Ranked in the top 1.2% of the best universities in the world
International rankings

The University of Tartu (UT) is consistently ranked in the top 1.2% of the world’s universities in global rankings.

**Rankings in 2018:**

- 301<sup>th</sup> in the QS World University Rankings 2020
- In the 301–350 range in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings
- In the 301–400 range in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (Shanghai Ranking)
- The first in New Europe according to the Times Higher Education New Europe Rankings
- 18 disciplines featured in the QS World University Rankings by Subject
Quick facts

Founded in 1632 by the Swedish King Gustavus II Adolphus
Operating as the first Estonian-language university since 1919
Around 14,000 students, including around 1,800 international students from 105 countries
27 international bachelor’s and master’s programmes
72 partner universities in 26 countries
83% of master’s graduates work in executive positions
120 PhD theses defended annually
Over 45,000 learners enrolled in lifelong learning courses each year
3,500 employees, 50% of them employed in academic positions
170 international academic and research staff members
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1909 was awarded to a UT alumnus Wilhelm Ostwald, the founder of physical chemistry
University governance

**COUNCIL (11)**
The highest decision-making body, responsible for the long-term development of the university and for ensuring the achievement of the university’s objectives

- 5 UT employees - 6 external members

**SENATE (22)**
The highest academic decision-making body, responsible for the university’s teaching, research and development activities

- rector - 16 UT employees - 5 students

**RECTOR**
Head of the university

**RECTOR’S OFFICE (11)**
Coordinates the implementation of decisions at structural units of the university

- rector - vice rectors and area directors - deans
Faculties

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

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

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

**Science and Technology**
- Institute of Computer Science
- Estonian Marine Institute
- Institute of Physics
- Institute of Chemistry
- Institute of Mathematics and Statistics
- Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology
- Institute of Technology
- Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences
- Tartu Observatory

**INSTITUTIONS:** Institute of Genomics, University of Tartu Museum, Natural History Museum and Botanical Garden, Library, and Youth Academy
Studies

Study programmes at UT are informed by the innovative research of its academic staff.

**International study environment:**
Around 1,800 international students from more than 105 countries are enrolled in UT’s English-taught programmes. International students come primarily from Finland, Ukraine, Russia, Georgia, India, USA, and Germany.

**Ample student exchange opportunities:**
UT is an active member of Erasmus+, ISEP, AEN and other student exchange networks.

**International Summer University:**
UT offers interdisciplinary and subject-specific summer programmes with versatile content.

**Virtual university:**
35% of UT’s study courses are offered partly or fully online – as web-based courses in Moodle, video lectures, webinars, e-portfolios, massive open online courses (MOOCs).
Degree programmes

56 bachelor’s and 70 master’s programmes are available, including 26 programmes in English.

Degree programmes taught in English:

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

Integrated bachelor’s and master’s studies in Medicine

Master’s degree programmes:

Field of study: Humanities
Philosophy • Semiotics • Folkloristics and Applied Heritage Studies • European Languages and Cultures • Sound and Visual Technology

Field of study: Social Sciences
Educational Technology • European Union – Russia Studies • Democracy and Governance • Information Technology Law
• Innovation and Technology Management
• International Law and Human Rights
• International Relations and Regional Studies • Quantitative Economics • Wellness and Spa Service Design and Management

Field of study: Science and Technology
Actuarial and Financial Engineering
• Applied Measurement Science • Computer Science • Geoinformatics for Urbanised Society • Robotics and Computer Engineering
• Software Engineering • Bioengineering
• Materials Science and Technology

Joint programmes coordinated by other universities
Cyber Security • Materials and Processes of Sustainable Energetics • Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies
• International Masters in Economy, State and Society • Security and Cloud Computing

More than 30 PhD programmes available both in Estonian and English.

ut.ee/admissions
The majority of Estonia’s research and development, ranging from modern technologies in medicine to big data analysis to social sciences, is conducted at UT.

