

Welcome to Campus Kortrijk of K.U.Leuven!



This is Campus Kortrijk of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.

Campus Kortrijk is part of the NPO K.U.Leuven Association, an open and dynamic network of institutions of higher education. This association was founded in the context of the 1999 European Bologna declaration and aims to occupy a position of strength and quality within the Flemish and European educational landscape. Apart from K.U.Leuven, the association comprises 12 institutions of higher education distributed over 23 Flemish towns and serves 70,000 students, which amounts to about 45% of Flanders' students in higher education.

A CAMPUS OF K.U.LEUVEN

Students are very much 'part of Leuven' here. This campus is a component of K.U.Leuven, with which it shares its programmes, its professors, and its high standards for quality in education, research and service to the community. The campus has some 120 academics in residence, complemented with some 100 Leuven academics who regularly teach in Kortrijk. Our Alma Mater is an internationally renowned institution, with excellent education and research potentials and with strong networks, both locally and internationally.

Campus Kortrijk has chosen to be a campus which provides a 'launch pad' for university studies.

With some exceptions, students at our campus take the first two years of a bachelor's degree. They generally continue their studies in Leuven. By focusing on the crucial first years of an academic training and by maintaining relatively small groups of students per field, we are able to provide our students with optimal support and tuition in the best of environments.

The architecture of our campus site with its interconnected spaces, set in a green oasis, creates a congenial backdrop for friendly social contacts across the boundaries of disciplines. Is there any other place where future lawyers, physicians, linguists, scientists, etc. can meet each other and exchange ideas so freely?

ACTIVATING INITIAL EDUCATION

Campus Kortrijk has around 1000 students. Central to their training is the total concept of 'Guided Self-study', in which a strong link between research and tuition is of vital importance. Students are responsible for their personal learning process, but they are not left to their own devices. The principal role of the lecturers is that of facilitators. Their challenge is to create powerful learning environments by introducing new and interactive working methods that make learning an interesting and varied activity.

The campus has extensive ICT facilities. Whether from home, a rented room, or in the on-campus PC rooms and Language Centre, students can access course-supporting CD-ROMs and/or self-developed electronic study materials and tests.

The following bachelor programmes are provided at Campus Kortrijk:

- Onderwijskunde (Education Studies), leading to Psychologie (Psychology), Pedagogische Wetenschappen (Pedagogical Sciences) and Educational Studies in Leuven

- Geschiedenis (History)
- Taal- en Letterkunde (Linguistics and Literature) with language combinations Dutch, English, German, French, Spanish, Italian.
- Rechten (Law)
- Toegepaste Economische Wetenschappen (Applied Economics), leading to Toegepaste Economische Wetenschappen (Applied Economics) and Handelsingenieur (Business Engineering) in Leuven
- Wiskunde (Mathematics)
- Informatica (Information Technology)
- Fysica (Physics), leading to Fysica (Physics) and Burgerlijk Ingenieur (Civil engineering) in Leuven
- Chemie (Chemistry), leading to Chemie (Chemistry), Farmacie (Pharmacy) and Bio-ingenieur (Bioengineering) in Leuven
- Biologie (Biology), leading to Biologie (Biology), Biochemie (Biochemistry) and Bio-technologie (Biotechnology) in Leuven
- Geneeskunde (Medicine)
- Biomedische Wetenschappen (Biomedical Sciences)

RESEARCH

Campus Kortrijk is a university campus. Accordingly, the campus as a whole and each of its academic staff members are dedicated to research. This research is being carried out in all of the disciplines in which education is provided, that is, in arts and humanities and behavioural sciences as well as in biomedical and exact sciences. Researchers can rely for this duty on the research infrastructure of the entire university and, in Kortrijk in particular, on the means provided by the Interdisciplinary Research Center (IRC), whose expertise is available to the exact and biomedical sciences. The latter, especially, benefit from the provision by the IRC of state-of-the-art equipment.

In addition, there is the library, whose large resources are an invaluable instrument, especially for the arts and humanities.

The research in Kortrijk measures up to international (bibliometrical) standards and is part of national and international networks. There are permanently some ten foreign fellows at work in our campus. Research in Kortrijk has certain special characteristics. As a part of Leuven university, our research is carried out in close consultation with the Leuven centres and is complementary to theirs. Professors at Campus Kortrijk are usually members of research groups in Leuven, and vice versa. Another special characteristic is that research is in part tuned to the circumstances of the wider area. This means, on the one hand, that there is a strong interaction with the nearby institutions of higher education in Flanders and in the North of France; and on the other hand, that we conduct applied research which fits in with the needs of the surrounding society and the regional business community.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

The third important pillar of K.U.Leuven is its service to the community. Rendering scientific services assumes many forms, ranging from giving advice to establishing spin-off companies. The library aims to be a scientific information centre for the wider area, not only for students and professors but also for members of the general public.

The LIBISng computer system links our library to the academic libraries of Leuven and to all large scientific libraries in the country and allows world-wide consultation of present-day data bases.

A UNIVERSITY IN A BORDER REGION

The Kortrijk area borders on the large and dynamic metropolis, Lille, which boasts well-established academic institutions. There are, of course, many shared areas of interest, and it is thus natural that we should collaborate with our colleagues in Lille's universities and polytechnics.

- There is already an ongoing education exchange in the Arts faculty, the Law faculty and in Applied Economic Sciences.

- As far as research is concerned, we have an agreement with Université Lille III in the framework of the Interreg III programme, aimed at the development of educational software for language teaching.
- There is a growing collaboration between Campus Kortrijk and the universities in Lille for the creation of cross-border research institutions in Humanities, Exact Sciences and Biomedical sciences. Campus Kortrijk researchers are discussing with their French colleagues the setting up of research projects into economic, social and cultural phenomena in border areas.