Université de Strasbourg
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The University

The University of Strasbourg has been in existence since 1538, founded by Jacques Sturm and first called the Protestant Gymnasium then risen successively to the rank of “Academy” (1556), “University” (1621) before reaching in 1631 the rank of “Royal University”. For more than a century, the University evolved along with the historical events, disappearing during the French Revolution in the late XVIIIth century before re-emerging in 1870. From that date, when the Alsace-Lorraine region and therefore Strasbourg was annexed by German Empire, started 50 years of great development: course diversification, collaboration with renowned intellectuals of the time, creation of libraries and institutes…Strasbourg University has maintained this tradition of research and open mindedness towards the outside world ever since.

In 1918 after Alsace-Lorraine was regained by France, the University moved over to Clermont-Ferrand before reintegrating into its original city, Strasbourg, in 1945. In 1971, Strasbourg University gave birth to 3 distinct universities: Strasbourg I (Université Louis Pasteur), Strasbourg II (Université Marc Bloch en 1998) and Strasbourg III (Université Robert Schuman en 1987). This division lasted until 2009 when, for greater radiance on the international scene, the 3 universities merged back into the Université de Strasbourg.

Nowadays Strasbourg is the city with the most international students just behind Paris. There is a total of 42000 students (it is the biggest French University), in which 20% are from abroad.

Consisting in 38 UFR, schools and institutes, Stasbourg University offers a broad variety of courses in 5 domains: - Arts, literature and languages; law, economics, management and both social and political sciences; human sciences; science, technologies; health.

Contact Details

Postal Address:
Université de Strasbourg
4 rue Blaise Pascal
CS 90032
F-67081 Strasbourg cedex

Standard général:
+33 3 68 85 00 00
Campus Centre
69 buildings

Campus Cronenbourg
15 buildings

Campus Illkirch
11 buildings

Campus Médecine
16 buildings

Campus Meinau
4 buildings

Campus Neudorf
2 buildings

Campus Robertsau
2 buildings

Campus Schiltigheim
1 building
Strasbourg is the seat of several European institutions such as the Council of Europe and the Eurocorps as well as the European Parliament and the European Ombudsman of the European Union. Strasbourg is an important centre of manufacturing and engineering, as well as of road, rail, and river communications. The port of Strasbourg is the second largest on the Rhine after Duisburg, Germany. The city is the seat of the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine.

Strasbourg's historic city centre, the Grande Île ("Grand Island"), was classified a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1988, the first time such an honor was placed on an entire city centre. Strasbourg is fused into the Franco-German culture and although violently disputed throughout history, has been a bridge of unity between France and Germany for centuries, especially through the University of Strasbourg, currently the largest in France, and the co-existence of Catholic and Protestant culture.

Strasbourg is the seat of some internationally reputed institutions in the musical and dramatic domain: the philharmonic orchestra of Strasbourg (founded in 1855, one of the oldest symphonic orchestras in western Europe); the Opéra national du Rhin; the Théâtre national de Strasbourg.

Renowned cultural events take place every year: Musica, international festival of contemporary classical music (autumn); Festival international de Strasbourg (founded in 1932), festival of classical music and jazz (summer); The Strasbourg International Film Festival, an annual film festival focusing on new and emerging independent filmmakers from around the world.
The city also displays very interesting architectural infrastructures such as its sandstone Gothic Cathedral with its famous astronomical clock, its medieval cityscape of Rhineland black and white timber-framed buildings, particularly in the Petite-France district alongside the Ill and in the streets and squares surrounding the cathedral, the renowned Maison Kammerzell and many other medieval churches.

Strasbourg features a number of prominent parks, of which several are of cultural and historical interest (Parc de l’Orangerie, Parc de la Citadelle, Parc de Pourtalès)

For a city of comparatively small size, Strasbourg displays a large quantity and variety of museums: be it art museums such as the Musée de l’Œuvre Notre-Dame, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Musée des Arts décoratifs or even the Musée d’art moderne et contemporain or other museums such as the Musée archéologique, the Musée alsacien, the Musée zoologique, the Musée historique and many others.

International Affairs Office

**International policy**
Conscious of its assets and deciding to value them to increase its international radiation, the University of Strasbourg registered the opening to international students in the priorities of its project of establishment 2009/2012.

This will of internationalization was translated in particular by the creation of a Direction of the International Relations placed under the political responsibility of a vice-presidency of "International Relations ".

