);
- Institut des sciences de l'environnement de l'UQAM (the environmental science institute of UQAM).

Their expertise pertains to hydrology, ground water, water quality, environmental danger, climatic change, infrastructure, management and governance, water sanitation and treatment, ecosystems.



Marine Environment

Researchers of the Université du Québec network have also developed broad expertise in the marine environment through:

- Institut des sciences de la mer de Rimouski (the marine science institute at Rimouski);
- Groupe de recherche en géochimie et en géodynamique (a geochemistry and geodynamics research group).

Research is geared to gaining a better understanding of major environmental issues in the marine sciences.



Territorial Development

Territorial development, a big field of study within the Université du Québec, aims at developing relationships between various establishments so that their regions may mutually benefit from technological, cultural and economic transfer. The main groups involved are:

- Réseau interuniversitaire d'études urbaines et régionales – villes, régions, monde (an inter-university network for urban and regional studies - cities, regions, world);
- Centre de recherche sur le développement territorial (a centre for research on territorial development);
- Centre Urbanisation, Culture et Société de l'INRS (a centre for urbanization, culture and society of INRS);
- ÉNAP (National school of public admistration);
- Centre de recherche sur les innovations sociales (social innovations research centre) and the Alliance de recherche en économie sociale (an group for research on social economics);
- Alliance de recherche sur les innovations sociales (a group for research on social innovations);

- Observatoire jeunes et société (an observatory for youth and society);
- Institut de recherche sur les petites et moyennes enterprises (a research institute of the small and medium size enterprises);
- Centre multirégional de recherche en foresterie (a multiregional centre for research in forestry);
- Centre INRS-Eau, Terre et Environnement (INRS centre for water, earth and environment):
- Institut des sciences de l'environnement (the provincial institute for environmental sciences);
- The OURANOS group.

Themes featured deal with society, economy, politics, environment, resources, geography, territory, culture, and sustainable development.



Distance Education

From its very beginning, the Université du Québec has been a pioneer in the area of distance education thanks to TÉLUQ. Thus, students needing to balance studies work and family, can access university education in French whether within a regular program or to upgrade their studies. In an effort to diversify its offerings in this area, a recent agreement has linked TÉLUQ to UQAM. TÉLUQ's mandate is now to offer UQAM's distance education programs, but also to support the development of the open university within the Université du Québec network.



Student Mobility

In an era of market globalization, students need adaptability and openmindedness in order to excel. Thus, the Université du Québec puts great importance on student mobility. Due to its spread-out network, the institution has created MOBILUQ, a program specifically designed for academic mobility. Through this program, students are able to register at one

of the network's establishments and to study at another, without incurring additional fees or slowing down their study program. They may thus take

> advantage of programs suited to their needs and have access to top resources, wherever they are located. While the mobility program is currently available within Québec, the University has planned a world-wide launch in the near future.



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