UT is the flagship of Estonian science, ranking in the top 1% of the world’s most-cited universities and research institutions in the following ten fields (as of March 2018):

› Clinical Medicine
› Chemistry
› Environment & Ecology
› Geoscience
› Plant & Animal Science
› Social Sciences
› Molecular Biology & Genetics
› Biology & Biochemistry
› Neuroscience & Behaviour
› Psychiatry & Psychology

UT accounts for 56% of Estonia’s national research output. Also, more than half of the PhD theses in Estonia are defended at UT and over 2,000 high-level research articles are published annually.

About 50 UT scientists are among the top 1% of the most-cited scientists in the world.
UT has excelled among the Baltic universities in winning European Research Council grants. The prestigious ERC grant has been awarded to Professor of Molecular Systems Biology Mart Loog, Professor of Nanomedicine Tambet Teesalu, and Professor of International Law Lauri Mälksoo and Professor in Information Systems Marlon Dumas.

The Estonian Genome Center at the UT Institute of Genomics is at the forefront of developing personal medicine practices.

Researchers at UT’s Nanotechnology Development Centre have created smart glass – electrochromic glass with changeable transparency that can be used as a window shade.

MyotonPRO, a unique device for muscle diagnostics produced through a UT spin-off, was successfully tested on board of the International Space Station.

Toggle Navigation is the UT’s first cooperation project which has taken the technology of Estonian language machine translation in to the business world.

Computational Neuroscience Lab at UT Institute of Computer Science seeks to understand how the brain transmits, processes and stores the information that ultimately guides our behavior.
Entrepreneurial university

UT encourages its students and scholars to develop an entrepreneurial mindset and apply their knowledge to the economy. The University has set a goal to integrate entrepreneurship courses into every curriculum.
UT is one of the largest development partners for the private and public sector in the Baltics. The university also works closely with international businesses such as Swedbank, The Linde Group, Pfizer, ABB Corporate Research, SUPER APPLI Inc, Eesti Energia Group, Telia AS, and many more.

**UT sTARTUp Lab** enables students to develop their ideas into validated business models. **UT’s spin-offs** use the University’s intellectual capital and/or infrastructure in their activities. **UT iAcademy** gives the opportunity for scientists, entrepreneurs and students to work together as a team to solve challenges of enterprise innovation. **sTARTUp Day**, organised by UT alongside with partners, is the biggest business festival in the Baltic States which in its second year attracted 2,600 participants from more than 33 countries. **ADAPTER**, a network of Estonian universities and R&D organisations coordinated by UT, connects more than 80% of Estonian scientists. It provides a link for companies and organisations to the R&D community.
UT has contracts with 154 business partners in the amount of 10.2 million euros

UT has spun off more than 60 start-ups, including software companies Reach-U and Positium providing location-based solutions, biotechnology company Icosagen etc.

The success story of the last 15 years is the technology for the ME-3 strain of Lactobacillus fermentum bacterium, allowing its use in the food industry.

Student satellite ESTCube-1, developed collectively by UT staff and students, and successfully deployed into orbit in 2013, made Estonia the 41st space nation in the world.

Scientists from UT and the Estonian University of Life Sciences have developed a new peat-based material that enables building inexpensive energy-efficient 3D-printed houses.

The innovative robotic mannequin technology known as Rakuten Fits Me, a virtual dressing room, was originally developed in cooperation with researchers of UT Institute of Technology.
International cooperation

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. There are about 70 institutional partnership agreements and more than 800 exchange agreements under Erasmus+ framework.

The University of Tartu participates in several university networks:
The Coimbra Group
The European University Association – EUA
The Guild of European Research Intensive Universities
LERU-CE7 (LERU and a group of Central-European universities)
The Utrecht Network
Student life

Four centuries of student traditions and the city’s youthful population make Tartu the student capital of Estonia.

Student organisations
Students are represented in all governing boards at all levels. The students’ highest decision-making body is UT Student Council.

