Facts at your fingertips

» World-class research: UT belongs to the top 1% of the world’s most-cited universities and research institutions in 10 research areas (Thomson Reuters Essential Science Indicators 2015).

» Over 13,750 total students studying in 60 bachelor’s, 72 master’s and 35 doctoral degree programmes.

» Over 1,300 international students from more than 80 countries.

» 19 programmes taught in English, including joint programmes.

» 3,500 total staff, 1,740 academic staff.

» 71 partner universities in 27 countries.

» 120 UT buildings in Tartu which makes the town feel like one big campus.

» UT is the largest provider of continuing education in Estonia. Every year, more than 37,000 people pursue continuing education at the 1,800 courses offered by the university.
The University of Tartu

• Ranked in the top 2% of the world’s universities and #1 in the Baltics (QS World University Rankings 2016, Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2015–2016).

• The University of Tartu is among the top 450 universities in the world in six subjects: Communication and Media Studies (101–150), Linguistics (101–150), English Language and Literature (251–300), Modern Languages (251–300), Medicine (251–300), Computer Science and Information Systems (401–450).

• One of the oldest universities in Northern and Eastern Europe (established in 1632).

• A vital student body: four centuries of student traditions.

• Studies and research at the University of Tartu take place in four faculties: the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, and Faculty of Science and Technology.

• University of Tartu campuses in Tartu, Tallinn, Narva, Pärnu, and Viljandi are introduced via a virtual tour that is unique in Europe at virtualtour.ut.ee.
Studies at UT involve high-quality, research-based teaching and international cooperation. The high standards of the bachelor’s, master’s and PhD programmes are proven by the graduates’ competitiveness – both domestically and internationally.

The University of Tartu’s objective is to produce graduates who change the world. University alumni comprise 99% of Estonian doctors, dentists, and pharmacists, 40% of the members of the parliament, 60% of the ministers in the government, 87% of the Estonian Bar Association, 100% of judges, and 95% of prosecutors.

Nearly a quarter of the entire Estonian university student population study at the University of Tartu. A quarter of all first-year students at the University of Tartu received medals for excellence upon graduating from high school or achieved top results in national subject competitions.

The higher education offered at the University of Tartu is international by nature. Degree programmes include lectures in foreign languages, with participation by lecturers and scholars from abroad, creating an international study environment for domestic as well as international students.

According to an Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Survey (2011), Estonia reached the highest stay satisfaction benchmarks.

The University of Tartu founded the first Estonian Erasmus Mundus joint master’s programme, Excellence in Analytical Chemistry, which was created on the basis of the needs of the labour market. Studies begin at the University of Tartu, and in the second year students specialise in one of the three top universities in France, Finland or Sweden.
The University of Tartu teaches beyond lecture halls and laboratories, as with MOOCs we have taken our quality of instruction to a new level. UT is the first university in Estonia to develop free online courses similar to those primarily offered by the world’s top universities, such as Cambridge and Stanford. See more at ut.ee/en/current-students/moocs.

Over 1,300 international students from more than 80 countries study at UT. International students come primarily from Ukraine, Finland, Russia, Georgia, India, USA, Germany, and so on.

19 degree programmes taught in English, including joint programmes*. 
Bachelor’s and master’s integrated studies
• Medicine

Bachelor’s degree programmes
• Business Administration
• Science & Technology

Master’s degree programmes

Arts and Humanities:
• Philosophy
• Semiotics

Science and Technology:
• Applied Measurement Science
• Computer Science
• Excellence in Analytical Chemistry (Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree)*
• Financial Mathematics
• Robotics and Computer Engineering
• Software Engineering*

Social Sciences:
• Baltic Sea Region Studies
• Democracy and Governance
• European Union – Russia Studies
• International Law and Human Rights
• Information Technology Law
• International Relations and Regional Studies
• Quantitative Economics
• Wellness and Spa Service Design and Management

PhD programmes in all faculties, scholarships available.

More info:
www.ut.ee/en/admissions
The University of Tartu is Estonia’s leading centre of research and development. 60% of all doctoral dissertations in Estonia are defended at UT (2011 was a record year, with 152 PhDs awarded). More than half of all Estonian scientific publications are written by researchers at UT.

In recent years, UT researchers have exceeded the Essential Science Indicators 1% impact threshold in:

- Clinical Medicine
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science and Ecology
- Plant and Animal Science
- Geosciences
- Social Sciences (general)
- Biology and Biochemistry
- Materials Science
- Life Sciences
- Engineering
- Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Psychiatry and Psychology

The university participates as a coordinator or partner in more than 100 international research and development projects.
UT is the leader or a partner in ten out of twelve national centres of research excellence. The centres of excellence are closely connected to doctoral studies. The University of Tartu participates in eleven of Estonia’s thirteen graduate schools.

The University of Tartu is striving towards research and development work which has a global impact and leads Estonia’s development. As a populariser of forward-looking thought and a developer of innovation, the university builds new technologies in cooperation with enterprises and supports creating and nurturing start-up companies.

The UT Estonian Genome Centre database holds the genetic data of 52,000 Estonians and is the basis for extensive international research work. The Genome Centre is one of the most successful bio banks in Europe. It organises trainings and also cooperates to help new bio banks.

www.ut.ee/en/research
Enterprise

The majority of Estonian research and development in various fields is conducted by the faculties, colleges, and institutes of the University of Tartu, ranging from modern technologies in medicine to engineering.

