The Université François-Rabelais was founded in 1970, but Tours has a very long history as a university town, particularly in medicine. The surgical college dates from 1766, and the preparatory school of medicine and pharmacy was created by royal order on June 22, 1841. 25,000 students were enrolled at the university, taught by a faculty of 1,350 and supported by an administrative and technical staff of 1,100. More than 5,500 diplomas are awarded each year, of which more than 3,800 are professional credentials. Teaching and research takes place on six sites in Tours, with satellite campuses in Chinon and Blois.

Main programmes of study
A comprehensive institution, the Université François-Rabelais offers degrees in more than 50 fields organized into 7 faculties: Arts and Humanities; Literature and Languages; the center for Renaissance Studies; Law, Economics, and Social Sciences; Science and Technology; Medicine; and Pharmacy.
- The university also houses a school of engineering (Polytech) specializing in 5 areas: electronics and electrical energy systems; development engineering; computer science; computer-aided manufacturing; and systems design and mechanics.
- Two institutes of technology (IUTs) are integral parts of the university. The IUT in Tours focuses on 7 areas: social work; biological engineering; electrical engineering and computer-aided manufacturing; business and public administration; information and communication; marketing and merchandising techniques; and agri-food merchandising. The IUT in Blois has 4 concentrations: measurement; networks and telecommunications; materials science and engineering; and communication services and networks.

Research
- The university operates 35 research units, 14 of which are affiliated with major national research organizations (INSERM, CNRS, CEA, INRA).
- Doctoral research activities are organized within four doctoral departments specializing in (i) energy, materials, and earth and space sciences; (ii) mathematics, computer science, theoretical physics, and systems engineering; (iii) health, biological sciences, and the chemistry of living things; and (iv) humanities and social sciences. The first three are administered jointly with Université d’Orléans.
- Nearly 140 dissertations are defended each year. Université de Tours houses the MAbimprove experimental laboratories and is a partner in two others: SynOrg and IRON.

Strengths
- The Université François-Rabelais houses a center for French as a foreign language. Known as CUEFEE, the center offers full-time programs in French Language and Culture extending over 1 or 2 academic semesters.
- In addition, the university offers 4 programs in English (Computer-Aided Decision Support; Planning and Sustainability/Urban and Regional Planning; Electronic Engineering Program; Mechanical Engineering Program) and is an Erasmus Mundus partner in two Masters (BDMA- Big Data Management and Analytics; IDOH Infectious Diseases and One Health).

Location
Greater Tours, with a population of more than 300,000, is the largest city of the Centre region. It is 55 minutes from Paris by high-speed train. Thanks to its direct rail link to the Roissy-Charles-de-Gaulle international airport (less than 2 hours away) and the growth of its own airport (with direct connections to London and Dublin), Tours is well-connected with the world while still enjoying its exceptional location in the heart of the Loire Valley château country, a UNESCO world heritage site. The Touraine region is the birthplace of Rabelais, Ronsard, Balzac, and other famous writers. It has welcomed world-class artists from Leonardo da Vinci to Alexander Calder.

Member of Campus France Forum

IDENITY FORM
- Precise name of the institution: Université de Tours
- Type of institution: Public
- City where the main campus is located: Tours
- Number of students: 28 000
- Percentage or number of international students: 2900
- Type and level of qualifications awarded: LMD - Other national diplomas - institution-specific diplomas
- French language courses: Yes
- Programs for international students: Yes
- Programs in English: Yes
- Postal address: 60 rue du Plat d’Etain - BP12050 - 37020 Tours Cedex 1