There are traditional student fraternities and sororities, as well as ESN (Erasmus Student Network), AIESEC, AEGEE, and numerous other student societies.

International Student Ambassadors is a group of volunteer students who help prospective students by sharing their stories of living in Estonia via blog and Facebook.

Colourful student traditions
Tartu Spring and Autumn Student Days
The Walpurgis Night celebrations
A torchlight procession and UT Anniversary Ball on 1 December to mark the anniversary of the Estonian-language university
Extracurricular activities

UT Academic Sports Club offers a variety of modern sports facilities, including a modern multi-purpose sports hall, a full-size stadium, and a rowing base.

The University welcomes amateur and professional athletes to join UT Academic Sports Club. The University supports elite athletes among its students by offering them athletic scholarships.

For the artistically talented, there is Tartu Academic Male Choir, UT Chamber Choir, UT Folk Art Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Tartu Student Theatre.
Campuses

The University of Tartu is a multi-campus university. While mainly located in Tartu, UT also operates in Tallinn, Narva, Pärnu, and Viljandi.

UT owns over 100 buildings across Estonia ranging from historical buildings to modern, purpose-built research facilities. Fourteen of the University’s buildings, located within the old town area of Tartu, are listed as national architectural monuments.

The University’s campus keeps expanding with the new academic and research building, UT DELTA Centre, scheduled to be completed in 2020.

There are cozy and affordable student residences right in the city centre.
UT alumni

The high standards of the UT’s bachelor’s, master’s and PhD programmes are proven by the graduates’ competitiveness, both domestically and internationally.

Notable alumni:

**Konstantin Päts**, the first President of Estonia

**Kersti Kaljulaid**, the current President of Estonia

**Paul Keres**, chess grandmaster

**Arvo Pärt**, the world’s most performed living composer

**Kristo Käärmann**, founder of the international money transfer service TransferWise

**Jaan Tallinn**, founding member of Skype

In Estonia, UT graduates make up:

- 100% of judges
- 99% of medical doctors
- 87% of attorneys at law
- 45% of MPs

The University of Tartu has developed an online platform for its alumni, the UTAlumni Community, which gives access to professional networks with opportunities to connect, search for a job, find a mentor, and connect online.
City of Tartu

Tartu, the second largest city in Estonia, is considered the country’s intellectual capital.

Aptly nicknamed as the City of Good Thoughts, Tartu is a genuine university town – every fifth of its 100,000 residents is a student. Tartu is also one of the most affordable cities in Europe according to Business Insider.

Tartu has something to offer to everyone:

- calm living and study environment
- youthful people and a vibrant cultural life
- plenty of thrilling leisure activities
Places to visit:

**University of Tartu Museum**  
Lossi 25, Tartu  
[muuseum.ut.ee/en](http://muuseum.ut.ee/en)

**University of Tartu Art Museum**  
Ülikooli 18, Tartu  
[kunstimuuseum.ut.ee/en](http://kunstimuuseum.ut.ee/en)

**University of Tartu Natural History Museum**  
Vanemuise 46, Tartu  
[natmuseum.ut.ee/en](http://natmuseum.ut.ee/en)

**Botanical Garden**  
Lai 40, Tartu  
[botaanikaaed.ut.ee/en](http://botaanikaaed.ut.ee/en)

**Old Observatory**  
Uppsala 8, Tartu  
[tahetorn.ut.ee/en](http://tahetorn.ut.ee/en)

**University of Tartu Library**  
W. Struve 1, Tartu  
[utlib.ut.ee/en](http://utlib.ut.ee/en)

**Tartu Observatory**  
Observatooriumi 1, Tõravere  
[kosmos.ut.ee/en](http://kosmos.ut.ee/en)
Come visit us in Tartu!

The rich collections preserved and displayed in UT’s museums and Library give an opportunity to explore and enjoy the cultural and scientific heritage of the university.

You can get a glimpse of the University from the comfort of your own home by taking the virtual tour:

virtualtour.ut.ee/en
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www.ut.ee
Ask about study options:
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