The university offers a wide range of services. Enterprises have access to a constantly updated database, covering more than 110 services in nine fields.

UT researchers have world-class experience and knowhow to share with Estonian and foreign companies. For example, the driving instructors of Mercedes-Benz use an intervention technique created by researchers at the University of Tartu.

Businesses are interested primarily in the analysis, testing, and product development services provided by UT.

www.ut.ee/en/entrepreneurship
International cooperation

Only through international contacts, dissemination, and collaboration can a university maintain the high calibre and reputation that UT has gained.

Institutional cooperation with bilateral partners extends from the Baltic Sea area to North America, East Asia, and Australia. These partnerships support activities from student exchange to joint study programmes and research collaboration.

UT holds more than 800 bilateral Erasmus agreements with partners from all over the world to encourage student mobility and expand opportunities for staff exchange.

In addition, the university actively participates in collaborative international university networks, such as the Coimbra Group, the Utrecht Network, and European University Association (EUA).

UT’s international reputation is reflected in its distinguished guest list – in recent years Tartu has hosted public lectures by world-renowned writers, Nobel Prize winners, and many other reputed scholars, heads of state, and great thinkers.
Organization

The University of Tartu is governed by an 11-member Council and a Senate of 22 members. The Council is the highest decision-making body in the university, responsible for financial activities and long-term development. The Senate is the main academic board of the university, responsible for academic and R&D activities and assuring their high quality.

UT has around 3,500 members of staff, including over 1,740 academic staff.

Nine per cent of the academic staff is international, hailing from 38 different countries.
Studies and research at the University of Tartu take place in four faculties:

**Faculty of Arts and Humanities**
- School of Theology and Religious Studies
- Institute of History and Archaeology
- Institute of Estonian and General Linguistics
- Institute of Philosophy and Semiotics
- Institute of Cultural Research and Arts
- College of Foreign Languages and Cultures
- Viljandi Culture Academy

**Faculty of Social Sciences**
- School of Law
- School of Economics and Business Administration
- Institute of Social Studies
- Institute of Education
- Institute of Psychology
- Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies
- Narva College
- Pärnu College

**Faculty of Medicine**
- Institute of Biomedicine and Translational Medicine
- Institute of Family Medicine and Public Health
- Institute of Pharmacy
- Institute of Clinical Medicine
- Institute of Dentistry
- Institute of Sport Sciences and Physiotherapy

**Faculty of Science and Technology**
- Estonian Marine Institute
- Institute of Physics
- Institute of Chemistry
- Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology
- Institute of Technology
- Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences
- Institute of Computer Science
- Institute of Mathematics and Statistics
Student traditions in Tartu are held high by 22 student corporations and societies. The oldest of these was founded in 1870 (Estonian Students’ Society) and the youngest in 2011 (corp! Sororitas Estoniae).
Traditions

Student life at the University of Tartu draws energy and inspiration from four centuries of student traditions. The whole town is involved in various student events through the year, culminating with the city-wide Student Spring Days and Autumn Days. The Walpurgis Night celebration on the eve of May Day is one of the biggest student parties and includes a great parade of academic student organizations.

The most popular event of Student Days, a week-long festival of student events twice a year in Tartu, is the Night Song Festival, where more than 12,000 students gather to sing together.

The anniversary of UT as Estonia’s national university is celebrated annually on 1 December, when students and staff are united in a grand procession. Bearing torches, they climb Toome Hill with a brass band, forming a flowing river of fire in the twilight. The evening concludes with a festive anniversary ball.
Tartu

Tartu is a city of youth – of the 100,000 residents, one in five is a student. The town and university are deeply entwined, and university buildings make up a good part of Tartu’s town centre. Tartu provides a stimulating environment for research and studies, both within the university walls and beyond.

The UT Academic Sports Club provides top-notch facilities to keep the mind and body balanced. The university includes three museums, an art gallery and the Botanical Garden (one of the oldest in the world, established in 1803), all open to the public, with a varied schedule of exhibitions and events.

**Karlova, Supilinn and Ülejõe, former slums, are now very popular living districts among students and professors. They are branded as ‘environmentally valuable’ even though there are still old wooden houses with stoves for heating.**

Tartu is famous for its bohemian, youthful, student-friendly atmosphere. The central river running through the town, leafy Toome Hill and other parks in the town centre, as well as distinctive eateries, cafes and taverns, all add to a sense of well-being and mental calm. Welcome!
The University of Tartu choirs are highly acknowledged in Estonia and abroad. Since 2010, the university once again has its own symphony orchestra.
History

The University of Tartu is one of the oldest universities in Northern Europe, established by the Swedish King Gustav II Adolf in 1632.

The Great Northern War forced the university to cease activities in the 18th century, but it was reopened in 1802 during the reign of the Russian Tsar Alexander I. The University of Tartu was the only German-language university in the Russian Empire, and it functioned as a bridge between German and Russian cultures.

Distinguished scholars of nature and society worked and studied here. The university was temporarily closed down again during World War I, to be reopened on 1 December 1919 as the first Estonian-language university in the world – the Estonian national university.
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