The international policy of the University is as follows:
- to strengthen the international attractiveness of the courses
- to develop student mobility
- to develop the mobility of the teachers/researchers and the staffs IATOS
- to improve foreigner students and researchers’ conditions.
Useful Contacts

Direction des Relations Internationales

The International Relations are managed by the « Direction des Relations Internationales », which is divided into 3 departments:

- Le Département Mobilité (Mobility Department):
  Université de Strasbourg
  Direction des Relations Internationales
  Département Mobilité
  Le Patio
  22 rue Descartes
  Bâtiment 5 - 3ème étage
  F - 67070 Strasbourg

- Le Département Développement International (International Development Department)
  Université de Strasbourg
  Direction des Relations Internationales
  Département Développement International
  Le Patio
  22 rue Descartes
  Bâtiment 1 - 3ème étage
  F - 67070 Strasbourg

- Le Département Gestion (Management Department)
  Université de Strasbourg
  Direction des Relations Internationales
  Département Gestion
  Le Patio
  22 rue Descartes
  Bâtiment 1 - 3ème étage
  F - 67070 Strasbourg
Accommodation

The general demand for flats/apartments to rent in the Consular Region is very high. It is therefore advisable to begin looking for accommodation to rent several months in advance, and if possible, to come and spend several days in the city you wish to live in, in order to have a better chance to find something.

The Accommodation Office

- University accommodations
The main housing body is CROUS, which helps students find local housing. It also aims to help students from all walks of life by providing advice and financial help. Along with housing services, CROUS helps students find jobs and provides inexpensive dining options.

CROUS- Bureau du logement-ville et des emplois temporaries
1 Quai du Maire Dietrich
BP 50168
67004 strasbourg Cedex

www.crous-strasbourg.fr

- Private residences
Be aware that these accommodations are more expensive. Different accommodations are available:

- The LMDE and the MGEL (student insurance companies) offer specific services in housing, which range from offers of accommodation to the invaluable legal advice in regards to financial help.

  - LMDE
    10 rue de l’Abreuvoir
    Tel : +33 3 88 14 17 77
    Website : www.lmde.com

  - MGEL
    4 rue de Londres
    Tél : +33 3 88 60 26 26
    Website : www.mgel.fr

-The FNAIM (Fédération Nationale de l’Immobilier) gathers offers of a great number of housing agencies on its website : www.fnaim.fr

  - FNAIM
    8 rue Georges Wodli
    Tél : 03 88 32 51 30
- Foyers: offer an accommodation in full or half board depending. Prices range from €120 to €550 per month. These accommodations can be mixed or single sex. (See the list on the University website http://www.unistra.fr/index.php?id=853)

- You might also want to look in newspapers such as DNA (site: http://immo.dna.fr); Top Annonce; Paru / Vendu ; G Tout ; Acheter-Louer.

**Financial help**: Once you have moved in, you are entitled to request financial aid. You may be eligible for French government grants which will help with the cost of housing. The state-subsidized "*Caisse d'Allocation Familiale*" (CAF) provides rent rebates for all students, regardless of their nationality or income, if their residency permit lasts more than four months. The CAF can reimburse students up to half the rent of your apartment. These rebates are called APL (*Aide Personnalisée au Logement*) or ALS (*Allocation au Logement à caractère Social*).

Caisse d’Allocations Familiales (CAF)
18 rue de Berne
67092 Strasbourg
Tél : 0820 25 67 10 (0,118 €/min.)
www.caf.fr

**Private Student Residences**

Accommodation is classified depending on the number of rooms in addition to kitchen and bathroom: T1, T2, T3, etc, also called F1, F2, F3, etc. Standard abbreviations in classified ads are:

- 2 PCB: "2 pièces, cuisine, salle de bain" (2 rooms, kitchen, bathroom)
- 6 Pc: "6 pièces" (6 rooms)
- rdc: "rez-de-chaussée" (ground floor)
- sdb: "salle de bain" (bathroom)
- chauf cent: "chauffage central" (central heating)
- chauf elec: "chauffage électrique" (electric heating)
- chges ou ch: "charges" (maintenance costs)
- kitch: "kitchenette"
- balc: "balcon" (balcony)
- ascen: "ascenseur" (lift)
- part: "particulier" (private individual)

To be connected to gas or electricity, call EDF/GDF on 0810 31 14 97 or contact them by internet www.edf.fr.
In most cases, you will need a guarantor ("garant" or "caution solidaire"), i.e. a resident of the EU with a monthly income equal or higher than three times the amount of your rent, answerable in particular for unpaid rent. Your parents or a guardian are probably the best choice. In addition, you will have to pay a deposit ("caution" or "dépôt de garantie") of at least one month rent which will be returned at your departure provided no damage has been caused.

An inventory ("état des lieux") must be established on the first day and last day of occupation. Everything that is not in good condition must be mentioned as the total refund of your deposit depends on it.

**Lease and Insurance**

The lease ("bail") is compulsory and regulated when you rent an empty flat. It is usually signed for one year and can be renewed, but if you want to leave you have to send a notice (préavis) to your landlord or estate agency one to three months (according to the lease) before departure.

It is compulsory to subscribe a housing insurance valid from the first day of rental, to cover possible damages such as fire or flooding.

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**Academics**

The standard French university calendar consists of two semesters:

- The first semester generally starts in September-October and ends in December-January.
- The second semester generally starts in January-February and ends in April-May.

The university holidays are quite similar to those of primary and secondary school. There are generally five holiday periods per year:

- **Vacances de la Toussaint**: they can range from one to two weeks, in October-November; generally they are not granted to university students;
- **Vacances de Noël**: a two-week holiday at the end of the year, involving both Christmas and New Year's Day;
- **Vacances d'hiver**: a two-week holiday in February-March; generally university students only have a one-week holiday;
- **Vacances de Pâques**: a two-week holiday generally in April;
- **Grandes vacances or vacances d'été**: for primary and secondary school they last two months in July and August; on the contrary, university students often have three or four months of holiday.

However, the university calendar depends on the Académie (regional educational unit), on the institution itself, on the education status (for example, post-graduate students have longer vacances d'été in order to allow them to intern at companies) and even on the curriculum! Thus, make sure to take a look at the current calendar of the University of Rennes 1.
Student Life

Located in the very centre of the Campus, the ‘Service universitaire des activités physiques et sportives (SUAPS)’ offers a great range of activities both for leisure or competition. There are also numerous possibilities for sports outside the University.

Transport

Getting There

www.airfrance.fr
www.strasbourg.aeroport.fr

Getting Around

By bicycle:

Strasbourg has more than 470 km of cycle lanes to which the University is linked. Bikes can also be rented for one day to a few months in “Vélocation” stalls.

Vélocation
Galerie de la Grande Verrière
Gare de Strasbourg (Niveau -1)
67000 Strasbourg
Tél : 03 88 23 56 75

Vélocation
10 rue des Bouchers
67000 Strasbourg
Tél : 03 88 24 05 61

By public transports (bus and tramway):

The Compagnie des transports strasbourgeois (CTS), Strasbourg’s public transport company serves all campuses. Individual tickets can be bought as well as monthly and annual passes. (www.cts-strasbourg.fr)
By car:

It is possible to drive in Strasbourg and the University is accessible by car. *Auto’trement* offers the possibility of getting a car when you need one for as long as you want (1 hour or more).

*Auto’trement*
24 rue du Vieux-Marché-aux-Vins 67000 Strasbourg
Tél : 03 88 237 347
Fax : 03 88 237 348
Site : www.autotrement.com

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**Student Tips**

Erasmus is full of excitement and adventure, but also uncertainty and nerves. Although the International Education Office in UCC and the International Office in Strasbourg will help you as much as possible, nothing can beat the experience of being in your shoes. So here are some tips and tricks from UCC students who have studied in Strasbourg.

**Academic Matters:**
- Take the chance to learn new things.
- Try and take some courses that allow you to learn more about French life, culture, history, or literature. You’ll never have quite the same opportunity in Ireland.
- Exam structure is very different; continuous assessment is limited.
- Most French students generally only study one subject in their degree, not two.
- Keep up with your reading!

**Accommodation:**
- Accommodation in Strasbourg can be fairly difficult to find.
- Bed linen is not supplied- a sleeping bag is handy when you arrive, and for travelling.
- Always look through the peephole before answering the door.
- Bring pictures of home to put on the walls.
- Bring a 2-pin plug adaptor for any Irish electrical products.

**Travel:**
- Remember generally the earlier you book the flights, the cheaper they are.
- Some clubs organise really cheap day and overnight trips.
- If you are coming home for Christmas, it is a good time to bring back excess luggage.
Taxis can be very expensive.
SNCF’s under-26 discount is a good idea if you plan to travel by train.
Beware of scammers organizing trips for international students as a way to steal deposit money. Make sure all events are school-sanctioned.

Bureaucracy:
- Bring multiple photocopies of any documentation you might need.
- Bear with the bureaucracy. It’s probably more than you are used to in Ireland, but the majority of form-filling will be finished by the end of the first month.
- EU citizens do not need a Carte de Séjour.
- Patience is helpful.
- It is a good idea to carry some sort of ID with you at all times.

Social:
- If you intend to join a sports club, it is advised to get a medical cert off your doctor before you leave Ireland.
- Buy local newspapers and magazine, and listen to local TV, radio, and music.
- Immerse yourself in the culture!
- French students have a different manner than Irish students. Do not be offended if they do not come up to you; it may take some time to get to know them.
- There is a great international student community.

General:
- Bring a good French dictionary.
- Unlock your mobile phone before you leave Ireland if you want to put a French SIM card in it.
- Brings some books in English. Although you can buy some English language books in Strasbourg, they can be expensive, and it is handy to have some for travelling and for when you first arrive.
- Look into phone cards – they are one of the cheapest ways to phone home.
- If you have a laptop and Internet access in your accommodation, look into getting Skype or other Internet phone packages.
- Set up Internet banking.